House of Representatives

The House met at 2 p.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. CASTEN).

DELEGATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC.

I hereby appoint the Honorable SEAN CASTEN to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NANCY PELOSI, Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

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

Holy God, bless these next weeks that lie ahead of us. In this time when resources are highly contested and the premise on which decisions are made are highly charged, grant us Your infinite wisdom and careful guidance.

Give us Your vision that we would keep our eyes straight ahead, our gaze fixed before us, that our priority would be what You would have us see: Your perfect will for us and for this country. Then enable us to give careful thought to the paths our feet must take, that our steps would be firmly planted in Your truth.

Protect us from being derailed by foolish impulse or fall wayward from our misjudgment.

But cause us to be steadfast in our ways, that we would align with Your will, and our certainty would be grounded in faithfulness to You.

Lord, our sight, our walk, our actions, and decisions are so easily influenced by whim and worry. May this day, we remain committed to You.

In Your sovereign name we pray. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. NORTON 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 PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will entertain up to 15 requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

D.C. IS MORE THAN READY FOR STATEHOOD

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

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I come to report significant progress on D.C. statehood and to thank my colleagues for passing my bill to make the District the 51st State. I especially thank Senator GARY PETERS for holding a Senate hearing on the bill in June, only the second hearing in Senate history.

I particularly appreciate the work of Senator TOM CARPER, the lead Senate sponsor, for a record 45 Senate cosponsors.

These efforts in the House and Senate have resulted in 54 percent of the American people now supporting D.C. statehood.

D.C. is more than ready—indeed is overqualified—for statehood. Residents pay more Federal taxes per capita than any State, more taxes than 21 States, and has a larger gross domestic product than 17 States.

The District of Columbia is well on its way to becoming our 51st State.

AMERICAN BUSINESSES AND FAMILIES ARE AT RISK

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

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, at the grocery store and at the gas pump American families are facing a harsh new reality. Rising prices have effectively created both a tax hike and a pay cut for our workers.

At the height of summer, families are now paying 3 percent more for fruits and vegetables, 9 percent more for milk, and 18 percent more for bacon.

Instead of addressing this crisis, President Biden and liberals in Congress are doing what they always do, spending money that we don’t have and asking taxpayers to cover the difference.

Another $3.5 trillion spending bill is not what our country needs.

Passing the Green New Deal under another name will not help American families.

In Pennsylvania, inflation has harsh consequences on our local businesses like Guy Chemical in Somerset County who has seen a 30 to 50 percent rise in costs.

Let’s make it clear: President Biden’s failed policies are putting American businesses and American families at risk.
Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 3119.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 3119, the Energy Emergency Leadership Act. This legislation and the two other energy bills that will follow it are bipartisan bills that will protect our energy grid from cyberattacks. All three of these bills passed the House last Congress but were never taken up in the Senate. That must change this year as the need for this legislation becomes more important by the day.

We have heard repeatedly from security experts and regulators over the last few years that our energy infrastructure and grid are being attacked by state actors or other entities. Indeed, just 2 months ago, large parts of this country suffered from gas shortages after a ransomware attack on the Colonial Pipeline.

Former Energy Secretary Perry took the first step toward addressing the increasing risk of cyberattacks on our energy infrastructure by creating the Cybersecurity and Energy Security Emergency Response office, or CESER, as it is pronounced. He then enhanced its stature by making its leader an assistant secretary.

So H.R. 3119 would amend section 203(a) of the Department of Energy Organization Act by establishing in statute the assistant secretary position responsible for cybersecurity and emergency response issues. This bill also makes clear that this assistant secretary would have jurisdiction over all emergency energy and cybersecurity functions related to energy supply, infrastructure, and cybersecurity.

It also vests the assistant secretary with the authority to provide DOE technical assistance and support to State, local, or Tribal governments upon request.

And it requires the assistant secretary and the Department of Energy to coordinate with the Department of Homeland Security and other relevant Federal agencies in carrying out the bill’s provisions. CESER performed this role admirably in May when it coordinated the whole-of-government response to the Colonial Pipeline attack.

By codifying an assistant secretary for cybersecurity and emergency response issues, this bill would go a long way in helping to protect the Nation’s electric infrastructure from hackers and other bad actors who would attempt to disrupt our energy grid and harm our economy, our daily lives, and our overall national security. It would also appropriately raise the stature of the CESER office and provide more accountability over the vital functions with a lead person tasked with carrying them out.

I commend Energy Subcommittee Chairman BORRY RUSH and Representative WALBERG for their bipartisan efforts to protect America’s energy infrastructure. This bipartisan cooperation is essential as we continue to work to defend our country from the threat of cyberattacks. I also thank Ranking Member RODGERS and Energy Subcommittee Ranking Member UPTON for working with us to move this bill and the other two cybersecurity bills that will follow.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all my colleagues to support this bipartisan bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 3119, the Energy Emergency Leadership Act.

This bill, sponsored by Representatives RUSH and WALBERG, has strong bipartisan support, and passed on suspension last Congress.

The bill is necessary to strengthen the Department of Energy’s important energy emergency mission.

It does so by requiring that the well-established energy emergency and cybersecurity functions at DOE are organized under the leadership of an assistant secretary confirmed by the Senate.

Three-and-one-half years ago, Secretary of Energy Perry recognized the importance of elevating this position within the Department. He established an assistant secretary-led office, the Office of Cybersecurity, Energy Security, and Emergency Response, which proved its worth in various situations over the past 2 years, including assistance relating to hurricanes and the recent Colonial Pipeline ransomware attack.

This bill amends the Department of Energy Organization Act to establish in law this assistant secretary level of leadership of DOE’s emergency response and cybersecurity functions.

This bill will ensure the Department has the focused and accountable leadership to protect the public more fully
from fuel and electricity supply disruptions against all hazards, natural or man-made, including emerging threats from our foreign adversaries to the Nation’s electric grid.

The bill has been drafted to ensure the Department carries out its responsibilities under energy emergencies for the benefit of public safety and for stronger cybersecurity protections and end-use systems.

Protecting energy security requires defense in depth.

This means a strong energy sector, strong state capabilities, and ensuring sector agencies, like the Department of Energy, have the tools and accountable leadership they need to respond to energy emergencies.

A vote for H.R. 3119 is a vote for ensuring accountable DOE leadership over energy emergencies for the benefit of public safety and for stronger cybersecurity protections and end-use systems.

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

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

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. WALBERG), one of the co-sponsors on this legislation.

Mr. WALBERG. Mr. Speaker, I thank my good friend for yielding and allowing me the opportunity to speak.

I rise today in support of H.R. 3119, the Energy Emergency Leadership Act. I thank my good friend from Illinois, Mr. Bobby Rush, for continuing to work with me to get this bill across the finish line.

This is the third Congress in a row that we have introduced this bill, each time passing the Committee on Energy and Commerce with unanimous, bipartisan support.

And frankly, given what we have seen just over the last few months in disruptions to our energy supply—including the Colonial Pipeline attack—it is even more urgent for this important energy security measure to be enacted in law.

Mr. Speaker, our Nation’s economy and the health and safety of the American public depend upon the reliable and uninterrupted supply of fuels and electricity.

Hazards of all forms—including natural disasters, digital, and cyberattacks—are no longer just threats. They are occurring at an alarming and continuing rate.

Whether it is power outages in Texas and California due to weather events, or foreign adversaries hacking into our pipelines or grid, it is critical that we better equip our Federal agencies to prevent and respond to attacks in a way that fully protects the public.

Presidential administrations of both parties have recognized this by providing the Department of Energy with the responsibilities, expertise, and tools to ensure the reliable supply of energy.

It is time Congress does its part by requiring the energy emergency and cybersecurity functions at DOE to be organized under the leadership of an accountable DOE leadership as determined by the Senate. This will ensure the Department has focused and accountable leadership with high-level continuity throughout future administrations.

H.R. 3119 will encourage more effective and seamless information-sharing with Federal and industry stakeholders on energy security threats, risks, and incidents, as well as recovery and response.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote in favor of H.R. 3119 in order to protect our Nation’s electric infrastructure from foreign adversaries who are attempting to disrupt our energy system and cause untold harm to our economy, our daily lives, and our national security.

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, I am prepared to close, and I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I again thank Representative WALBERG and Representative Bobby Rush for their work on this very important legislation because, again, it is going to ensure that the Department of Energy has the focus and the accountable leadership to more fully protect the public from any electricity fuel supply disruptions against all hazards—natural or man-made—including emerging threats from our foreign adversaries to our Nation’s electric grid.

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

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I thank both sides of the aisle, Mr. LATTA and others, for their help in getting this bill moved.

Mr. Speaker, again, I would ask support for the legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3119.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

**ENHANCING GRID SECURITY THROUGH PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS ACT**

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2931) to provide for certain programs and developments in the Department of Energy concerning the cyber-security and vulnerabilities of, and physical threats to, the electric grid, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

**SEC. 1. SHORT TITLE.**

This Act may be cited as the “Enhancing Grid Security through Public-Private Partnerships Act”.

**SEC. 2. PROGRAM TO PROMOTE AND ADVANCE PHYSICAL SECURITY AND CYBERSECURITY OF ELECTRIC UTILITIES.**

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary of Energy, in coordination with relevant Federal agencies and in consultation with State regulatory authorities, industry stakeholders, and the Electric Reliability Organization, as the Secretary determines appropriate, shall carry out a program to—

(1) develop and provide for voluntary implementation of, maturity models, self-assessments, and auditing methods for assessing the physical security and cybersecurity of electric utilities;

(2) provide training to electric utilities to address and mitigate cybersecurity supply chain management risks;

(3) increase opportunities for sharing best practices and data collection within the electric sector;

(4) assist with cybersecurity training for electric utilities;

(5) advance the cybersecurity of third-party vendors that work in partnerships with electric utilities; and

(6) provide technical assistance for electric utilities subject to the program.

(b) SCOPE.—In carrying out the program under subsection (a), the Secretary of Energy shall—

(1) take into consideration different sizes of electric utilities and the regions that such electric utilities serve;

(2) prioritize electric utilities with fewer available resources due to size or region; and

(3) to the extent practicable, utilize and leverage existing Department of Energy programs.

(c) PROTECTION OF INFORMATION.—Information provided to, or collected by, the Federal Government pursuant to this section—

(1) shall be exempt from disclosure under section 552(b)(3) of title 5, United States Code; and

(2) shall not be made available by any Federal, State, political subdivision, or tribal authority pursuant to any Federal, State, political subdivision, or tribal law requiring public disclosure of information or records.

**SEC. 3. REPORT ON CYBERSECURITY AND DISTRIBUTION SYSTEMS.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Energy, in coordination with relevant Federal agencies and in consultation with State regulatory authorities, industry stakeholders, and the Electric Reliability Organization, as the Secretary determines appropriate, shall submit to Congress a report that assesses—

(1) priorities, policies, procedures, and actions for enhancing the physical security and cybersecurity of electricity distribution systems to address threats to and vulnerabilities of, such electricity distribution systems; and

(2) implementation of such priorities, policies, procedures, and actions, including an estimate of potential costs and benefits of such implementation, including any public-private cost-sharing opportunities.

**Purposes of Information.—Information provided to, or collected by, the Federal Government pursuant to this section—

**CONGRESSIONAL RECORD — HOUSE**
This legislation could not be more necessary. Our Nation is facing an increasing number of physical and cyber threats to its electric grid and infrastructure. This bill addresses those threats by directing the Secretary of Energy, in consultation with the Electric Reliability Organization, other Federal agencies, and industry stakeholders, to create a program to enhance the physical and cybersecurity of electric utilities.

The bill requires the Secretary of Energy to deliver a report to Congress on general cybersecurity concerns and to coordinate with the Department of Homeland Security and other relevant agencies to ensure good communications and assessment of this program across the government. Finally, the bill instructs the Secretary of Energy to update the Interruption Cost Estimate Calculator, which is an invaluable tool for estimating electricity interruption costs and the benefits associated with reliability improvements.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 2931 is an important bipartisan bill that will help address the security of our Nation’s electric utilities, and I urge my colleagues to support it.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of my legislation, H.R. 2931, the Enhancing Grid Security Through Public-Private Partnership Act. The prior bill, this bill, and the next bill are good examples of working together on a bipartisan basis to accomplish things that are very critical to this country, and I thank my colleagues for being a very important part of this partnership.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased that we are considering this bill because we simply can’t afford to wait any longer to secure our Nation’s critical infrastructure, including the grid. The Colonial Pipeline attack coming on the heels of the SolarWinds attack was a bright warning sign that we need to act quickly to pass this legislation.

Since the Colonial Pipeline attack, ransomware attacks have continued to skyrocket, and the need to enact H.R. 2931 has become even more pressing.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from California (Mr. McNerney), the Democratic sponsor.
protect our grid from the growing cyber threats.

Additionally, H.R. 2931 would require the Interruption Cost Estimate Calculator, which is used to calculate the ROI on utility investments, to be updated at least every 2 years to ensure accurate calculations.

Mr. Speaker, I thank my good friend and partner in this legislation, Representative LATTA from Ohio, for working with me on this important bill. I also thank Chairman PALLONE, Ranking Member RODGERS, and the staff of the committee for helping us move this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support it.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I have no additional speakers, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, again, from the recent attacks that we have had across the country in the last year and a half, it shows the importance of making sure that we are protected on the cybersecurity front. And working with my good friend and colleague from California, it has been so important that we get these two bills across the finish line today.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all Members today to support H.R. 2931, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I would also ask that all our colleagues would support this on a bipartisan basis, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2931.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

**CYBER SENSE ACT OF 2021**

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2928) to require the Secretary of Energy to establish a voluntary Cyber Sense program to test the cybersecurity of products and technologies intended for use in the bulk-power system, and for other purposes.

Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 2928.

**GENERAL LEAVE**

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 2928.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) and the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. LATTA) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey.

**GENERAL LEAVE**

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 2928.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) and the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. LATTA) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

**SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.** This Act may be cited as the "Cyber Sense Act of 2021".

**SEC. 2. CYBER SENSE.**

(a) In General.—The Secretary of Energy, in coordination with relevant Federal agencies, shall establish a voluntary Cyber Sense program to test the cybersecurity of products and technologies intended for use in the bulk-power system, as defined in section 215A(d) of the Federal Power Act.

(b) Program Requirements.—In carrying out subsection (a), the Secretary of Energy shall—

1. establish a testing process under the Cyber Sense program to test the cybersecurity of products and technologies intended for use in the bulk-power system, including products related to industrial control systems and operational technologies, such as supervisory control and data acquisition systems;
2. for products and technologies tested under the Cyber Sense program, establish and maintain cybersecurity vulnerability reporting processes and a related database;
3. provide technical assistance to electric utilities, product manufacturers, and other electricity sector stakeholders to develop solutions to mitigate identified cybersecurity vulnerabilities in products and technologies tested under the Cyber Sense program;
4. biennially review products and technologies tested under the Cyber Sense program for cybersecurity vulnerabilities and provide analysis with respect to how such products and technologies respond to and mitigate cyber threats;
5. develop guidance, that is informed by analysis and testing results under the Cyber Sense program, for electric utilities for procurement of products and technologies; and
6. oversee testing of products and technologies under the Cyber Sense program.

(c) DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION.—Any cybersecurity vulnerability reported pursuant to subsection (b) shall be disclosed to the public, and solicit comments from the public, prior to establishing or revising the testing process for electric utilities, pursuant to section 215A(a) of the Federal Power Act.

(d) FEDERAL GOVERNMENT LIABILITY.—Nothing in this section shall be construed to authorize the commencement of an action against the United States Government with respect to the testing of a product or technology under the Cyber Sense program.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to support H.R. 2928, which gives the electric sector critical tools and technologies necessary to protect our grid from malicious harm.

This legislation gives the Department of Energy an important new authority to facilitate the adoption of more secure technologies and equipment in our Nation’s grid. It does this by requiring the Department of Energy to set up a voluntary "Cyber Sense" program to identify cyber-secure products and technologies for use in the bulk-power system.

The bill also requires the Secretary of Energy to coordinate with the Department of Homeland Security and other relevant Federal agencies in order to ensure smooth and seamless implementation across the Federal Government.

This program would also provide technical assistance to electric utilities and product manufacturers to assist them in developing solutions to mitigate cyber vulnerabilities in the grid.

I want to again thank my colleagues, Representatives MCNERNEY and LATTA, for their hard work on this critical issue and for their persistence in pursuing this bill for the last several years. Their partnership and bipartisan leadership on cybersecurity issues continues to benefit us all.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to support this important bipartisan bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 2928, the Cyber Sense Act, which is the second of two grid security bills that I have introduced and, again, worked closely on with my good friend and colleague, the gentleman from California (Mr. LATTA).

This bipartisan legislation will establish a testing process under a newly established voluntary Cyber Sense program to test the cybersecurity of products and technologies intended for use in the bulk-power system, including products relating to industrial control systems and operational technologies, such as supervisory control and data acquisition systems.

It would provide technical assistance to electric utilities, product manufacturers, and other electricity sector stakeholders to develop solutions to mitigate identified cybersecurity vulnerabilities in products and technologies tested under the Cyber Sense program.

H.R. 2928 would also develop guidance for electric utilities for procurement of products and technologies and consider incentives to encourage the use of analysis and results of testing under the program in the design of products and technologies for use in the bulk-power system.

The SolarWinds attack exposed a vulnerability in our supply chains that...
should serve as a wake-up call to the energy sector. Similar attacks on products used in grid operators’ IT networks could go undetected and, when exposed, result in the costly process of disabling and removing such products from operations.

Having a program that would allow for the testing of a product’s cybersecurity would help grid operators share information and maintain coordination with the Federal Government to keep pace with evolving cybersecurity threats. H.R. 2928 would accomplish these goals.

Again, I want to thank Chairman PALLONE, Chairman RUSH, Leader RODGERS, and Leader UPTON for their support. I call on my colleagues to support this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from California (Mr. McNERNEY), the sponsor of the bill.

Mr. McNERNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 2928, the Cyber Sense Act of 2021.

The Cyber Sense Act is another piece of bipartisan legislation that takes steps to improve the security of our Nation’s electric grid infrastructure. It would establish a program to identify cyber secure products for the bulk-power grid through a testing and verification program.

The bulk-power system is essential for providing reliable electric power to the American people. We must ensure that this system is as secure as possible. Any vulnerable component in our grid is a threat to our security, and this bill will take important steps to strengthen the system.

It would also require the Department of Energy to provide technical assistance to electric utilities, manufacturers, and other relevant stakeholders related to cybersecurity vulnerabilities in products under the Cyber Sense program.

In today’s world, there are literally billions of connected devices in use and the number is rapidly increasing. Most of these devices have no standards. There is no way for electric utilities to verify the security of the products, and we are seeing cyber threats continue to increase. This legislation is badly needed.

Mr. Speaker, I thank my good friend, Mr. LATTI, again for his partnership on this bill and all we have been working together on a number of issues, and this is a sign of our partnership.

I also thank Chairman PALLONE and Ranking Member RODGERS for working with us to move this legislation quickly, and I don’t want to forget the staff of the Energy and Commerce Committee, who have been so helpful.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support it.

Mr. LATTI. Mr. Speaker, I have no other speakers, and I am ready to close.

Mr. Speaker, again, as the gentleman from California mentioned about the ongoing cyberattacks we have had in this country, it is absolutely essential that we get this bill across the finish line. H.R. 2928 is going to help accomplish these goals and protect our grid out there.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to support this legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues on both sides to support this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2928.

The question was taken.

Mr. ROSENDALE. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the Energy and Commerce Committee, who have been so helpful.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion are postponed.

EMERGENCY REPORTING ACT

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1250) to direct the Federal Communications Commission to issue reports after activation of the Disaster Information Reporting System and to make improvements to network outage reporting.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1250

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representati ves of the United States of America in Congress assembled, ...
In this section:

1. **Automatic Location Identification**
   - The term "Automatic Location Identification" has the meaning given to it in section 9.3 of title 47, Code of Federal Regulations, or any successor regulation.

2. **Emergency Reporting System (DIRS)**
   - The Emergency Reporting System, or DIRS, was launched by the FCC in 2007 so that the communication providers could report the status of communications systems during disasters. In some cases, DIRS is activated in advance of a potential storm as a precautionary measure. In more extreme cases, DIRS is activated in the lead-up to a disaster and stays active for days on end. That is because networks can go on- and offline even after a storm’s end.

3. **Commercial Mobile Data Service**
   - The term "commercial mobile data service" has the meaning given such term in section 32.3(d) of the Communications Act of 1994 (47 U.S.C. 32.3(d)).

4. **Commercial Mobile Service**
   - The term "commercial mobile service" has the meaning given such term in section 8.1(b) of title 47, Code of Federal Regulations, or any successor regulation.

5. **Commission**
   - The term "Commission" means the Federal Communications Commission.

6. **Indian Tribal Government**
   - The term "Indian Tribal government" means the Indian Tribal government as defined in section 102 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5121).

7. **Interconnected VoIP Service**
   - The term "interconnected VoIP service" has the meaning given such term in section 3 of the Communications Act of 1994 (47 U.S.C. 153).

8. **Public Safety Answering Point**
   - The term "public safety answering point" has the meaning given such term in section 222 of the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 222).

9. **State**
   - The term "State" has the meaning given such term in section 3 of the Communications Act of 1994 (47 U.S.C. 153).

10. **State Emergency Management Plan**
    - The term "State Emergency Management Plan" means a plan prepared by a State to assist emergency management agencies of the State in the coordination of the activities of all levels of government to achieve efficient and effective management of all hazards.

11. **Telecommunications Relay Service (TRS)**
    - The term "Telecommunications Relay Service (TRS)" means the service provided by a TRS provider.

12. **Telecommunications Relay Service (TRS) provider**
    - The term "Telecommunications Relay Service (TRS) provider" means a person who provides a Telecommunications Relay Service as defined in section 6050 of title 47, Code of Federal Regulations.

13. **Territorial Authority**
    - The term "Territorial Authority" means the government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, the Government of Guam, or the Government of the Virgin Islands.

14. **Universal Service**
    - The term "Universal Service" means the provision of universal service by telecommunications carriers in the United States, as determined by the Commission.

15. **Voluntary Interoperability Agreement**
    - The term "Voluntary Interoperability Agreement" means an agreement entered into voluntarily by 911 service providers to provide for interoperability of 911 services across state lines.

16. **Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP)**
    - The term "Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP)" includes Internet Protocol (IP) telephony services that provide voice communications services using IP networks.

17. **Voluntary Interoperability Agreement (VIA)**
    - The term "Voluntary Interoperability Agreement (VIA)" means an agreement entered into voluntarily by 911 service providers to provide for interoperability of 911 services across state lines.

18. **VoIP Service**
    - The term "VoIP Service" means "Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP)" and "Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) service."
MEASURING THE ECONOMICS DRIVING INVESTMENTS AND ACCESSION FOR DIVERSITY ACT OF 2021

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1754) to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to require the Federal Communications Commission to consider market entry barriers for socially disadvantaged individuals in the communications marketplace report under section 13 of such Act.

The Clerk read the title of the bill. The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1754

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ‘‘Measuring the Economics Driving Investments and Access for Diversity Act of 2021’’ or the ‘‘MEDIA Diversity Act of 2021’’.

SEC. 2. CONSIDERING MARKET ENTRY BARRIERS FOR SOCIALLY DISADVANTAGED INDIVIDUALS.

Section 13(d) of the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 163(d)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

‘‘(4) CONSIDERING SOCIALLY DISADVANTAGED INDIVIDUALS—In assessing the state of competition under subsection (b)(1) and regulatory barriers under subsection (b)(3), the Commission, with the input of the Office of Communications Business Opportunities of the Commission, shall consider market entry barriers for socially disadvantaged individuals in the communications marketplace in accordance with the national policy under section 257(b).’’

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) and the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. LATTA) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 1754.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 1754, the Measuring the Economics Driving Investments and Access for Diversity Act of 2021, or the MEDIA Diversity Act of 2021.

This bill promotes much-needed diversity in the communications marketplace. It does this by requiring the Federal Communications Commission, with the input of its Office of Communications Business Opportunities, to consider market entry barriers for socially disadvantaged individuals in the communications marketplace.

Currently, there are vast inequities in the communications marketplace. While women and people of color make up over 50 percent of our population, broadcast ownership by them is only about 10 percent. That is extremely concerning. Mr. Speaker, we think that these voices can influence people’s opinions and perceptions through the programming decisions that are made.

Diversity in ownership of media outlets helps to ensure that programming offers diverse perspectives and that viewers have access to programming that is relevant to them. Experts have also found that ownership diversity can provide financial and competitive benefits. But in a concentrated communications marketplace, barriers for entry still exist, and the Federal Communications Commission is already tasked with studying what those barriers are. This bill asks the FCC to also consider market entry barriers for socially disadvantaged individuals.

Creating ownership parity to reflect this country’s diversity is a worthy goal, and this bipartisan effort is a step in identifying market entry barriers.

To be clear, there is so much more that we need to do. While incremental steps are critical, we must do more. I look forward to working with my colleagues to take additional steps to diversify our media market.

I commend Representatives LONG and VEASEY for their bipartisan work on this legislation. I hope we can now come together in a bipartisan fashion to do the additional work that is needed to finally eliminate the barriers so that the owners of our media outlets begin to look more like the communities that they serve.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all my colleagues to support the MEDIA Diversity Act of 2021, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1754, the MEDIA Diversity Act, introduced by my colleague from Missouri, Representative LONG. This legislation represents another step forward to uplift minority voices and promote diversity in the media marketplace.

I understand how important it is to serve communities with local programming that accurately reflects a community. I have also seen the media industry make great strides to promote diversity and create new content to appeal to the communities they serve by establishing programs and initiatives to promote opportunities for women, minorities, veterans, elderly, and other socially disadvantaged individuals to participate in the media marketplace.

Of course, the media industry is only one small part of a vast communications marketplace that encompasses a large variety of organizations, including mobile wireless providers, online video distributors, fixed broadband providers, and so on.

It is also important to keep in mind that there are new entrants in the tech industry who are providing additional opportunities for minorities, women, veterans, and underrepresented groups who might not have been heard before to make their voices heard.

Nonetheless, there is still work to do to make sure that those previously unheard voices and underserved communities are represented in traditional media and all other areas of the large communications marketplace, and this legislation will help.

I am glad to support this piece of bipartisan legislation that will allow the Federal Communications Commission to evaluate the market barriers socially disadvantaged individuals face in the communications marketplace as a whole.

In closing, Mr. Speaker, again, I urge all Members to support this piece of legislation. It is very important. It was introduced by our colleague, Mr. LONG from Missouri.

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

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to support this legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1754.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. ROSEDALE. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 3(q) of House Resolution 8, the yeas and nays are ordered. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion are postponed.

REAFFIRMING COMMITMENT TO MEDIA DIVERSITY

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 277) reaffirming the commitment to media diversity and pledging to work with media entities and diverse stakeholders to develop common ground solutions to eliminate barriers to media diversity.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 277

Whereas the principle that an informed and engaged electorate is critical to a vibrant democracy is deeply rooted in our laws of free speech and underpins the virtues on which we established our Constitution, ‘‘in Order to form a more perfect Union, establish Justice, insure domestic Tranquility, provide for the common defence, promote the general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity’’;

Whereas having independent, diverse, and local media that provide exposure to a broad
range of viewpoints and the ability to contribute to the political debate is central to sustaining that informed engagement.

Whereas it is in the public interest to encourage source content, and audience diversity on our Nation’s shared telecommunications and media platforms;

Whereas the survival of small, independent media outlets that serve diverse audiences and local media markets is essential to preserving local culture and building understanding on important community issues that impact the daily lives of residents;

Whereas research by the American Society of News Editors, the Radio Television Digital News Association, the Radio Research Center, and others has documented the continued challenges of increasing diversity among all types of media entities;

Whereas with increasing media experience and sophistication, it is even more important to have minority participation in local media to ensure a diverse range of information sources are available and different ideas and viewpoints are expressed to strengthen social cohesion among different communities; and

Whereas the constriction in small, independent, and diverse media outlets and limited participation of diverse populations in media ownership and decision making are combing to negatively impact our goal of increasing local civic engagement and civic knowledge through increased voter participation, membership in civic groups, and knowledge of local political and civil information: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) reaffirms its commitment to diversity as a core tenet of the public interest standard in media policy; and

(2) pledges to work with media entities and diverse stakeholders to develop common ground solutions to eliminate barriers to media diversity.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) and the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. LATTA) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H. Res. 277.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H. Res. 277, reaffirming the commitment to media diversity and pledging to work with media entities and diverse stakeholders to develop common ground solutions to eliminate barriers to media diversity.

This resolution promotes much-needed diversity in the communications marketplace where we continue to see vast inequities. For example, the owners of broadcast and cable media outlets are often reflected in our diverse population. Owners of these media outlets make critical decisions about the educational, political, entertainment, and news programming Americans watch. These decisions can influence people’s opinions and perceptions.

Mr. Speaker, diversity in viewpoints and diverse ownership of media outlets promotes programming that offers different perspectives and enables viewers to access programming that is relevant to them. A diverse media marketplace is also central to an informed and engaged electorate which is essential to a vibrant democracy.

Committing to a diverse media marketplace—that reflects our Nation—is a worthy goal, and this resolution reaffirms that goal.

Today’s resolution is a good step forward, but there is much more we need to do. The numbers and statistics are clear: our media marketplace does not resemble the people we serve.

I want to commend Representative DEMINGS for her work on this resolution and for continuing to bring attention to not only the lack of diversity in our marketplace but the impact that it has on our communities and on our Nation. I hope we can come together to do the additional work that is needed to improve the state of diversity today.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all my colleagues to support this resolution, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 277, introduced by our colleague, Mrs. DEMINGS.

This resolution reaffirms the commitment by Congress to work with media entities and diverse stakeholders to find common ground solutions to eliminate barriers to expanding diversity in our media. While today’s resolution focuses specifically on broadcast stations, this problem is not unique to one segment of the industry, but to their cable and digital streaming competitors in the marketplace as well.

I appreciate the many steps that the broadcast and cable industries have taken to not only recognize these barriers, but the many programs and initiatives they have put in place to promote opportunities for women, minorities, and veterans. However, data shows we have some room for improvement.

While the House is considering this resolution today, it is my hope that we can work together in a bipartisan manner to address the inequality that this resolution seeks to address. Republicans on the Energy and Commerce Committee have put forward solutions to uplift minority voices and promote media diversity that can breathe life into this resolution before us today.

Today, we are also considering H.R. 1754, the MEDIA Diversity Act, sponsored by Mr. LONG, which would help us better understand the market and regulatory barriers for social and disadvantaged individuals to enter and compete in the marketplace so we can make informed policy decisions.

We have also worked with advocates and industry alike as we try and find consensus on legislation to establish the long-sought-after broadcast incubator program to help increase the number of minority-owned broadcast stations.

When Congress, Republicans introduced the Broadcast Diversity in Leadership Act, which would incentivize large, established broadcasters to work with aspiring broadcasters to break down barriers to capital and provide mentorship and excess minority entrants to ensure their long-standing success in serving their local communities.

While the Supreme Court has recently reinstated the Republican-led pilot program, Congress should continue working to ensure it is expanded and made permanent with improved safeguards. We urge the majority to continue working with us on these important issues.

With the passage of this resolution, we are affirming our commitment to work toward common ground solutions, and Republicans stand ready to work across the aisle to turn our common ground solutions into law.

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

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentleman from Florida (Mrs. DEMINGS), who is the sponsor of the resolution.

Mrs. DEMINGS. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from New Jersey for this opportunity.

We all know the United States is a diverse nation with diverse people, diverse viewpoints, and diverse perspectives. Every community in America—no matter their age, gender, ZIP Code, or income—should be allowed to tell their stories in their voices.

Whether in news, movies, television, music, or more, it is important that our media represent the wonderful diversity of our great Nation. This resolution simply states that all Americans should have the opportunity to tell their story and hear their story told through their own eyes and voices.

I am glad that our resolution reaffirming Congress’ support of media diversity will be voted on this afternoon. As we work together to remove barriers, I am grateful to all of the congressional cosponsors on both sides of the aisle and media representatives who helped move this bill forward.

Every child in America should hear a voice that sounds like theirs and see a face that looks like theirs. As we face some of America’s greatest challenges, I am excited about the work still yet to come.

Mr. Speaker, I want to thank my colleagues again on both sides of the aisle for their support of this resolution.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I have no additional speakers, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, I have no additional speakers.
In closing, Mr. Speaker, I urge support of H. Res. 277. I ask the House for its passage today, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I also urge my colleagues to support this bipartisan resolution, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 277.

The question was taken. The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. ROSENDALE. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

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

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

PROMOTING UNITED STATES WIRELESS LEADERSHIP ACT OF 2021

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3003) to direct the Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information to take certain actions to enhance the representation of the United States and promote United States leadership in standards-setting bodies, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3003

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SEC. 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Promoting United States Wireless Leadership Act of 2021”.

SEC. 2. REPRESENTATION AND LEADERSHIP OF UNITED STATES IN COMMUNICATIONS STANDARDS-SETTING BODIES.

(a) In General.—In order to enhance the representation of the United States and promote United States leadership in standards-setting bodies that set standards for 5G networks and for future generations of wireless communications networks, the Assistant Secretary shall, in consultation with the National Institute of Standards and Technology—

(1) equitably encourage participation by companies and a wide variety of relevant stakeholders, but not including any company or relevant stakeholder that the Assistant Secretary has determined to be not trusted, (to the extent such standards-setting bodies allow such stakeholders to participate) in such standards-setting bodies; and

(2) allow such stakeholders to participate in the standards-setting bodies.

(b) Standards-Setting Bodies.—The standards-setting bodies referred to in subsection (a) include—

(1) the International Organization for Standardization;

(2) the voluntary standards-setting bodies that develop protocols for wireless devices and other equipment, such as the 3GPP and the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers; and

(3) any standards-setting body accredited by the National Institute or Alliance for Telecommunications Industry Solutions.

(c) Briefing. —Not later than 60 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Assistant Secretary shall brief the Committees on Energy and Commerce and Foreign Affairs concerning, H.R. 3003, the Promoting United States Wireless Leadership Act of 2021.

(d) Definitions. —In this section:

(1) 3GPP.—The term “3GPP” means the 3rd Generation Partnership Project.

(2) 5G Network.—The term “5G network” means a fifth-generation mobile network as described by 3GPP Release 15 or higher.

(3) Assistant Secretary.—The term “Assistant Secretary” means the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information.

(4) Cloud Computing.—The term “cloud computing” has the meaning given the term in Special Publication 800-145 of the National Institute of Standards and Technology, entitled “The NIST Definition of Cloud Computing”, published in September 2011, or any successor publication.

(5) Communications Network.—The term “communications network” means any of the following:

(A) a system enabling the transmission, between or among points specified by the user, of information of the user’s choosing.

(B) Cloud computing.

(C) a network or system used to access cloud computing resources.

(6) Not Trusted.—The term “not trusted” means, with respect to a company or stakeholder, that the company or stakeholder is determined by the Assistant Secretary to pose a threat to the national security of the United States. In making such a determination, the Assistant Secretary shall rely solely on one or more of the following determinations:

(A) A specific determination made by any executive branch interagency body with appropriate national security expertise, including the Federal Acquisition Security Council established under section 1522(a) of title 41, United States Code.

(B) A specific determination made by the Department of Commerce pursuant to Executive Order No. 13873 (84 Fed. Reg. 22639; relating to securing the information and communications technology and services supply chain).

(C) Whether a company or stakeholder produces or provides covered telecommunications equipment or services, as defined in section 889(f)(3) of the John S. McCain National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2019 (Public Law 115–232; 132 Stat. 1918).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) and the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. LATTA) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 3003.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 3003, the Promoting United States Wireless Leadership Act of 2021. This legislation will help ensure the U.S. continues to lead the world in advanced communications technologies and deployments. It does that by directing the National Telecommunications and Information Administration, NTIA, to encourage participation by American stakeholders and standards-setting bodies, such as the Third Generation Partnership Project, better known as 3GPP, and the IEEE.

The legislation also calls on the NTIA to offer technical assistance to U.S. stakeholders that do elect to participate in developing standards for 5G networks and future generations of communication networks.

Other governments around the world are engaged in the ongoing process for advanced telecommunications technologies, and discussions about 6G are already underway. This legislation will give our stakeholders the ability to better engage in policy choices that are being made today by the standards-setting bodies. These policy choices will have far-reaching implications for the development of 5G and other advanced communication technologies in the future.

By ensuring that globally developed standards meet the needs of the U.S. and our partners, this bill will help the U.S. continue to innovate. It will also help us guard against nontrusted actors hijacking standards-setting processes, which is an important component of our continued engagement on future communications technologies.

Mr. Speaker, I want to commend this bipartisan effort from Representatives WALBERG, DINGELL, JOHNSON, and KUSTER. I also want to thank our colleagues on the Committee and Chairman MEeks, in particular, for working with us to bring this legislation to the floor.

I hope we can come together on this important issue, and I urge all of my colleagues to support this bill. I reserve the balance of my time.

HON. FRANK PALLONE,
Chair, Committee on Energy and Commerce,

Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the following text be added:

DEAR CHAIR PALLONE: I am writing to you concerning, H.R. 3003, the Promoting United States Wireless Leadership Act of 2021. This legislation contains provisions that fall within the Rule X jurisdiction of the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

In an effort to work cooperatively and to expedite the consideration of the aforementioned bill, the Committee on Foreign Affairs waives our amendment authority. This, however, is not a waiver of future jurisdictional claims by the Committee on Foreign
Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to support H.R. 3003, the Promoting United States Wireless Leadership Act of 2021. The policy choices of today will have lasting effects on the global 5G technology development of tomorrow. This bipartisan bill, which I co-led with my fellow 5G Caucus co-chairs, Representatives WELBERG, KUSTER, and JOHNSON, would solidify United States leadership in 5G technology by encouraging interagency coordination, technical assistance, and stakeholder participation in international standard setting bodies. We must take concrete steps to lower barriers to entry for U.S. companies and promote American competitiveness in this space. This legislation will ensure the United States remains at the forefront of innovation in this evolving frontier by playing a central role in setting international wireless standards in emerging technologies. This approach has dramatic ramifications for our global competitiveness, 5G deployment, and our national security.

I strongly urge all my colleagues to support this important bill. The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3003. The question was taken.

Mr. SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. ROSENDALE. Mr. Speaker, on the record, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 678) to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to provide for a moratorium on number reassignment after a disaster declaration, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill. The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 678

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE. This Act may be cited as the ‘‘Preserving Home and Office Numbers in Emergencies Act of 2021’’ or the ‘‘PHONE Act of 2021’’.

SEC. 2. MORATORIUM ON NUMBER REASSIGNMENT AFTER DISASTER DECLARATION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 251(e) of the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 251(e)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

‘‘(5) MORATORIUM ON NUMBER REASSIGNMENT AFTER DISASTER DECLARATION.—

‘‘(A) IN GENERAL.—In the case of a number assigned to a subscriber for the provision of fixed wireline voice service at a location in a designated area during a covered period, the number may not be reassigned, except as at the request of the subscriber; and

‘‘(B) EXTENSION AT REQUEST OF SUBSCRIBER.—During the covered period, at the request of a subscriber described in subparagraph (A), the moratorium on number reassignment described in subparagraph (A) shall be extended for the number for 1 year after the date on which the covered period expires.

‘‘(C) SUBSCRIBER RIGHT TO CANCEL SUBSCRIPTION.—

‘‘(1) IN GENERAL.—In the case of a number described under subparagraph (A) or (B), if the subscriber assigned to such number demonstrates to the provider of the service (or, under subclause (II), any other provider of fixed wireline voice service that serves the local area) that the residence where the number is located is inaccessible or uninhabitable—

‘‘(i) the provider may not charge the subscriber an early termination or other fee in connection with the cancellation of such service, if cancelled during the covered period or the extension of the covered period described in subparagraph (A); and

‘‘(II) if the subscriber cancels the service during the covered period or the extension of the covered period described in subparagraph (A), the provider of fixed wireline voice service that serves the local area—

‘‘(aa) shall permit the subscriber to subscribe or resubscribe, as the case may be, to fixed wireline voice service at the number at the residence or at a different residence (if the residence where the number is located is inaccessible or uninhabitable), or to any other service that can be provided to the subscriber at a different residence; and

‘‘(bb) may not charge the subscriber a connection fee or any other fee relating to the initiation of fixed wireline voice service—

‘‘(ii) CANCELLATION WITHOUT DEMONSTRATION OF INACCESSIBILITY OR UNINHABITABILITY.—If a subscriber cancels the service described in subparagraph (A) or (B) and does not demonstrate to the provider of such service that the residence where the number is located is inaccessible or uninhabitable as described in clause (i), the number is no longer subject to the prohibition under subparagraph (A) or (B).

‘‘(D) IDENTIFICATION ON COMMISSION WEBSITE.—The Commission shall publicly identify on the website of the Commission
The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and to include any extraneous material on H.R. 678.

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

There was none.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 678, the Preserving Home and Office Numbers in Emergencies Act or the PHONE Act.

The PHONE Act is a bill that Representative MIKE THOMPSON was inspired to write because of stories he heard at home in his district in the aftermath of a devastating wildfire in northern California. After being evacuated by the Atlas and Tubbs fires a few years ago, Representative THOMPSON’s constituents returned to their homes determined to reassemble what was lost; however, when they came home to hook up their telephone service again, they were rightly outraged to discover that the phone company had assigned their phone numbers and, in some cases, reassigned them to different subscribers.

Nobody should have to worry about losing a phone number they have had for years because their home or their small business was left uninhabitable by a natural disaster like a wildfire or a hurricane. This legislation makes sure that that doesn’t happen again.

The PHONE Act prohibits providers from reassigning phone numbers of subscribers within an area subject to a major disaster declaration. Specifically, if the President has issued a major disaster declaration and a Governor has designated the area to the FCC, the phone numbers in that designated area cannot be reassigned for 1 year. And if a subscriber needs more time, this bill allows them to get a year-long extension.

The legislation would also allow consumers whose homes are inaccessible or uninhabitable to cancel their service without a cancellation fee or re-subscription fee when they get phone service somewhere else in the area during that covered period.

What we are doing here, Mr. Speaker, ultimately is ensuring some stability for people whose lives or businesses after a major disaster hits their community. This is one less thing that a resident or a small business will have to worry about as they work to pick up the pieces. In the age of phone numbers defining how we are connected to family, their doctor, and on their landline phone number to stay connected to family, their doctor, and others during such a trying time in their life. During a traumatic event, one less thing they should not have to worry about is losing their home phone numbers.

Today, when a natural disaster strikes, the Federal Emergency Management Agency, FEMA, is expected to provide housing assistance and other resources to respond to the crisis at hand. If your home is completely burned to the ground, the last thing that you should have to worry about is if your home phone number will be available when you return.

Thankfully, the Federal Communications Commission, FCC, can prevent that from happening. The FCC can waive rules and regulations that require landline phone numbers to return to the pool of available numbers when a home is completely destroyed by a natural disaster. This bill codifies that process, but we still must be cautious.

This type of relief should only apply to those areas where significant damage has occurred to render a home uninhabitable, as is the objective of the bill.

It is FEMA’s role to determine which households have actually sustained damage in an affected county, which this bill does not codify, and we hope can be addressed as it moves through the process. As the experts on the ground, we should defer to their assessment before these regulations go into effect.

While it may be easy to grab a cell phone upon evacuating, landlines cannot be brought on the go. For many people, especially our seniors, they rely on their landline phone number to stay connected to family, their doctor, and others during such a trying time in their life. During a traumatic event, one less thing they should not have to worry about is losing their home phone numbers.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this commonsense legislation. I hope our colleagues in the Senate will finally take up the PHONE Act, and I reserve the balance of my time.
Mr. McNERNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 678, the PHONE Act. As we stand here today, wildfires are raging across the West, including in my home of northern California.

Last year, California witnessed a devastating and terrible fire season. We saw some of the largest fires in the State’s history and a record-breaking 4.4 million acres burned. Nearly every part of the State was blanketed by fire and smoke, and we really haven’t gotten much of a break. The number of wildfires and the amount of land burned in our State so far this year greatly exceeds the totals for the same period last year.

Climate change is resulting in longer and more extreme wildfire seasons, and this is expected to continue. Worrying about deadly fires spreading quickly is about deadly fires spreading quickly is one less item on their plate. It is important to say that Jeff has been my most trusted advisor for almost my entire time in Congress. He is known to Members and staff on both sides of the aisle for his candor, political savvy, and commitment to the American people.

He has never forgotten his roots back in New Jersey. That, again, would be an understatement. Many of you know that he is a diehard fan of Bruce Springsteen, but also the Mets, the Giants, and the vaunted pork roll. He is a Jersey guy through and through. I don’t think anybody would argue with that.

He joined my staff as an executive assistant in May after graduating from George Washington University. I won’t tell you how many people from GW he has hired in the office and on the committee. Before that, he briefly served as a staff assistant to New Jersey’s then-Senator, Robert Torricelli.

Shortly after joining my staff, Jeff took on the added responsibility of serving as my legislative aide on both labor and defense issues. It was here that he began his longtime work in protecting New Jersey military installations from closure.

He was my defense staffer on 9/11 and during the debate on the Authorization for Use of Military Force against Iraq, which I valued at the time, and his vote against that authorization and the invasion into Iraq remains one of my most proud moments as a Member of the House. But I have to tell you, without Jeff, it might not have turned out that way.

Within 6 years, he became my chief of staff, serving with distinction the people of New Jersey’s Sixth Congressional District for 12 years.

It means that Jeff helped shepherd four bills through Jeff’s efforts, including, of course, the latest, the COVID–19 pandemic and the severe economic downturn.

Jeff helped shepherd four bills through the House to help combat the coronavirus that became law. These laws ensured Congress provided the tools and resources needed to bring an end to this terrible pandemic while also providing relief to struggling American families.

Besides responding to the pandemic, Jeff was instrumental in our efforts, and I want to list some of the very important bills: to end surprise medical bills; to reduce and block robocalls; to phase down the production and consumption of hydrofluorocarbons and mandate the repair of methane leaks; to protect Americans from suspected communication vulnerabilities; to modernize the Toxic Substances Control Act, which took about 14 years, to better protect public health and the environment; and to extend critical funding for programs that improve the health and welfare of millions of children, families, and seniors across the country. That is not an exaggeration. Jeff’s role in all of that.

He has been by my side through my greatest trials and achievements in office. My congressional office, the Energy and Commerce Committee, the Congress, and the Nation have benefited enormously from Jeff’s commitment to achieving meaningful progress for the American people.

It means time away from his family. There have been a lot of long nights, late-night phone calls, which I am known for, and weekends spent working to move forward.

I don’t know what to say other than to acknowledge the unwavering support that Jeff has received from his wife, Shannon; his daughter, Lizzie; and his son, Ryan. I thank them for sharing Jeff with all of us for all these years.

I know I am going to be talking to Jeff and getting advice from Jeff, but when I say bittersweet, I really mean it. I don’t know how we are going to do without him, but I guess we have to continue. That is the way it goes.

Mr. Speaker, I want to conclude by acknowledging the incredible list of accomplishments he has accomplished over the last 6 years. I am going to try to list some of them, but I have to tell you, it is an incredible list of accomplishments through Jeff’s efforts, including, of course, the latest, the COVID–19 pandemic and the severe economic downturn.

Jeff helped shepherd four bills through the House to help combat the coronavirus that became a disaster. Let’s not add insult to injury. The bill would also prohibit telecommunications providers from closure.

There is so much that wildfire victims already have to worry about. We must move quickly to ensure the PHONE Act is signed into law so there is one less item on their plate. It is hard enough to pick up the pieces after a disaster. Let’s not add insult to injury.

Mr. Speaker, I want to thank my good friend, Representative MIKE THOMPSON, for his work on this legislation.

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, I am prepared to close. I support H.R. 678 moving forward, and I yield back the balance of my time.
Mr. LAUTT. Mr. Speaker, I want to congratulate Jeff on his future endeavors. Our staffs do so much for us. As the chairman was speaking, I was thinking that the hours that they put in aren’t ever recognized, including the work over the weekends. I know when I have talked to our committee staff, especially when we have worked on pieces of legislation the last several Congresses, with the amount of work that goes into it, we have to thank our staff.

For all his years of service here and for his future endeavors, I give him my best wishes.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of my bill, the PHONE Act of 2021.

My district has been ravaged by wildfire every year since 2017. Thousands of homes have burned, and many families have been displaced. Following these fires, survivors called my office and told me they were losing their landline numbers because their phones had been disconnected for too long after their houses were destroyed.

Fire survivors face so many hurdles on the road to recovery. Losing their phone number is the last thing they should worry about. That’s why I introduced the PHONE Act with Representative NEWHOUSE. This bipartisan legislation allows disaster survivors to keep their phone numbers and have some peace of mind while they rebuild.

I thank Chairwoman ESHOO and the Committee for their attention to this important issue and I urge a yes vote on the PHONE Act.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 678. The motion is agreed to.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Ms. HOULAHAN) as chairman of the Committee on Appropriations to offer a motion by unanimous consent to add new paragraph:

It is amended—

(1) by redesignating paragraphs (6) through (11) as paragraphs (7) through (12), respectively; and

(2) by inserting after paragraph (5) the following new paragraph:

‘‘(6) the provision of safe and secure access to sanitation facilities, with a special emphasis on women, girls, and vulnerable populations.’’.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Ms. HOULAHAN) and the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SMITH) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania.

Ms. HOULAHAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 1158.

‘‘(6) the provision of safe and secure access to sanitation facilities, with a special emphasis on women, girls, and vulnerable populations.’’.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion are postponed.

REFUGEE SANITATION FACILITY SAFETY ACT OF 2021

Ms. HOULAHAN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1158) to provide women and girls safe access to sanitation facilities in refugee camps.

The Clerk reads the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows: H.R. 1158

Begin it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled.

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE. This Act may be cited as the “Refugee Sanitation Facility Safety Act of 2021”.

SEC. 2. SECURE ACCESS TO SANITATION FACILITIES FOR WOMEN AND GIRLS.

Subsection (a) of section 501 of the Foreign Relations Authorization Act, Fiscal Year

1994 and 1995 (22 U.S.C. 2601 note) is amended—

I commend my colleagues, Representative MENG and Chairman MEEKS, for their work on this issue.

Around the world, we are seeing unprecedented levels of displacement due to conflict and humanitarian disasters. Unfortunately, many of these crises have gone on for many years, even decades, like we have seen in South Sudan. I would just note, parenthetically, my good friend RALPH HALL and I have been to refugee camps throughout Africa and have seen the great work that is done by the United States, working with the UNHCR and other international organizations, literally saving lives, who otherwise would die of starvation or sickness, so what a great humanitarian effort made by this country and by others, including the UNHCR.

I would point out to my colleagues that new emergencies, like Ethiopia and Pakistan, have been particularly dangerous for vulnerable populations.

A generation of young people is growing up knowing only life in a refugee camp. The conditions in many of these camps around the world are dire and particularly dangerous for vulnerable populations, such as women and children.

This bill ensures support for safe sanitation facilities for refugees and displaced persons living in camps around the world.

The U.S. continues to be the largest donor to refugees and displaced persons around the world. That has been a historic fact no matter who was in the White House, speaking to the humanitarian beliefs of this country to care for those who are at risk and who are vulnerable.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support the legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. HOULAHAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume for the purpose of closing.

Mr. Speaker, this is lifesaving legislation. By helping ensure that women and children, who make up the majority of refugees around the world, have access to safe and secure sanitation facilities, this body will dramatically improve the health and quality of life of millions of people who have already suffered so much.

Again, I thank my friend, Congresswoman MENG, for introducing this invaluable legislation. I urge my colleagues to give it their full support, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Ms. HOULAHAN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1158.
The question was taken. The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mrs. MILLER of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays. The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 3 of House Resolution 8, the yeas and nays are ordered. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion are postponed.

DIVIDED FAMILIES REUNIFICATION ACT

Ms. HOULAHAN, Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 826) to require consultations on reuniting Korean Americans with family members in North Korea. The Clerk read the title of the bill. The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 826

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.
This Act may be cited as the ‘‘Divided Families Reunification Act’’.

SEC. 2. CONSULTATIONS FOR REUNITING KOREAN AMERICANS WITH FAMILY MEMBERS IN NORTH KOREA.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress makes the following findings:

(1) The division of the Korean Peninsula into South Korea and North Korea separated thousands of Koreans from family members.

(2) Since the signing of the Agreement Concerning a Military Armistice in Korea, signed at Panmunjom July 27, 1953 (commonly referred to as the ‘‘Korean War Armistice Agreement’’), there has been little to no contact between Korean Americans and family members who remain in North Korea.

(3) North Korea and South Korea first agreed to reunions of divided families in 1985 and have since held 21 face-to-face reunions and multiple video link reunions.

(4) There have subsequently given approximately 24,500 Koreans the opportunity to briefly reunite with loved ones.

(5) The most recent family reunions between South Korea and North Korea took place in August 2018 and did not include any Korean Americans.

(6) The United States and North Korea do not maintain diplomatic relations and certain limitations exist on Korean Americans participating in face-to-face reunions.

(7) According to the most recent census, more than 1,700,000 people living in the United States are of Korean descent.

(8) The number of first generation Korean and Korean American family members divided in families in North Korea is rapidly diminishing given the advanced age of those family members. More than 3,000 elderly South Koreans die each year without having been reunited with their family members.

(9) Many Korean Americans with family members in North Korea have not seen or communicated with those family members in more than 60 years.

(10) The inclusion of Korean American families in the reunion process, with the support of international organizations with expertise in family tracing, would constitute a positive humanitarian gesture by the Government of North Korea.

(b) CONSULTATIONS.—
(1) CONSULTATIONS WITH SOUTH KOREA.—The Secretary of State, or a designee of the Secretary, should consult with officials of South Korea, as appropriate, on potential opportunities to reunite Korean American families with family members in North Korea from which such Korean American families were divided after the signing of the Korean War Armistice Agreement, including potential opportunities for video reunions for Korean Americans with such family members.

(2) CONSULTATIONS WITH KOREAN AMERICANS.—The Special Envoy on North Korea Human Rights Issues of the Department of State should regularly consult with representatives of Korean Americans who have family members in North Korea with respect to efforts to reunite families divided after the signing of the Korean War Armistice Agreement, including potential opportunities for video reunions for Korean Americans with such family members.

(3) NO ADDITIONAL AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—No additional amounts are authorized to be appropriated to the Department of State to carry out consultations under this subsection.

(c) ADDITIONAL MATTER IN REPORT.—The Secretary of State, acting through the Special Envoy on North Korean Human Rights Issues, shall include in each report required under section 107(d) of the North Korean Human Rights Act of 2004 (22 U.S.C. 7817(d)), a description of the consultations described in subsection (b) conducted during the year preceding the submission of each report required under such section 107(d).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Pennsylvania (Ms. HOULAHAN) and the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SMITH) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Pennsylvania.

Ms. HOULAHAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 826.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 826, the Divided Families Reunification Act, introduced by my colleague, Representative GRACE MENG, who has been a tireless champion of reuniting divided Korean-American families.

This bill encourages the State Department to engage with the South Korean Government and Korean-American families regarding opportunities to reunite those families with their relatives in North Korea.

Many Korean Americans have been unable to see or hear from their loved ones for over 70 years, a unique heartache that very few of us can really understand.

Family is the bedrock of our society. Tragically, for thousands of Korean Americans, their sisters and brothers and even daughters and sons have been painfully out of reach through no fault of their own.

While there have been 21 family reunions held between North and South Korea since 1985, Korean Americans with family members in North Korea have been unable to participate.

As many of these Korean Americans are aging, we must advocate for humane and commonsense policy to help Korean-American families reunite with their loved ones in North Korea. We have the resources and the technology to reunite these families. What we need now is action to implement a more compassionate policy.

This is an important measure. I support it, and I urge my colleagues to do the same.

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

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise today in support of the Divided Families Reunification Act. The sorrowful legacy of the Korean war is with us even today, almost 70 years after the Korean Armistice Agreement was signed.

The Korean peninsula remains divided between a nation of free people and a nation that subjects its people to utter tyranny.

The barbaric Kim regime continues to threaten the peace and security of South Korea, the region, and even the world.

And families remain broken, from those still fighting to bring their loved ones’ remains home, to those with family members trapped in North Korea. This is an attempt to try to say let’s get this moving to try to get those families reunited.

Our vibrant Korean-American community, led by groups such as the Korean American Grassroots Conference,
feels this legacy strongly, so I commend Congresswoman Meng for introducing this legislation which directs the State Department to consult with South Korea and Korean Americans on opportunities to reunite families separated by the DMZ. I also trust that the State Department will be vigilant in ensuring that organizations with ties to North Korea will not be exploiting the desire of these families to be reunited with their loved ones to raise hard currency for the Kim regime.

Mr. Speaker, with that in mind, I urge support for the bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. HOULAHAN. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time. I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from California (Mrs. Kim), the vice ranking member of the Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific and an original cosponsor of this legislation.

Mrs. Kim of California. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to stand in support of H.R. 826, the Divided Families Reunification Act, in order to thank Representative Meng for introducing this bill and the House Foreign Affairs Committee for ensuring a speedy passage of this timely legislation.

I am also proud to colead another bill under consideration today that addresses this issue, H. Res. 294, introduced by the gentlewoman from California (Ms. Bass).

Since implementing family reunions in 1985, the South and North Korean Governments have facilitated 21 in-person reunions and seven video reunions. However, the nearly 100,000 Korean Americans with family members in North Korea have been left out of this process entirely.

As a longtime advocate for human rights and humanitarian aid in North Korea, I have consistently spoken on the need to prioritize these issues, especially by appointing a Special Envoy for North Korean Human Rights, which has remained vacant since 2017, and remains unfilled under President Biden.

Time is running out for separated family members, as many are in their eighties and nineties, and their numbers continue to dwindle. Congress and the Biden administration must come together to make Korean-American participation and reunifications a reality before it is too late.

My mother-in-law was one of the many Koreans who made the brave journey across the 38th parallel line to bring her family to South Korea. She crossed five times to go back and forth and bring family members across to South Korea.

As an immigrant from South Korea whose family lived through the Korean war, and now as one of the first Korean-American women to serve in Congress, I am proud to use my voice in support of this issue that is deeply personal to me and our Korean-American community.

I want to again thank Representatives Bass and Grace Meng for introducing these measures and for working to garner strong bipartisan support.

I urge my colleagues to support House passage of these bills today and for the Senate to prioritize consideration of this issue on behalf of the tens of thousands of Korean Americans alive today waiting to be reunited with their long lost family members.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. HOULAHAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume for the purpose of closing.

Mr. Speaker, for decades Korean Americans have been unable to see or speak with their family members in North Korea, and time is running out. This heartbreakingly real reality has taken a huge toll, and it is time to take action.

This bill, introduced by my colleague, Representative Meng, would spur the State Department into finding opportunities to reunite them with their loved ones and to address this humanitarian issue that has caused so much heartache for countless Korean Americans.

I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

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

Ms. Meng. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak in favor of H.R. 826, the Divided Families Reunification Act, a bill I authored to raise the voices of families who have been separated for decades both across the DMZ and across the Pacific Ocean.

I want to thank Chairman Joyce for working with me on this important issue, and for his efforts to bring this bill to the floor. I also want to thank Congressman Van Taylor who partnered with me to introduce this humane and commonsense legislation, which, during the 116th Congress, unanimously passed the House of Representatives.

Over seventy years ago, millions of Koreans were plunged into a harrowing war that brought misery, death, and destruction to their lives. Since then, the war has been frozen by an armistice agreement, signed on July 27, 1953, that persists to today. The division of the Korean Peninsula into South and North Korea resulted in millions of Koreans from their family members. Through the years, there have been some agreed upon reunions between South and North Koreans. For Korean Americans, however, there is no pathway for such reunions, as they have not been permitted to participate in these inter-Korean family reunions. Many of these Americans are in their 70s through 90s, and time is of the essence to be reunited with their families. I have had the honor to meet some of these divided Korean American family members, and it breaks my heart that their chance of a reunion with their loved ones grows less likely each day.

Ms. HOULAHAN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 294) encouraging reunions of divided Korean-American families.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. Res. 294

Whereas the Korean Peninsula, with the Republic of Korea (in this resolution referred to as “South Korea”) in the South and the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea (in this resolution referred to as “North Korea”) in the North, remains divided following the signing of the Korean War Armistice Agreement on July 27, 1953; whereas the division of the Korean Peninsula separated more than 10,000,000 Korean family members, including some who are now citizens of the United States; whereas there have been 21 rounds of family reunions between South Koreans and North Koreans along the border since 2000;
Today, there are still thousands of Korean Americans who live waiting and hoping for the chance to see their relatives living in North Korea. Mr. Speaker, the pain of being separated from your family does not dull with time. This resolution would give peace of mind to identifying families in the United States and in North Korea who are willing and able to participate in family reunification. This resolution would also allow for organizations like the Red Cross to assist families and work with our allies in South Korea to reunite families through video reunions. We must act now because the number of surviving relatives is declining, and time is running out to right the wrong these families have suffered. There is an urgent humanitarian need to reunite Korean Americans with their war-torn loved ones and to provide much-needed healing, closure, and restoration of bonds broken seven decades ago. By passing this humane, bipartisan resolution, this body will provide Korean Americans the precious opportunity they have been denied for too long. I thank Representative Bass for authoring this important humanitarian legislation, and I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting it. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time. Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H. Res. 294, which reaffirms the House’s commitment to support our Korean-American families seeking to reunite with relatives who are trapped in North Korea. The resolution, authored by my good friend and colleague, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. BASS), rightly observes that family reunification is a humanitarian priority. As she points out, it calls on the United States and North Korea to begin the process of reunifying North Korean and Korean-American divided family members with their immediate relatives through ways such as—and I quote from the resolution: “Identifying divided families in the United States and North Korea who are willing and able to participate in a pilot program for family reunions; “Finding members of such families through organizations such as the Red Cross; and “Working with the Government of South Korea to include American citizens in inter-Korean video reunions.” Ms. HOULAHAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Both Representative Kim and I have heard or know the awful stories of constituents who were divided from family members for nearly 70 years. A couple of years ago I had a constituent in my office who was quite elderly, and he was very concerned that he actually was not going to live to see his siblings that he has not been able to see for many decades. This resolution also urges the restoration of contact between the divided families physically, literarily, or virtually, and calls on the U.S. and North Korea to pursue reunions as a humanitarian priority of immediate concern. When the Korean War Armistice Agreement was signed in 1953, it was meant to be a temporary measure. There has been relative peace between North and South Korea, but tensions remain volatile, and the border separating them is heavily militarized. More than 10 million families, including those who are now U.S. citizens, have been divided, and we must do everything we can to prevent this from continuing. Representative Kim and I agree that Korean Americans should not have to wait another day to let families over 70 years meet their family members who live in North Korea. The bipartisan support shows that this resolution wants to support the administration and find a sustainable solution to this important issue. I want to thank Representative Kim and many of my other colleagues on both sides of the aisle for cosponsoring H. Res. 294.

Ms. HOULAHAN. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. HOULAHAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume for the purpose of closing.

Mr. Speaker, for nearly 70 years, Korean Americans and their relatives have hoped and prayed to one day be together again. We cannot allow any
further delay in reuniting these families with their loved ones. This resolution is commonsense, bipartisan legislation that is long overdue, and it will make an invaluable impact on the lives of thousands of Korean Americans and their families.

I thank Representative KAREN BASS for working so diligently on this essential humanitarian resolution. I ask all of my colleagues to give it their support.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Pennsylvania (Ms. HOULAHAN) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 294.

The question was taken. The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mrs. MILLER of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, on the yea and the nays.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 3(a) of House Resolution 8, the yea and nays are ordered. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion are postponed.

SECURING AMERICA FROM EPIDEMICS ACT

Ms. HOULAHAN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2118) to authorize United States participation in the Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill. The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2118

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Securing America From Epidemics Act”.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds the following:

(1) Due to increasing population and population density, human mobility, and ecological change, emerging infectious diseases pose a real and growing threat to global health security.

(2) While vaccines can be the most effective tools to protect against infectious disease, the absence of vaccines for a new or emerging infectious disease with epidemic potential leaves major health security threats globally, posing catastrophic potential human and economic costs.

(3) The COVID–19 pandemic has infected more than 136 million individuals and has killed at least 2,656,822 people worldwide, and it is likely that unreported cases and deaths are significant.

(4) Even regional outbreaks can have enormous human costs and substantially disrupt the global economy and cripple regional economies. The 2014 Ebola outbreak in West Africa infected more than 27,000 individuals and has killed at least 2,656,822 people worldwide, and it is likely that unreported cases and deaths are significant.

(5) The need for vaccines to address emerging infectious threats is acute, and cost to drive the necessary development of vaccines to address them—a complex and expensive undertaking—are very often critically absent. Also absent are mechanisms to ensure access to those vaccines by those who need them when they need them.

(6) To address the gap in availability and the deficit of political commitment, institutional capacity, and funding, in 2017, several countries and private partners launched the Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations (CEPI). CEPI’s mission is to stimulate, finance, and coordinate development of vaccines for high-priority, epidemic-potential threats in cases where traditional markets do not exist or cannot create sufficient demand.

(7) Through funding of partnerships, CEPI seeks to advance vaccine candidates through the end phase II clinical trials, as well as support vaccine platforms that can be rapidly deployed against emerging pathogens.

(8) CEPI supported the manufacturing of the United States-developed Moderna COVID-19 vaccine during its Phase 1 clinical trial, and CEPI has initiated at least 12 partnerships to develop vaccines against COVID–19.

(9) CEPI is co-leading COVAX, the vaccines pillar of the ACT-Accelerator, which is global collaboration to quickly produce and equitably distribute safe and effective vaccines and therapeutics for COVID-19.

(10) Support for participation in CEPI is an important part of the United States own health security and biodefense and is in the national interest, complementing the work of many Federal agencies and providing significant value through global partnership and burden-sharing.

SEC. 3. AUTHORIZATION FOR UNITED STATES PARTICIPATION.

(a) In General.—The United States is hereby authorized to participate in the Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations (“Coalition”).

(b) Designation.—The President is authorized to designate an employee of the relevant Federal department or agency providing the majority of United States contributions to the Coalition, who should demonstrate knowledge and experience in the fields of development and public health, epidemiology, or medicine, to serve—

(1) on the Investors Council of the Coalition; and

(2) if nominated by the President, on the Board of Directors of the Coalition, as a representative of the United States.

(c) Reports to Congress.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the President shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report that includes the following:

(1) The United States planned contributions to the Coalition and the mechanism for United States participation in such Coalition.

(2) The manner and extent to which the United States participate in the governance of the Coalition.

(3) How participation in the Coalition supports relevant United States Government strategies and programs in health security and biodefense, including—

(A) the Global Health Security Strategy required by section 7086(c)(3) of division K of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2018 (Public Law 115–141);

(B) the applicable revision of the National Biodefense Strategy required by section 1086 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2017 (6 U.S.C. 104); and

(C) any other relevant decision-making process for policy, planning, and spending in global health security, biodefense, and medical countermeasures research and development.

(d) United States Contributions.—Amounts authorized to be appropriated under chapters 1 and 10 of part I and chapter 4 of part II of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2151 et seq.) are authorized to be made available for United States contributions to the Coalition.

(e) Appropriate Congressional Committees.—In this section, “appropriate congressional committees” means—

(1) the Committee on Foreign Affairs and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives; and

(2) the Committee on Foreign Relations and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Pennsylvania (Ms. HOULAHAN) and the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SMITH) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Pennsylvania.

Ms. HOULAHAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 2118. The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Pennsylvania?

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker. I rise today in support of H.R. 2118, the Securing America From Epidemics Act.

I thank my colleague, Representative AMI BERA, chairman of the Subcommittee on Asia, the Pacific, Central Asia and Nonproliferation for championing this important bill that will save the lives and protect the United States from the threat of future pandemics.

This bill would authorize the United States to participate in the Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations, or CEPI, a private-public partnership that helps accelerate the development of vaccines against emergent infections, including Ebola and COVID–19.

The COVID–19 crisis has shown just how interconnected our world is and how important vaccines are to ending one of the greatest catastrophes of the 21st century. By developing vaccines and enabling countries to administer vaccine doses effectively, we can end pandemics. We do this by ensuring vaccines get into the arms of the most vulnerable, and by instilling confidence in people that the vaccine is safe.

Now more than ever with the rise of the deadly delta variant, and COVID–19 cases ravaging clusters across the country where vaccination rates are low, the collective resources of the private sector, multilateral organizations, national governments, civil society, and health experts are all vital to ending the pandemic.

By supporting CEPI, we demonstrate the value of collective action and create a leading global framework of developing an effective vaccine response to stop future pandemics.
Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the Securing America From Epidemics Act.

I thank my colleagues, Congressmen BERA and FITZPATRICK, for introducing this bill and for their work to address this important issue.

COVID–19 has shown once again that pandemics know no borders, and that the United States and the world must be better prepared to respond to disease outbreaks, including pandemics, around the world.

The bill authorizes the United States to participate in the Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations, or CEPI, an alliance of countries and private partners that are financing and coordinating the developing of new vaccines for infectious diseases.

In addition to COVID–19, CEPI has developed a list of priority diseases with epidemic potential, including MERS, the Middle East Respiratory Syndrome.

By leveraging contributions from member states with expertise and funding from private partners, CEPI seeks to develop vaccines before a disease outbreak occurs.

I would note, parenthetically, that in October of 2020, the Trump administration gave CEPI a $20 million grant to advance its work.

Mr. Speaker, according to the Johns Hopkins Resource Center, COVID–19 has killed over 4,092,000 people worldwide, including 690,800 in the United States and in my home State of New Jersey, 26,545 deaths, the most COVID–19 deaths per capita in the United States.

The pandemic could cost the global economy approximately $10 trillion, or more than 12 percent of global GDP. The loss of jobs and businesses is unprecedented in modern times. And all of us know it from our case work working with our local businesses. This has been an incredibly horrible pandemic, and we have to make sure it is never repeated.

Developing vaccines and treatment for emerging infectious diseases is not just an issue of individual health, but it is important to national security, including economic productivity.

Our committee has worked together on many pieces of legislation over the last several months in response to emerging infectious diseases.

We call COVID–19 a once-in-a-century pandemic, but we all share concerns that with the world growing smaller and smaller every day that these outbreaks will only become more frequent and clearly more catastrophic. There is an urgent need for the public-private global action H.R. 2118 would help accelerate, not only for COVID–19, but God forbid, for any other future pandemics.

I thank my colleague, Representative AMI BERA, for his leadership in championing this bill. I urge my colleagues to support this legislation, and, Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Pennsylvania (Ms. HOULAHAN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2118.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mrs. MILLER of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

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

SEC. 4. INTERAGENCY WORKING GROUP.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The President shall establish an interagency working group to coordinate the United States response to the ongoing desert locust outbreak in East Africa and other affected regions, including the development of a comprehensive, strategic plan to control the desert locust outbreak in East Africa and other affected regions, mitigate impacts on food security, economic productivity, and political stability and prevent future outbreaks.

(b) MEMBERSHIP.—

(1) In General.—The interagency working group shall be composed of the following:

(i) The United States Agency for International Development.


(iii) The Department of State.

(iv) The Department of Defense.

(v) The Department of Agriculture.

(vi) Any other relevant Federal department or agency.

(2) CHAIR.—The President shall designate one of the representatives from the United States Agency for International Development described in paragraph (1)(A) to serve as chair of the interagency working group.

(c) DUTIES.—The interagency working group shall:

(1) assess the scope of the desert locust outbreak in East Africa and other affected regions, including its impact on food security, economic productivity, and political stability in affected countries;

(2) assess the impacts of restrictions relating to the coronavirus disease 2019 that have been imposed or are projected to be imposed;

(3) coordinate interagency and international response efforts to address the desert locust outbreak and mitigate its impacts in East Africa and other affected regions; and

(4) review the effectiveness of regional and multilateral efforts to control the desert locust outbreak and the coordination among affected countries, regional and international organizations, including the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund, the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization, the African Union, and other entities.

SEC. 5. FINDINGS.

Convenient the following:

(1) It is the policy of the United States Agency for International Development to promote the following:

(a) The United States Agency for International Development reports that countries in East Africa are currently suffering the worst desert locust outbreak in decades, which will devour crops and pasture and destroy local livelihoods across the region.

(b) As of December 2020, the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization reported that there were nearly 42 million people experiencing acute food insecurity in East Africa, which number was projected to increase as the desert locust outbreak is not controlled.

(c) The desert locust outbreak in East Africa, particularly in Kenya, Ethiopia, and Somalia, is negatively impacting food security, local livelihoods and economic productivity, and may threaten political stability in the region.

(d) Proactive investments now to control the desert locust outbreak could reduce the need for a much larger United States humanitarian response effort later, as well as support economic and political stability and build resilience in affected countries.

(e) In order to optimize the United States response to the desert locust outbreak, an interagency working group should be established to develop and implement a comprehensive, strategic plan to control the desert locust outbreak in East Africa and other affected regions, mitigate impacts on food security, economic productivity, and political stability and prevent future outbreaks.

This Act may be cited as the “Desert Locust Control Act”.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Desert Locust Control Act”.

SEC. 2. STATEMENT OF POLICY.

It is the policy of the United States to prioritize efforts to control the ongoing desert locust outbreak in East Africa and other affected regions, mitigate the impacts on food security, economic productivity, and political stability, improve interagency coordination to prevent future outbreaks, and promote resilience in affected countries.

SEC. 3. FINDINGS.

Convenient the following:

(1) It is the policy of the United States Agency for International Development reports that countries...
Food Programme and the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization; and (5) not later than 90 days after the establishment of the interagency working group under paragraph (a), develop and submit to the President and the appropriate congressional committees a comprehensive, strategic plan to control the desert locust outbreak in East Africa, including a description of efforts to assist and mitigate impacts to food security, economic productivity, and political stability; and (C) to the extent practicable, prevent and mitigate future desert locust and other, similar destructive insect outbreaks (such as Fall Armyworm) in Africa and other parts of the world, which require a humanitarian response.

(d) Interagency Working Group Support.—The interagency working group shall continue to meet not less than semi-annually to facilitate implementation of the comprehensive, strategic plan required by subsection (c)(5).

(g) Appropriations.—(A) The United States Government to evaluate and respond to the locust outbreak in the support of the U.S. mission to the Food and Agricultural Organization, USAID, and others to establish a working group responding to the outbreak.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Pennsylvania.

Ms. HOULAHAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, and I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the Desert Locust Control Act, a bill I introduced along with my good friend and colleague, Representative KAREN BASS of California, and we have worked on this issue together for quite a long time trying to mitigate its impact that it is having, particularly on Africa.

I thank Representatives MEEKS and McCaul for their work in ensuring that this legislation is on the floor today so that we can vote on it and hopefully see it enacted into law.

Mr. Speaker, this bill will establish—and this is the core of it—an interagency working group to develop a comprehensive, strategic plan to control locust outbreaks in the East Africa region and address future outbreaks in order to avert famine, starvation, and mass scale food insecurity and potential political destabilization that goes along with all of that.

According to USAID: “The desert locust is one of the most destructive migratory pests in the entire world, rapidly consuming most vegetation in its path, including crops and pastureland critical to maintaining the food security and livelihoods of populations in East Africa. Locust swarms are highly adapted to place and length in weather; the swarms can travel up to 100 miles per day, and even a relatively small, 0.4 square mile-sized swarm can consume an amount of food sufficient for approximately 35,000 people in one day.”

As recently as July 6, the U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization, or FAO, has said that “a desert locust upsurge is still underway in the Greater Horn of Africa and the Arabian Peninsula,” and that “although substantial control operations are underway, the battle to control the desert locust is not yet over.”

The World Bank notes that: “A new generation of locusts emerges every eight weeks. Each generation, on average, sees a 20-fold increase in the population. The growing swarms spread to new areas, disrupting the food supply, upending livelihoods and requiring substantial resources to address.”

Mr. Speaker, I believe there are three very important reasons to support this bill. The first is an obligation that we have to mitigate suffering wherever we are able to do so, and prevent starvation, famine, food insecurity, and stunning. Stunting increases when food is not available to young people especially during the first thousand days of life from conception to the second birthday.

The second is our strategic U.S. national interest. Food insecurity causes instability, as we saw with the rise of the Muslim Brotherhood in Egypt a decade ago. Here, the Horn of Africa is vitally important, and we see an area wracked by war and violence, be it the war in the Tigray region of Ethiopia and ethnic violence elsewhere in that strategically important area, or Al-Shabaab’s efforts in neighboring Somalia to establish a radical terror regime. On top of this political chaos then is the food crisis caused by locusts, compounded by the ongoing COVID concerns.

The third is that this legislation is both penny-wise and pound-wise. The bill calls for greater intergovernmental coordination so that we don’t waste resources through redundant efforts but rather work in a highly intergovernmental fashion. Further, by addressing the food insecurity problem at the source, the locusts, we mitigate the need down the road to provide disaster and humanitarian assistance, which is more costly not only in terms of dollars, but most importantly in terms of human lives.

I would further note that just last week Administrator Samantha Power addressed the Foreign Affairs Committee, and she added, a little money up front can save more down the road, while underscoring there is much work to be done.

She said: “We have treated more than 5 million acres of infested lands since 2019—and the last administration and this administration is very focused, I would say parenthetically, on this—‘preventing the loss of four million metric tons of crops. That’s $1.2 billion worth of crop yields that were not available to Africa, that if we had mitigated this, we would have prevented that.”
Mr. Speaker, I thank Representative Smith for his leadership on this bill, and I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to support H.R. 1079.

Ms. HOULAHAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself 1 minute to close.

Mr. Speaker, first of all, I thank my good friend and colleague, Congresswoman Karen Bass, the chair of the Subcommittee on Africa, Global Health, Global Human Rights and International Organizations. We have worked so close on so many issues. Sometimes she takes the lead; sometimes I take the lead, but we are always striving for that same outcome, and I thank her for her great support for this. It really is an honor to work with the gentlewoman.

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

Ms. HOULAHAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume for the purpose of closing.

Mr. Speaker, given the incredible damage locusts can inflict in such a short time, it is critical that our ability to evaluate and respond to these outbreaks is efficient across our government, including the U.S. mission to the Food and Agriculture Organization and to the USAID.

That is exactly what this bill will do to help support regions that were already struggling with food security from being further impacted by locust swarms consuming their crops.

I thank the ranking member of the Subcommittee on Africa, Global Health, Global Human Rights and International Organizations, my colleague, Representative Smith, for introducing this important bill, and I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Pennsylvania (Ms. HOULAHAN) and the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SMITH) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Pennsylvania.

Ms. HOULAHAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 1036.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 1036, the Bassam Barabandi Rewards for Justice Act, bipartisan legislation introduced by my friend, the gentleman from South Carolina, Congressman Joe Wilson, and the gentleman from Florida, Ted Deutch.

Mr. Speaker, whistleblower programs have proven themselves effective over and over again. In 2017, the U.S. Department of Justice collected $3.7 billion in settlements and judgments from False Claim Act cases against companies and individuals who had defrauded the government. Of the $3.7 billion, 92 percent came from cases brought by whistleblowers. Whistleblowers have easier access to evidence of misdeeds than outside law enforcement investigators, deeper knowledge of the bad

BASSAM BARABANDI REWARDS FOR JUSTICE ACT

Ms. HOULAHAN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1036) to amend the State Department Basic Authorities Act of 1956 to authorize rewards under the Department of State’s rewards program relating to information regarding individuals or entities engaged in activities in contravention of United States or United Nations sanctions, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill. The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1036
Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Bassam Barabandi Rewards for Justice Act”.

SECTION 2. AMENDMENT TO DEPARTMENT OF STATE REWARDS PROGRAM.

Subsection (b) of section 30 of the State Department Basic Authorities Act of 1956 (22 U.S.C. 2708) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (11), by striking “or” after the semicolon at the end;

(2) in paragraph (12), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; or” and;

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

“(13) the identification or location of an individual or entity that—

“(A) knowingly, directly or indirectly, imports, exports, or reexports to, from any country any goods, services, or technology controlled for export by the United States because of the use of such goods, services, or technology in contravention of a United States or United Nations sanction; or

“(B) knowingly, directly or indirectly, provides training, advice, or other services or assistance, or engages in significant financial transactions, relating to any such goods, services, or technology in contravention of such sanction.”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Pennsylvania (Ms. HOULAHAN) and the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SMITH) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Pennsylvania.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. HOULAHAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may be considered as having no further requests for time, and I look forward to working with her and the rest of the administration on this important initiative.

I would note, parenthetically, that President Biden has nominated Cindy McCain to fill that role at FAO, and I look forward to working with her and the yeoman’s work that was done by our past ambassador to the United Nations Food Agencies, Kip Tom. This is an absolutely critical position that tends to be overlooked.

He provided us with unbelievably important insights and information that helped us craft a response to push the previous administration to do more. And, hopefully, this will help coordinate everything.

I would note, parenthetically, that President Biden has nominated Cindy McCain to fill that role at FAO, and I look forward to working with her and the rest of the administration on this important initiative.

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

Ms. HOULAHAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. Bass), the lead Democrat on this bill.

Ms. BASS. Mr. Speaker, once again I thank the chairman and the ranking member for bringing H.R. 1079, the Desert Locust Control Act to the House floor today. As chair of the subcommittee, I am glad to colead this important bill with Ranking Member Smith.

Ranking Member Smith has been the lead on this issue for several years. The current Desert Locust Control issue, which predominantly plagues East Africa, is the worst it has been in 70 years, and is causing serious famine and instability in the region.

During a recent House Foreign Affairs Committee hearing, USAID Administrator Samantha Power confirmed the need to address the millions of people facing food scarcity. This is compounded with the global resurgence of a new COVID-19 variant; although, in Africa, most people do not yet have access to the vaccine. So this is not just an issue of a pest; this is an issue that affects health systems, child education, local economies, and political stability.

H.R. 1079 is a great first step to alleviate the locust problem in East Africa by aiming to set up an interagency working group to develop a strategy on combating the locust by meeting periodically and annually, and reporting progress to Congress. This bill would also allow the interagency working group to review the effectiveness of regional and multilateral efforts to control the desert locust outbreak and the coordination among relevant U.S. Government agencies, regional governments, and international organizations, including the World Food Program and the U.N. Food and Agricultural Organization.

Finally, I would like to call attention to the yeoman’s work that was done by our past ambassador to the United Nations Food Agencies, Kip Tom. This is an absolutely critical position that tends to be overlooked.

He provided us with unbelievably important insights and information that helped us craft a response to push the previous administration to do more. And, hopefully, this will help coordinate everything.

I would note, parenthetically, that President Biden has nominated Cindy McCain to fill that role at FAO, and I look forward to working with her and the rest of the administration on this important initiative.

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

Ms. HOULAHAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume for the purpose of closing.

Mr. Speaker, given the incredible damage locusts can inflict in such a short time, it is critical that our ability to evaluate and respond to these outbreaks is efficient across our government, including the U.S. mission to the Food and Agriculture Organization and to the USAID.

That is exactly what this bill will do to help support regions that were already struggling with food security from being further impacted by locust swarms consuming their crops.

I thank the ranking member of the Subcommittee on Africa, Global Health, Global Human Rights and International Organizations, my colleague, Representative Smith, for introducing this important bill, and I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question was taken.

Ms. HOULAHAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 1036.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, whistleblower programs have proven themselves effective over and over again. In 2017, the U.S. Department of Justice collected $3.7 billion in settlements and judgments from False Claim Act cases against companies and individuals who had defrauded the government. Of the $3.7 billion, 92 percent came from cases brought by whistleblowers. Whistleblowers have easier access to evidence of misdeeds than outside law enforcement investigators, deeper knowledge of the bad
actors engaged in unlawful behavior, and greater insights into the methods through which fraud or theft is being carried out.

This bipartisan bill would authorize the Department of State to offer rewards for information about the identity or location of individuals who defraud sanctions imposed by the United States or by the United Nations.

This legislation builds on several existing programs that provide rewards for information leading to the arrest or conviction of criminals engaging in human trafficking, smuggling, or other transnational crimes.

This bill will also increase compliance with American and international sanctions programs and, therefore, serves a valuable role promoting human rights, good governance, and the rule of law around the world.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Mr. Wilson and Mr. Deutsch for their diligent work on these issues, and I urge my colleagues to support it.

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

Ms. MILLER of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

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

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of the Rewards for Justice Act introduced by our good friends, JOE WILSON and Congresswoman DEUTCH. It is a good bipartisan bill, and I think it will really make a difference.

The bill would reward the Expand for Justice program at the State Department to authorize rewards for individuals coming forward with information on sanctions evasion practices.

The bill was inspired by Bassam Barabandi, a Syrian defector and former diplomat at the Syrian embassy in Washington, who worked to provide passades to critics of the criminal Assad regime.

For years after his defection, Bassam lobbied the U.S. Government with information on Syrian oligarchs close to Assad, detailing their sanctions evasion practices. Bassam’s assistance highlighted the need to create a clear mechanism to incentivize individuals to come forward with this kind of vital information.

The legislation will do just that and ultimately enhance compliance with U.S. and international sanctions, increase confidence in the rule of law, and bring criminals and rogue regimes seeking to circumvent U.S. law to justice.

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

Ms. HOULAHAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume for the purpose of closing.

Mr. Speaker, this legislation is vital to helping the United States protect human rights and the rule of law around the world.

By allowing the State Department to compensate individuals for bringing forward evidence of sanctions evasion and criminal misconduct by bad actors, America will be better equipped to punish those who flout the rule of law.

I thank my colleagues, Representatives WILSON and DEUTCH for putting forward this key legislation, and I urge my colleagues to support it.

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

Mr. DEUTCH for their diligent work on the rule of law around the world.

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

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I thank my colleagues, Representatives WILSON and DEUTCH for putting forward this key legislation, and I urge my colleagues to support it.
HONORING THE LIFE OF JACK MILLER

(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 remember and honor Coach Miller of Tybee Island, Georgia, who passed away on June 23 at the age of 91.

Jack dedicated his life to mentoring and inspiring young athletes in the community. Jack’s head coaching career started at Vidalia High School in 1961 and would span 53 years at 11 different schools. He recorded over 700 wins during his career.

Jack was defined by his work ethic, which he passed along to his players. As a head coach, mentor, and motivator, Jack earned numerous awards throughout his career, including the Nike Coach of the Year Lifetime Achievement Award and the John F. Hodges Oasis Award for his outstanding achievement in sports in Savannah.

The only thing he loved more than coaching was his loving family and friends.

Jack’s positive impact on his players went well beyond his athletic fields, and I know his legacy will remain. My thoughts and prayers are with his family, friends, and all those who knew him during this most difficult time.

ENDING SYSTEMIC RACISM

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

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, most of the colleagues of this House know that I have introduced H.R. 40, the Commission to Study Slavery and Develop Reparation Proposals for African Americans Act, which can be defined as reparations.

I read to my colleagues an assessment of the U.N. Human Rights chief in a landmark report, launched after the killing of George Floyd in the United States, urging countries worldwide to do more to help end discrimination, violence, and systemic racism against people of African descent and to make amends to them, including repair, reparations.

That word strikes fear in most people’s hearts because they don’t take a moment to understand what ending systemic racism and institutional racism is or what repairing is. Repairing is a global concept. It means something very specific, like Justice, Equity, and Affirmative Action.

I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 40, the Commission to Study Slavery and Develop Reparation Proposals for African Americans Act, which can be defined as reparations.

REQUEST TO CONSIDER H.R. 18, NO TAXPAYER FUNDING FOR ABORTION ACT

(Mrs. HARSHBARGER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. HARSHBARGER. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of the Hyde amendment. As a mother and grandmother of two precious grandsons, I am committed to protecting the life of the unborn. Since enacted, the Hyde amendment ban on taxpayer-funded abortions has saved nearly 2½ million lives. We cannot underestimate the importance of this amendment in saving these precious, innocent lives.

I have taken care of young women with infertility problems for over 30 years, and they would love to cradle a precious baby in their arms. So many want to discard that precious child as just an unnecessary interruption in their way of life.

This is why we need to enact H.R. 18, the No Taxpayer Funding for Abortion Act, to ensure these pro-life protections remain in place.
Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Committees on Energy and Commerce, Ways and Means, and the Judiciary be discharged from further consideration of H.R. 18 and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. BOURDEAUX). Under guidelines consistently issued by successive Speakers, as recorded in section 956 of the House Rules and Manual, the Chair is constrained not to entertain the request unless it has been cleared by the bipartisan floor and committee leaderships.

RISING INFLATION HURTS US ALL
(Mrs. BICE of Oklahoma asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. BICE of Oklahoma. Madam Speaker, I rise today to address the ongoing economic crisis our Nation is facing.

Study after study has found that the Democrats’ budget proposals attack every part of our economy, from gas prices to groceries to middle-class workers and small businesses. Americans are struggling to make a living.

Gas prices have skyrocketed to $3.15 per gallon, the highest price for a gallon of gasoline since 2014 and a 42 percent increase from last year. As we continue to fall back into pre-pandemic routines, families hoping to travel this summer can’t afford the rising prices for fuel.

I am also deeply concerned by the rising costs of everyday necessities. Over the past year, consumer prices have shot up 5.4 percent, reflecting the negative impacts of rising inflation.

The bottom line is that hardworking American families cannot withstand the negative impacts of rising inflation. As long as this administration continues to spend trillions of dollars on failed policies, Americans will be left to foot the bill. I will continue to fight to ensure Oklahoma families and businesses do not suffer more in this economic crisis.

AMERICAN IDEAL WITHSTANDS TEST OF TIME
(Ms. FOXX asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. FOXX. Madam Speaker, recently, I received an impassioned letter from Elizabeth Bradley, a young woman from Bessemer City, North Carolina, about the American ideal.

In her letter, she writes: “The American ideal is the revolutionary thought that it is not by government, nor wealth, nor any human intervention that people have rights, but by the divine power of God. Ms. Bradley is exactly right, Madam Speaker.

The American ideal has withstood the test of time because of those who put their faith in God’s plan rather than their own.

Madam Speaker, let us never forget that we are one Nation under God, and the freedoms we proudly espouse are a gift that He has bestowed upon us.


STANDING FOR FREEDOM IN CUBA
(Mr. DIAZ-BALART asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. DIAZ-BALART. Madam Speaker, the people of Cuba are standing up for freedom, and they are suffering horrific consequences for it. They are getting murdered in the streets by the regime. They are getting killed in the streets by the regime.

And what they are asking for are just a couple of things. And what I am pleading for right now with the President of the United States is for some solidarity. And, yes, he made a couple statements, but where is his leadership?

What the Cuban people need right now is access to the internet that has been cut off by the Cuban regime. The Cuban people are not asking for remittances, they are not asking for aspirin, they are asking for freedom.

This President ran saying that he was going renew a new era of American diplomacy. Why is he not rallying the world? Why is he not speaking about what is going on on the island of Cuba? Why is he not talking to the democracies, making sure that everybody understands that it is an illegitimate terrorist, murderous regime in Cuba, and the United States stands with the people and is going to make sure that the world stands with the people of Cuba, as well?
President Biden, this is a moment of leadership. Stand with the Cuban people.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair reminds Members to address their remarks to the Chair.

REQUEST TO CONSIDER H.R. 18, NO TAXPAYER FUNDING FOR ABORTION ACT

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

Mr. BRADY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to strongly oppose Democrats’ cruel efforts to repeal the Hyde amendment.

My wife, Cathy, and I are proud parents because of two women in difficult situations who chose life and, through adoption, gave us two loving sons.

This is an affront to the majority of Americans who do not want their tax dollars to fund abortion.

Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Committees on Energy and Commerce, Ways and Means, and the Judiciary be discharged from further consideration of H.R. 18, and ask for its immediate consideration on the House floor.

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

Mr. LAMALFA. Madam Speaker, I want to speak with the body here about the situation in the West with wildfire and drought.

As so many of you know from the news, there is wildfire breaking out all over in the western States. My home State of California has several going on right now. I represent the very north of that part of the State, the First Congressional District, and we have fires routinely reaching now the five-digit mark, including the newest one known as the Dixie fire; it is over 30,000 acres. My understanding is, there are 11,000 new acres just last night burning up in the area of Feather River Canyon.

But this is not, unfortunately, news this time of year in the West. Anything west of the Rocky Mountains pretty much seems to be on the line.

What is going on is that for many years we in this country value the Smokey the Bear principle of putting out fires when they occur in the forest. And I think we still do value that. But what we haven’t done on the back side of that is to manage our forest lands.

And so what we have seen in the decades since, a good-minded policy, a good-intended policy, is that the forests have built up so much fuel. So much damage gets done from all this fuel being built up from fire season. It kind of builds up a situation inside the forest there when you have more inventory per acre than what the forest can sustain, especially during a drought period. And so in the West, in California, it is known you are going to have drought years, you’re going to have fire years. And it kind of goes with the program there.

So I am disturbed that we can’t advance the ball more on really the type of forest management we need to be doing. We can sustain X amount of trees per acre and this is depending on tree type, tree age, particular landscape, the particular weather pattern in a micro area, but if we are not doing that then we are going to see this year after year.

So the U.S. Forest Service has kind of transitioned from—not that many years ago—about one-third of their budget would go for fire suppression and two-thirds for the good green work we call management, including maintenance of forest roads and all the other things you do in the off season in order to make the asset protected from fire and also usable to the people, because this is indeed the people’s asset. And they are getting less and less access to it because of fire, but also just being closed down because of other environmental concerns that have been brought up.

That is a key part of the argument here is that we have had hundreds of thousands of acres burned. I will just stick with California for a moment here. And simple projects after the fact when we are talking salvage, salvage timber that needs to be removed after a fire, if you do that in a reasonably soon amount of time after a fire then you can still get value out of that timber. If you do it soon. No more than a year would be ideal.

But what happens is that when Forest Service goes to try and contract or do some of the work post fire to remove trees that will be dead or are already dead but still have a salvage value, you can make a timber product out of that, they get sued. The environmental groups come in and sue them saying, oh, we think you are going to take away habitat for the black-backed woodpecker or something like that.

And indeed, what has already happened is the environment has already been ruined for quite a few years where the spotted owl might have been, where other owls might have been, or other wildlife had been.

You should see some of the horrific pictures of how the wildlife is affected in a fire like this. And these are not just low-moving fire, but big conflagrations that we have these days that move from treetop to treetop across the whole landscape.

And one of the saddest stories you will see is a rancher just right in my home county of Butte on the east side who wrote the story about how their family had been there for at least five generations and long-time ranchers there, and a fire whipped through there and took out so many of their livestock, but also the legacy, the land that they love has been ruined by fire, in eastern Butte County, California, last year.

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So what are we going to do? Are we going to continue to watch this go on year after year after year?

I have run legislation to try and make it just a little bit simpler to do basic. I think, commonsense idea of taking away the power lines, moving hazardous trees and foliage away from power lines. But that means you are going to have to cut some trees. That
means you are going to have to do some trimming. You are going to have to do some actual work. The environmental groups even sue over that.

I am hearing reports that one of the latest fires might have been where a hazardous tree fell into a power line. Why can’t we create a zone around all power lines? The lines are already there—it is not like we are putting in new ones—to make it where there is enough distance around power lines so that if a fire were to fall, it doesn’t fall into them, and you get two bad things: a fire and blackouts.

So we will continue in Congress here to try and legislate that way. And I want to convince my colleagues on both sides of the aisle that this is very important, because we are losing millions of acres every year to wildfire, losing millions of acres of habitat for wildlife, millions of acres of wood products. As you see with wood products, spiraling—through the roof. It has added $30,000 to $40,000 easily to the cost of a new home because of the high cost of wood products. Anybody that has been to any of the vendors to buy a piece of plywood or two-by-four, it affects everybody. It isn’t just those buildings that are being built.

I mean think about the folks that need—for other disasters, our friends that have to suffer hurricanes down there. Where do they get the plywood to be able to board up for that? We have never had these problems. We have to produce them domestically. We can’t import everything in this country.

In my real life, I am a farmer. And we can’t continue to have the situation where we are going to rely on imported food or somehow replace our wood products. For some reason, the United States is the number two importer of wood of all countries. Why are we importing wood when we have so much of an overload and over-inventory in our western States? So we should be employing our people and getting that material out.

Now, people are going to be fearful that, Oh, you are talking about clear-cutting. No, it isn’t clear-cutting. That is the first thing they want to ask you when you have a press conference or something about it: “So you want to clear-cut everything.” No. We do this in zones. We do this with thinning. You do actually might do a prescribed burn. But then you plant it back, especially on private land. And you can tell what the private land is versus the Federal land that is basically almost not managed by flying over it after a fire or especially 5 years after a fire when you can see the checkerboard pattern you find so frequently of land ownership in forested areas. The private lands have already reclaimed. They have already salvaged. They have already started planting back. You can see the green; you can see order coming back to those forests there.

In the Federal land, you can still see the same snags. The same ghost trees—they call them—are there, left behind to—who knows when they will ever get around to it.

And what does that mean? It propagates the next fire, the next time lightning strikes, or the next flame blows through. And also, there might be some kind of an accident.

So I really, really want to get the attention of my colleagues here in Congress, those that regulate the forest, those in the U.S. Forest Service, and those of the American people, their attention to what is going on, because this is not sustainable. It is not good. It is not good for anything. I have talked about with wildlife, the asset the American people own in these Federal lands.

And we must do something to address some things that might be inconvenient: cutting some trees—not all of the trees—you might have control burns during the correct time of the year to get rid of some of the slash. But on the positive side, using this biomass, taking this wooded material out here that doesn’t turn into a two-by-four or baseball bat, or what have you, and turning that into something useful that we can use to generate electricity.

Heaven knows, we don’t have an oversupply of electricity generated in California. We even saw Texas was a problem last winter. So we are going to need to develop these sources, and that means jobs in these rural communities, jobs cleaning up the forests, any dependable 24/7 electricity supply because you could control the fuel. Solar, you don’t control the fuel. You have to have a sunny day without clouds or have it not be nighttime.

The wind machines, you can’t control them either. 24/7 fuel sources, whether it is hydro, whether it is new, whether it is natural gas, or biomass using these wooded products, we need to use these products, which means jobs in these rural communities, not just the energy, the environmental, the positive side, why aren’t we using this biomass, taking this wooded material out here that doesn’t turn into a two-by-four or baseball bat, or what have you, and turning that into something useful that we can use to generate electricity.

Heaven knows, with all the new demands that are being made by environmental-minded people on more electric cars, getting rid of gas stoves, getting rid of gas water heaters—all for electricity. Where is all this electricity going to come from? We can be generating it with things that come from our forests with these byproducts, so we need to start putting them to work.

So I just implore everybody that has a role in making a decision around here, in Congress, with our Federal agencies, environmental groups, could you please back off a little bit and let some of this good work happen. And the American people, listen to what we are talking about and encourage those folks that may be timid or not inclined to want to do the type of forest management, encourage your Member of Congress this has got to be done, because it affects all the west. Last year, some of it even blew back all the way to the East Coast from fires that were happening in California and the West. So we can do a heck of a lot better.

Madam Speaker, I appreciate the time here tonight. I yield to the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. COMER), my good colleague.

IN RECOGNITION OF JOHN "BAM" CARNEY

Mr. COMER. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman from California for yielding.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize a great Kentucky Statesman about a time friend. This past weekend, Kentucky lost one of its best. My dear friend, and the former majority leader of the Kentucky House of Representatives, Bam Carney.

Bam represented his home county of Taylor and Adair County in the Kentucky General Assembly for many years. He rose as high as majority leader, and remained there and would have been there as long as he wanted to be majority leader until he fell ill. And those of us who have kept up with Bam through this period know that he fought a battle that few people could have fought over the past year and-a-half.

I am sad to report that this past weekend, Bam passed away, but he will never be forgotten. The history books will write about Bam Carney, and they will talk about his role as majority leader of the Kentucky House of Representatives. They will also talk about his role as a great educator, and a leader in the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

Madam Speaker, I want to take a few moments to recognize Bam Carney, my friend. When you are involved in politics, you get to meet a lot of political people. And I had the pleasure of serving in the Kentucky House of Representatives with Bam Carney. I remember when he arrived in Frankfort, Kentucky, a few years after I got there. And Bam immediately made an impression on me. He was like everybody else in Frankfort. Bam was genuine. What you saw is what you got. Bam and I became very close friends. In fact, I considered Bam Carney one of my best friends. We worked together on legislation, our families became close, we played a lot of golf together. I never beat Bam, by the way. Not many people did beat Bam Carney on the golf course. But we became friends. He stayed at my house on weekends. We traveled together. Bam was someone that you could trust, Bam was someone that—in politics it is rare to say—but you always knew where he stood. And if he told you something, then that was good as gold because he stuck with his word.

Bam wasn’t like most politicians. Bam didn’t want to hide from the controversial issues or the tough issues, the issues that Bam knew might not be the most popular issues in his district. But Bam did what was right and what he felt was right for the people he represented.

Bam was a career educator; a basketball coach. Bam played college baseball.
at Berea. Bam was a Christian. In fact, one of the last things that he said was he was ready to go to heaven. And I know that is where he is right now. Bam was a great brother, a great father. Bam was a great leader, a great friend, just an all-around great person.

Kentucky lost a great statesman this past weekend in Bam Carney. I hope that those of us who knew Bam can learn from the greatness of Bam Carney, the great person he was, the great leader he was, the great representative of the people that he was. Bam represented the people, not the special interests.

Madam Speaker, I can’t say enough heartfelt things to Bam Carney’s family: His mother, his brothers, his sister, his two sons. They have endured a lot over the past year and-a-half through Bam’s sickness, and they never left his side, never gave up hope; always having a positive attitude. Bam Carney is the kind of person that we all need in legislative bodies. You can count on and someone that is honest and someone that is in the legislative body for the right reason.

Madam Speaker, I appreciate the time today on the floor of the U.S. House of Representatives to recognize the great life of a great Kentucky leader and a great Kentucky friend, Bam Carney.

HONORING THE LIFE OF JAMES OTIS CATLIN

Mr. COMER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life of Mr. James Otis Catlin of Sebree, Kentucky, who passed away earlier this month—July 9, 2021—at the age of 90. James was a hard worker throughout his life. He was a proud Korean War veteran, earning a Bronze Star and Purple Heart.

His love for our country and service members continued after his military career, and he joined the Austin Collins American Legion Post 243 in 1952, eventually becoming its oldest member.

James was a dedicated servant of the Lord and an active member of Sebree General Baptist Church. His humble service touched many in Webster County and all of Kentucky’s First Congressional District.

I will always be grateful for the sacrifice of our Nation’s heroes. I was proud to represent James in Congress, and his enduring legacy of service and faith will live on through his family, friends, and all those he impacted.

Mr. COMER. Madam Speaker, for 141 years, on the first Saturday in August, people from all over Kentucky make their way to the small community of Fancy Farm in far Western Kentucky for the annual Fancy Farm picnic, hosted by St. Jerome Catholic Church in Graves County.

Thousands gather to enjoy good food, good people, and good old-fashioned political stump speaking. Over 19,500 pounds of pork and mutton are served, along with hundreds of pounds of fresh home-cooked vegetables and homemade pies and cakes. All funds raised benefit St. Jerome Catholic Church for charitable endeavors. Additionally, the Fancy Farm picnic is entirely a community effort made up of local volunteers.

Madam Speaker, today, I would like to honor two of those volunteers—Mark and Lori Wilson—for their 15 years of service as chairs of the picnic speaking committee. Mark and Lori have dedicated countless hours to make the Fancy Farm picnic a great success.

I was especially honored when Mark and Lori asked me to serve as master of ceremonies at the 2012 Fancy Farm picnic when I was Kentucky’s commissioner of agriculture. Their efforts to create a successful picnic every year are invaluable.

Mark and Lori Wilson will be stepping aside and paving the way for new community leaders to step up and fill this role. However, I know that Mark and Lori will continue to be an active presence not only on the Fancy Farm stage but in their proud Graves County community. I personally appreciate not only their years of service, but also their friendship.

Mr. LAMALFA. Madam Speaker, I thank Mr. COMER for his tribute to the good people of Kentucky and the service you do there. They are served well by him and the work he does here in Washington.

Madam Speaker, I would like to resume for a few moments to what I was mentioning beforehand on forestry and the effects on our natural resources. Year after year, as I was mentioning, there are tons and hundreds of thousands, even millions, of acres of wildfire affecting our habitat and air quality. What I didn’t get to touch on was water quality as well.

You will find, when you burn these mountainsides, those slopes burn, and indeed, with so much inventory on hand there of trees per acre and brush and other dead vegetative materials, when this all burns, it burns catastrophically. In a lot of cases, you get a moonscape that is left behind. With that, there is a great amount of ash and other material that, because it is on a mountainside and hillside, it eventually is picked up by the next rainfall and/or snowpack and washes down the whole watershed into our brooks, creeks, streams, rivers, and, eventually, the lakes that we have.

This also creates a toxic environment, when you have that much ash material going down and almost actually plugging the lakes, for example.

I talked to folks in the hydroelectric business there. With all that ash and soil erosion—really, the soil erosion is a big, big part of that, too—they have to go in and clear the bottom of the lakes in some cases to keep their hydro projects running. Otherwise, you have less and less electricity being generated and the cost of all that to the taxpayers and to those water rights holders, et cetera.

When we talk about wildfire in the West, it isn’t just, yes, we lost a few trees and some deer got burned, some mountain lions and bear, and all that, which is all really important, but there is a lot more than meets the eye with all this.

If we talk about the electricity grid for a moment, if the hydroelectric plants can’t operate—and we are already stretched the way we are for electricity in the country and in the West because the shift has been pushed, we won’t even mention emphasis on doing it all with solar or wind power because we want to fulfill these renewable ideals. They are fine. They are fine in their own segment, what have you, but they are not fulfilling that big of a percentage of our grid yet.

We are still reliant upon a big part of our grid coming even as legacy from coal, natural gas, hydro, and nuclear. We are not just going to replace that overnight, and we are not going to do the main heavy lifting with these expensive forms of electricity.

Everything still needs to remain on the table. It is very important that we are domestically in charge of our electricity generation, our energy, and our energy policy not rest in the hands of others.

The wildfire effects do have a wide ripple across a lot of our lives. It gets back to: Are we going to manage our forests, or are we going to watch them burn?

Manage it means jobs for us. It means wood products that are grown domestically, paper products. Heaven knows, we use plenty of paper around here. Why not have that product come from something that is going to employ somebody and help make our forest a better place?

For the power grid, we always seem to be on the edge, in the hot summer, of having to shut off. Indeed, they call it Flex Alert in California, where they have people to shut down at a phone call, basically, saying: We are going to have to shut you off for the rest of the afternoon. Stop that production and stop that work because the rest of our power grid is going to be in trouble if we don’t get these voluntary, precontracted sign-ups shut down.

They are asking regular households to do that. I saw an alert the other day—it is almost hysterical—asking people to not charge their electric cars between 3 p.m. and 9 p.m. This is at the same time we are getting the bum’s rush to say: Hey, convert to electric cars.

California has a mandate to eliminate new combustion engine cars by, I think, 2035. Just make it up out of nowhere, no more of those cars.

Are we going to have a power grid that can do that? And then, do people want to buy these cars? Is it more than...
just idealists who want to purchase these vehicles or more who want to just drive in the special high-occupancy vehicle lane that has a sticker on it in California so you can use your car there?

Is this what vehicle choice looks like for folks? I am not against them, but I don’t like having things crammed down people’s throats like that either.

So, what are we going to do? Our forests, our special, all of these things work together. I was talking about the fires that break out because the trees and other foliage can come in contact with power lines, or a downed power line might light up a forest as well.

We have to be wise about how we are managing these things. Forestry is required that takes that into account.

Our power lines, we still need to deliver the power from where it is generated. We have so much hydroelectric power up in my area, yet they want to remove dams. They want to remove the dams that are making this clean, 100 percent renewable power up in the Klamath Basin, where farmers this year are getting zero percent of their allocation of water—zero.

How do you do that to a group of people, just taking that away? Especially in the Klamath Basin, these farmers own their olive oil. Imagine not being able to get that commodity and having to rely on imports totally for that because we don’t have a heads-up plan in this country that accounts for what we produce and should be producing.

In our State, we have many crops that we grow over 90 percent of what the United States uses. In my area, there are a lot of olives grown, table olives. Imagine not being able to get that commodity and having to rely on imports totally for that because we don’t have a heads-up plan in this country that accounts for what we produce and should be producing.

Our wood products need to come from the U.S. Our ag products need to come from the U.S. Our energy, so we can be self-sufficient, needs to come from the U.S.

We need to store more water in the Western States so we can produce these things, so we can produce hydroelectric power, so we can produce these ag products. We have environmental groups pushing to tear dams out that are already in place, stretching our power grid, stretching the food that comes to your table.

Just look them up. How many crops come from California that you rely on nationally that you wouldn’t get if they weren’t grown there, or we can turn to other countries to import from?

There was kind of a popular saying or a bumper sticker amongst agriculture some years ago: If you like imported oil, you will love imported food.

At what point are we going to wake up to this? Environmental groups are doing a lot of winning on this. Yet, at the end of the day, what they are pushing doesn’t actually do much to help the species they claim to be saving.

The delta smelt, which is part of the delta just east of the bay area in northern California, all of them that I have been usurping and taking away more and more water from agriculture, from human use, to run through the delta to try to keep the salinity level low, with the theory that will help the delta smelt.

The population has continually decreased since that time to where, when they are out there doing surveys—they call them trawls. The last several surveys, they haven’t found any. They are not finding the things that are hundreds of thousands of acre-feet of water and more are just being flushed through the delta because they still have the biological opinions put out by somebody in government and somebody willing to sue them to have that water to be used properly, for people use or even a purpose that would be helpful for the economy.

Why does it have to be this way? Then there is a page on Facebook that I would invite everybody to look at and to watch if you are interested at all in where your food comes from and why our resources in California and the West are being managed the way they are but especially with the intent being on our water supply in California.

California water supply isn’t just important to California. It is important to the whole country for these fresh fruit and vegetable products, the nuts that are produced there that are not produced anywhere in this country otherwise or in very, very tiny percentages elsewhere. All of your almonds pretty much come from California. Yet, there is all this rhetoric about, like the almonds are using all the water, that we are exporting all the water. No, the water doesn’t actually leave the State.

Each almond nut doesn’t have that much water in it. It goes back into recharging the groundwater. It goes back into keeping the local economy growing those trees that replace CO2 with oxygen.

Madam Speaker, I would like for you to check out this page on Facebook. It is called the California Water for Food and People Movement. A young lady named Kristi Diener on there puts out excellent information all the time on all the different aspects of California water and why that is important to everybody.

We have the possibility of adding more water supply to our States. We could raise the Shasta Dam located in Shasta County near Redding, California, far up north. You could raise it 18 feet and augment it by about 630,000 acre-feet of additional water supply when you fill the lake.

Also, another one called Sites Reservoir in the western part of the Sacramento Valley, it is about 70 to 80 miles south of the Shasta Dam. That would mean up to 1.5 million acre-feet of water that could be stored there when you fill that project.

Those chunks of water would go a long way toward helping to keep the crops growing, as well as people’s needs and cities.

It is my view, as low as the lakes are getting right now, Lake Shasta, Lake O’Shante, Lake Polson. San Luis Reservoir, where water is transferred to after having been pumped through the delta—except they can’t because the State pumps and the Federal pumps are hardly running because they think they are helping the delta smelt. If these reservoirs are all full, we can go up to 5 years if we are not wasting the water on biological things that don’t make sense.

We need to do a lot more to augment our water supply so we can keep growing the crops and have an economy of domestically grown products that are high quality and that people enjoy. And they won’t know they are missing it until you can’t get it.

For seeing good information, on this Facebook page, the California Water for Food and People Movement, check into that because it is at least a counterargument to what you hear all the time in the press and in the news about what farmers are doing or how water storage is bad and how dams are bad.

Dams, you get several good things by their existence. You get stored water for people in ag; as well as water that would not exist in summertime or in the fall that you could help with fish flows. Imagine that? You get hydroelectric generation. You get prevention against floods because you can store this water during the wild rainy season and keep that.

The Army Corps of Engineers runs those operations for flood control around the country. Imagine the flooding you would have in those regions that can have that high flow during extraordinary rain events.

You get recreation. You get a lot of good things from storing water, and we used to do that. We used to think ahead to do that. Now, we think we are getting ahead by tearing out this infrastructure that people need and actually can be beneficial and is beneficial to nature as well.

We have to start thinking soundly and logically about what we are doing. That is why I have spent so much time on the Agriculture Committee, the Natural Resources Committee, and the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee talking about these issues. We have an opportunity with an infrastructure bill or two or three coming up here to do some real things in that.

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I think most people when they think of infrastructure are thinking of our
highways, the basic transportation they use every day. They are thinking of things like levies, whether that is in my area of northern California or Louisiana or all around the country, that help prevent floods and keep water where we need it, and that is what we don’t want it, stored water storage itself, the dams that make so much possible, as I mentioned, hydroelectric power, stored water, recreation, and flood control. It just makes sense.

Why aren’t we getting back to a sensible way of thinking about that? We are just letting the environmental groups and the press—they seem to want to cozy up to their argument and not get the counter side to this.

Meanwhile, I have many constituents who aren’t farming at all this year, not growing crops and doing that honest, good work that they have done for generations. These are good, hardworking people. Sometimes I wonder why they keep doing it. I don’t know if they don’t seem to be appreciated for what they are doing. It is always a fight. They always have got to be heading into town to defend something, defend their water supply, defend their land uses, or defend against some more regulations that kept up by somebody in Sacramento or in Washington, D.C., who really doesn’t understand or seem to care about why they do what they do.

It makes this hard sometimes because as a Representative I go back home, and I tell them: We are not having any really great answers coming out of Washington, D.C., lately.

Under the Biden administration they are talking about pushing to reinstall the WOTUS regulations, the Waters of the United States. There are those in the Federal Government and environmental movements who think that every drop of rainfall somehow belongs to the Federal Government or State government for them to regulate.

Madam Speaker, you have people trying to collect rainwater off their roofs into rain barrels and getting in trouble for that sometimes. The water running off their driveway, they can’t corral that water. They can’t build a stock pond to keep water for their stock because somehow that is affecting the whole water table or the whole water system. That is how far they want to go. They want to control, and it is not there, Madam Speaker. In Washington, D.C., who really doesn’t understand or seem to care about why they do what they do.

I tell you what, Madam Speaker, not everything belongs to the government. We have operated agriculture in this country for 200 years and done pretty well for the most part, and we are always working to improve and have better, more efficient water usage, better fertilizers, developing herbicides and things that leave less of a footprint behind or zero footprint behind and still produce a safe crop.

People really should be asking questions. Ask the farmers, ask the water associations, ask the constituents of the Biden administration. Ask them of the EPA. Ask them in your home State, Madam Speaker, as you see this stuff going on. Where are we going to get our food supply? Where are we going to get our electricity supply? Where are we going to get our wood supply? Where are we getting our fuel from?

Enjoy this $4 fuel—almost $5 as I saw on the way to the airport today in Sacramento. It doesn’t have to be this way.

We need pipelines, we need domestically produced energy, and we can do it ecologically soundly. This isn’t new ground. This isn’t the 1850s or the 1860s when they hydraulic mined old mountain sides and they killed all the buffalo and cut all the trees. We are way smarter than that.

Yet, Madam Speaker, you would still think that from the way the media covers it and the way the environmentalists talk about it in their groups and their fundraising pushes that it is the 1860s all over again. It isn’t. We are pretty well ahead of how we manage our resources for our farms.

These are our families’ legacies. Why would we not take care of them? Why would we not take care of the soil??

We do. We can do it better than any of those folks with their wide-eyed ideas who come around saying: “We could put your land into a long-term legacy that we help control,” and pretty soon you are eating from their hand on how you manage your own farm, how you manage your own land, or maybe you decide to manage not to farm it for a while. You might be required to farm it anyway because it is now a habitat.

Where did all this come from? Don’t we trust rural people anymore to make good decisions? Don’t we trust these people who work from sunup to sundown who provide for us from their heart and from their soul?

Don’t we trust them? Do we trust bureaucrats in D.C. or Sacramento or other State capitals? I don’t. Not anymore.

We have got to do better, and it is going to take the American public getting behind this, not just politicians here and not just ones locally because sometimes they are hesitant, and they are afraid to. We have to be bold. We have to be loud about this. And we have to be there at election time if they are not doing it because we are in big trouble right now.

If California doesn’t get above average rainfall next year, I don’t know how much of agriculture is going to be in business. The lakes are getting to be at record low pretty soon. If California is not farming nearly to the percentage of what it does, it will affect everybody in this country. They will see it in prices, and they will see it in availability.

Look at the store shelves already, how hard it is to keep certain things on the shelf when you go in and ask for it and it is not there, Madam Speaker. In restaurants if you ask for certain menu items, they are not even there.

I went through a drive-through the other day, and half the items weren’t available. What is going on in production?

Yes, we know it has been a year of COVID, but production of basic hard items, car parts, any other manufactured item, nobody is going to work, or nobody can get the resources mined and shipped and made into an end product that people need.

We have to wake up here. What is going on that the means of production we are either exporting it or we are shuttering it down and we are putting the clamps on it?

Heaven knows $6 trillion out of thin air spending last year because of the COVID mess, and yet trillions and trillions more are being proposed and sought to be spent upcoming on things that are not going to produce a rebounding, stronger economy but instead fulfill political goals.

What are we doing? We are still pursuing high-speed rail in California—something the voters were told would cost $33 billion when it was voted on. I think in 2008, $33 billion the voters were told. That price now is over $120 billion. It is only partially done. It is still going to stop in an orchard somewhere around Bakersfield and go to another town in the northern part of the valley there where it will be a full rail line. For a $120 billion price tag we could build three large dams and some lakes, and California would not be worried about water supply once those were built and filled.

Yet we chase these boondoggle things, either to fulfill campaign promises or some kind of idea of that something will be green and environmental. We are not going to have the resources we need the way we are going to fulfill the power grid for the amount of electricity that needs to be produced. We are not going to have it. We are going to wake up someday with electric cars that won’t go and appliances that won’t turn on because of shortsighted thinking.

Do the math, Madam Speaker. We have got to do the math and hold accountable the people who are spreading this misinformation. If it just doesn’t seem right or sensible to you, Madam Speaker, trust your little voice. Trust your instinct on that because this stuff doesn’t add up, you are probably right. It doesn’t. I have seen it enough around here to know it doesn’t add up long-term.

I don’t normally do this open mic business here, but I am watching my constituents being shorn where they live. I am watching them being pushed out by an economy that doesn’t support what they used to produce of things that people need and people used to need and still will need. I am watching normal hardworking Americans having little hope, and I don’t feel great about it because there is not more I can do as one of 435 in this room to help fix it.
But we get up every day, and we try and get this message out. That is why I use this microphone, because we can’t let this fall on our watch.

I ask the people to dig in, pay attention, and hold accountable those who are putting the nose around the neck of our rural economy and things that all Americans rely on.

Help us out. We desperately need it.

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

**LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. MICHAEL F. DOYLE of Pennsylvania (at the request of Mr. HOYER) for today.

**ENROLLED BILL SIGNED**

Cheryl L. Johnson, Clerk of the House, reported and found truly enrolled a bill of the House of the following title, which was thereupon signed by the Speaker:

H.R. 26. An act to amend the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021, to correct a provision on the prohibition on the use of a reverse auction, and for other purposes.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 11(b) of House Resolution 188, the House stands adjourned until 10 a.m. tomorrow for morning-hour debate and noon for legislative business.

Thereupon (at 8 o’clock and 8 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Tuesday, July 20, 2021, at 10 a.m. for morning-hour debate.

**EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.**

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

**EC-1624. A letter from the SVP-Controller, Federal Home Loan Bank of Des Moines, transmitting the 2020 Management Report of the Federal Home Loan Bank of Des Moines including financial statements, pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 9106(a)(1); Public Law 97-258 (as amended by Public Law 101-576, Sec. 306(a)(1); (104 Stat. 2854); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.**

**EC-1625. A letter from the Director, Administrative Office of the United States Courts, transmitting the annual report to Congress concerning the intercepted wire, oral, or electronic communications, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. 2513(3); Public Law 90-351, Sec. 802 (as amended by Public Law 111-174, Sec. 6(3)); (124 Stat. 1217); to the Committee on the Judiciary.**

**EC-1626. A letter from the Director, Administrative Office of the United States Courts, transmitting the annual report on bankruptcy statistics mandated by the Bankruptcy Abuse Prevention and Consumer Protection Act of 2005, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. 159(b); Public Law 109-8, Sec. 601(a); (119 Stat. 119); to the Committee on the Judiciary.**

**EC-1627. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department’s final rule — Amendment of Class D and Class E Airspace, and Establishment of Class E Airspace; Worcester, MA [Docket No.: FAA-2021-0117; Spacecraft Docket No.: 23-ACE-9] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received June 30, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251 (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.**

**EC-1628. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department’s final rule — Amendment of Class D and Class E Airspace; Wareham Nisor [Docket No.: FAA-2020-1187; Spacecraft Docket No.: 20-ANE-9] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received June 30, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251 (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.**

**EC-1629. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department’s final rule — Amendment of Class D and Class E Airspace, and Establishment of Class E Airspace; Montreal, QC [Docket No.: FAA-2021-1138; Spacecraft Docket No.: 23-ACE-8] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received June 30, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251 (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.**

**EC-1630. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department’s final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Helicopters Deutschland GmbH (AHD) Helicopters [Docket No.: FAA-2021-0011-06; Amendment 39-21579; AD 2021-11-17] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received June 30, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251 (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.**

**EC-1631. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department’s final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Helicopters Deutschland GmbH Helicopters [Docket No.: FAA-2019-0113; Product Identifier 2017-SW-140-AD; Amendment 39-21584; AD 2021-11-22] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received June 30, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251 (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.**

**EC-1632. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department’s final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Airbus SAS Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2021-0014-04; Product Identifier MCAI-2021-00016-R; Amendment 2021-01531-T; Amendment 39-21548; AD 2021-01-03] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received June 30, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251 (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.**

**EC-1633. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department’s final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Airbus SAS Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2020-0131; Project Identifier MCAI-2021-0131-T; Amendment 39-21582; AD 2021-11-22] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received June 30, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251 (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.**

**EC-1634. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department’s final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Bell Textron Canada Limited (Type Certificate Previously Held by Bell Helicopter Textron) Helicopters [Docket No.: FAA-2021-0185; Project Identifier MCAI-2020-00260-R; Amendment 39-21581; AD 2021-11-19] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received June 30, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251 (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.**

**EC-1635. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department’s final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Engine Alliance Turbofan Engines [Docket No.: FAA-2021-0145; Project Identifier AD-2021-00268-R; Amendment 39-21586; AD 2021-12-01] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received June 30, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251 (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.**

**EC-1636. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department’s final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Helicopters [Docket No.: FAA-2020-1183; Project Identifier 2019-SW-008-AD; Amendment 39-21563; AD 2021-11-03] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received June 30, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251 (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.**

**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. PALLONE: Committee on Energy and Commerce. H.R. 2928. A bill to require the Secretary of Energy to establish a voluntary Cyber Sense program to test the cybersecurity of products and technologies intended for use in the bulk-power system, and for other purposes (Rept. 117-92). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. PALLONE: Committee on Energy and Commerce. H.R. 2931. A bill to provide for certain programs and developments in the Department of Energy in the fields of cybersecurity and vulnerabilities of, and physical threats to, the electric grid, and for other purposes (Rept. 117-93). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. PALLONE: Committee on Energy and Commerce. H.R. 3119. A bill to amend the Department of Energy charter with respect to functions assigned to Assistant Secretaries, and for other purposes (Rept. 117-94). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Ms. ROSS: Committee on Rules. House Resolution 355. Resolution providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 2467) to require the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to designate per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances as hazardous substances under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980; providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 2686) to amend the Federal Trade Commission Act to affirmatively conduct safety investigations and seek permanent injunctions and other equitable relief for violations of
any provision of law enforced by the Com-
mission; and providing for consideration of
the bill (H.R. 3985) to amend the Afghan
Allies Protection Act of 2009 to expedite the
special immigration provisions for certain
Afghan allies, and for other purposes (Rept.
117–96). Referred to the House Calendar.
Ms. DelLAURO: Committee on Appropri-
ations. A bill making appropriations for the
Departments of Labor, Health and Human
Services, and Education, and related
agencies for the fiscal year ending Sept-
ember 30, 2022, and for other purposes (Rept.
117–96). Referred to the Committee of the
Whole House on the state of the Union.
Mr. CARTWRIGHT: Committee on Approp-
riations. A bill making appropriations for
the Departments of Commerce and
Justice, Science, and Related Agencies for the
fiscal year ending September 30, 2022, and
for other purposes (Rept. 117–96). 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 re-
ferred, as follows:
By Ms. TENNEY (for herself, Ms.
SAMPSON, Ms. MALLIOTAKIS, Mr. GAR- 
RAICO, Mr. STEUBE, and Mr. POSEY):
H.R. 4500. A bill to Incentivize States to
provide robust qualified immunity to law
enforcement officers, and for other
purposes; to the Committee on Financial
Services, and in addition to the Committee on
Agriculture, for a period to be
subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consider-
ation of such provisions as fall within the
jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. RODLICK (for himself, Mr.
UPTON, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Ms. SCANLON, and Mr.
BACon):
H.R. 4501. A bill to provide for the estab-
lishment of the Office for Access to Justice in the Department of Justice, and for other
purposes; to the Committee on the Judici-
ary.

By Mr. CARBAJAL (for himself, Mr.
SMucker, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Ms. NOR-
ton, Mr. HARDER of California, Mrs. SABOLICH, Mr. O’HALLORAN, Mr.
PETERS, Mr. GARBARINO, Mr. GRI-
JALVA, Mr. STAUBEr, Mr. BACOn, Mr.
GARCIA of Illinois, Mr. MEURER, Mr.
SCHRADER, Mr. CASAY, Mr. SWALWELL, Mr. GALLIgo, Ms. CHI, Mrs.
HAYES, Mrs. LURIA, Mr. KEATING, Mr. CARSON, Mr. SQUIRES, Ms.
NEWMAN, Mr. GOLDEN, Mr. C. Scott.
FRANKLIN of Florida, Mr. MCGOVERN,
Mr. RYAN, Ms. STRICKLAND, Mr.
LAMB, Mr. PANETTA, and Mr. CROW): 
H.R. 4502. A bill to exclude from consid-
eration as income under the housing assistance
programs of the Department of Housing and
Urban Development amounts received by a
family from the Department of Veterans Af-
fairs for service-related disabilities of a
member of the family, and for other
purposes; to the Committee on Financial Serv-
cies.

By Mr. LAMALFA (for himself, Mr.
WESTERMAN, Mr. NEWHOUSE, Mr. BENZT, Mr. OBERNOLTE, and Mr.
NEWHOUSE):
H.R. 4504. A bill to establish a biochar demonstra-
tion project for federally recognized Indian Tribes and Alaska Native corpora-
tions to develop and commercialize biochar; to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the
Committee on Agriculture, for a period to be
subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provi-
sions as fall within the jurisdiction of the
committee concerned.

By Mr. AMODEI (for himself and Mr.
LAMB):
H.R. 4506. A bill to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to furnish tests and vac-
cinations to veterans during public health
emergencies; to the Committee on Veterans’
Affairs.

By Mr. ABBINGTON (for himself and
Ms. WALORSKI):
H.R. 4507. A bill to amend title IV-A of the
Social Security Act, and for other
purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. BACON:
H.R. 4508. A bill to amend the Omnibus
Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to
provide compensation for direct victims of
civil rights era violence, and for other
purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. BRADY (for himself, Mrs.
WALORSKI, Mr. RICE of South Caro-
lina, Mr. WENSTROOP, Mr. ESTES, Mr.
SMITH of Missouri, Mr. LAHOOD, Mr.
SCHWEIKERT, Mr. SMUCKER, Mr.
KELLY of Pennsylvania, Mr. ARBINTON, Mrs. MILLER of West Vir-
ginia, Mr. SULITZ, Mr. NEHRIS, Mr.
NUNES, Mr. FERGUSON, Mr. BUC-
CHANAN, Mr. HERN, and Mr. REED):
H.R. 4509. A bill to amend part A of title IV
of the Social Security Act, and for other
purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. BROWN (for himself, Mr.
HOYER, Ms. BLUNT ROCHester, Mr.
CARDENAS, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Ms.
KUSTER, and Ms. SERVEll):
H.R. 4510. A bill to provide for the designa-
tion of areas as Health Enterprise Zones to
reduce health disparities and improve health
outcomes in such areas, and for other
purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Com-
merce, and in addition to the Committee on
Ways and Means, for a period to be subse-
quently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. BURGESs (for himself and Ms.
Cruz):
H.R. 4511. A bill to amend the Federal
Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to authorize
the use of emergency use authorization data and real world evidence gathered during an
emergency to support premarket applica-
tions for drugs, biological products, and de-
vices, and for other purposes; to the Com-
mittee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. BURGESs:
H.R. 4512. A bill to amend section 418 of
title 39, United States Code, to remove the authority of the United States Postal Serv-
ice to issue semipostals except as provided for by an Act of Congress, and for other
purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

By Mr. DONALDS (for himself, Ms.
VELAZQUEZ, Mr. CHABOT, and Ms.
HOClAY):
H.R. 4513. A bill to amend the Small Busi-
ess Act to provide for the establishment of
an enhanced cybersecurity assistance and
protection services for small businesses, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business.

By Mr. FITZPATRICK:
H.R. 4514. A bill to direct the Secretary of
Energy to fund projects to restore and mod-
ernize National Laboratories, and for other
purposes; to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology.

By Mr. GARBARINO (for himself, Mr.
EVANS, Mr. CHABOT, and Ms. TAL-
TRAJ):
H.R. 4515. A bill to amend the Small Busi-
ess Act to require cyber certification for
small business development center coun-
selors, and for other purposes; to the Com-
mittee on Small Business.

By Mr. GARCIA of California (for him-
self, Mr. WESTERMAN, Mr. BENZT,
Mr. OBERNOLTE, Mr. NEWHOUSE, Mr.
JOHNSON of South Da-
Kota, Mr. NUNES, and Mr.
ROSENDALE):
H.R. 4516. A bill to establish a categori-
al exclusion to expedite certain critical re-
source actions, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in ad-
dition to the Committee on Agriculture, for
a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdic-
tion of the committee concerned.

By Mr. GOODEN of Texas (for himself,
Mr. BARIN, Mr. PALAZZO, Mr. CAL-
vert, and Mr. WHEELER of Texas):
H.R. 4517. A bill to prohibit international
travel by the Secretary of State until all
passport agencies are fully reopened, and for other
purposes; to the Committee on Foreign
Affairs.

By Ms. HERRELL (for herself, Mr.
WESTERMAN, Mr. GOSAR, Mr. MCCLINTOCK, Mr. NEWHOUSE, Mr. BENZT, Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota, Mr. OBERNOLTE, Mr. ROSENDALE, and Mr.
WAY):
H.R. 4518. A bill to establish a categori-
al exclusion for certain forest management ac-

divities related to wildfire prevention and
drought mitigation, and for other
purpose; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. HICE of Georgia (for himself
and Mr. KHAH):
H.R. 4519. A bill to amend the Act of Au-
gust 25, 1938, commonly known as the
‘‘Former Presidents Act of 1938’’, with re-
spect to the monetary allowance payable to
a former President, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform, and in addition to the Committee on the
Budget, for a period to be subsequently de-
termined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within
the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. HUFFMAN (for himself, Mr.
JONES, Ms. OMAR, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Ms. TLAIR, Mrs.
NAPOLITANO, Mr. SINGH, Mr. ROSE-
VER, Mr. GRIJALVA, and Ms. WILL-
liams of Georgia):
H.R. 4520. A bill to amend title 23, United
States Code, to require transportation plan-
ers to consider projects and strategies to
reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and for other
purposes; to the Committee on Trans-
portation and Infrastructure.

By Ms. JOHNSON of Texas (for herself
and Mr. LUCAS):
H.R. 4521. A bill to provide for a coordi-
nated Federal research initiative to ensure
continued United States leadership in engi-
neering biology; to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, and in addi-
tion to the Committees on Agriculture, and
Energy and Commerce, for a period to be
subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provi-
sions as fall within the jurisdiction of the
committee concerned.

By Mr. KIND (for himself and Mr.
NAPOLITANO, Mr. FERGUSON, Mr.
RUTHERFORD, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. GRIJALVA, and Ms. WILL-
liams of Georgia):
H.R. 4523. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to penalize false communications to cause an emergency response, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. LAHOOD (for himself and Mrs. WALORSKI):

H.R. 4524. A bill to amend title IV-A of the Social Security Act, for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. LAHOOD (for himself and Mrs. WALORSKI):

H.R. 4525. A bill to amend title IV-A of the Social Security Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Education and Labor, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. REED (for himself, Mr. HERN, Ms. GÓMEZ of Florida, and Mrs. WATERS):

H.R. 4535. A bill to amend title IV-A of the Social Security Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Education and Labor, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. RICE of South Carolina (for himself and Mrs. WALORSKI):

H.R. 4536. A bill to prohibit assistance provided under the program of block grants to States for temporary assistance for needy families from being accessed through the use of an electronic benefit transfer card at any store that offers marijuana for sale; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. SCHWEIKERT (for himself and Mrs. WALORSKI):

H.R. 4537. A bill to amend title IV-A of the Social Security Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. SMITH of Nebraska (for himself and Mrs. WALORSKI):

H.R. 4538. A bill to amend title IV-A of the Social Security Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. SMITH of Missouri (for himself and Mrs. WALORSKI):

H.R. 4540. A bill to amend title IV-A of the Social Security Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. TIFFANY (for himself, Mr. WESTERMAN, Mr. LAMALFA, Mr. NEWHOUSE, and Mr. BENZT)

H.R. 4541. A bill to amend the Healthy Forests Restoration Act of 2003 to provide clarification with respect to certain categorical exclusion authority relating to insect and disease infestations and wildlife resilience projects, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. VELAZQUEZ (for herself, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mr. JONES, Ms. NORTON, Mr. BOWMAN, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, and Mr. SIBBA):

H.R. 4542. A bill to authorize the Secretary of Energy to provide grants for energy improvements to certain public buildings, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mrs. WALORSKI:

H.R. 4543. A bill to provide for the conduct of demonstration projects to provide coordinated case management services for TANF recipients; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. WENSTRIJP (for himself and Mrs. WALORSKI):

H.R. 4544. A bill to amend part A of title IV of the Social Security Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Education and Labor, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER (for herself, Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Ms. VELAZQUEZ, Ms. HUDSON of Georgia, Mr. BRINDISI, Ms. WATERS of Florida, Ms. UNDERWOOD, Ms. BARRAGAN, Ms. FUMETE, Ms. SCHRABERGER, Ms. MANNING, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Ms. SPANBERGER, Mrs. BEATTY, Ms. CRI, Mr. LAWSON of Florida, Mr. BRONE, Mr. MCEACHIN, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. CONNOLLY, Ms. BOST, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Mr. SOUZZI, Mr. CARSON, Ms. STRICKLAND, and Mr. BOWMAN):

H. Res. 536. A resolution expressing support for the designation of the week of July 19 through July 25, 2021, as “Black Maternal Mental Health Awareness Week”, and supporting the goals and ideals of raising awareness and understanding of maternal mental health conditions as they affect Black individuals; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania:

H. Res. 537. A resolution amending the Rules of the House of Representatives to limit the eligibility for nomination to serve as Speaker of the House of Representatives to Members and Members-elect of the House; to the Committee on Rules.

By Ms. JOHNSON of Texas (for herself, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. CORREA, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, and Mr. KRATING):

H. Res. 538. A resolution supporting the goals and ideals of Bebe Moore Campbell Black, indigenous, and people of color (“BIPOC”) Mental Health Awareness Month in July 2021; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

By Mr. MCEACHIN (for himself, Ms. UNDERWOOD, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Ms. SPANBERGER, and Ms. WEXTON):

H. Res. 539. A resolution recognizing the maternal health crisis in the United States and the importance of reducing mortality and morbidity among all women, and honoring mothers; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

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 Ms. TENNEY:

H.R. 4500. Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article IV, Section 3, clause 2 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. NADLER:

H.R. 4501. Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1

By Mr. CARRAJAL:

H.R. 4503. Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, clauses 3 and 18 of the Constitution of the United States.

By Mr. MCEACHIN:

H.R. 4505. Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article IV, Section 3, clause 2 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. AMODEI:

H.R. 4506.
By Mr. ABRAMSKY:

H.R. 4508.

By Mr. AMICI:

H.R. 4509.

By Mr. ARRINGTON:

H.R. 4510.

By Mr. AYARZAGUETA:

H.R. 4511.

By Mr. BACON:

H.R. 4512.

By Mr. BACH:

H.R. 4513.

By Mr. BARTLETT:

H.R. 4514.

By Mr. BURGESS:

H.R. 4515.

By Mr. BURGESS:

H.R. 4516.

By Mr. BURTON:

H.R. 4517.

By Mr. CARLOTTA:

H.R. 4518.

By Mr. CARROLL:

H.R. 4519.

By Mr. CASSIDY:

H.R. 4520.

By Mr. CARTER:

H.R. 4521.

By Mr. CASTRO:

H.R. 4522.

By Mr. COBAMON:

H.R. 4523.

By Mr. COCHETT:

H.R. 4524.

By Mr. COLES:

H.R. 4525.

By Mr. COLEMAN:

H.R. 4526.

By Mr. COLE:

H.R. 4527.

By Mr. CONEY:

H.R. 4528.

By Mr. CONNOLLY:

H.R. 4529.

By Mr. CONSHOHOCKEN:

H.R. 4530.

By Mr. CONumann:

H.R. 4531.

By Mr. COOK:

H.R. 4532.

By Mr. COOKE:

H.R. 4533.

By Mr. COPPER:

H.R. 4534.

By Mr. CORNISH:

H.R. 4535.

By Mr. COX:

H.R. 4536.

By Mr. CRUZ:

H.R. 4537.

By Mr. CRUSKED:

H.R. 4538.

By Mr. CUNNINGHAM:

H.R. 4539.

By Mr. CYR:

H.R. 4540.

By Mr. DAVIS:

H.R. 4541.

By Mr. DENNY:

H.R. 4542.

By Mr. DENT:

H.R. 4543.

By Mr. DICKERSON:

H.R. 4544.

By Mr. DIXON:

H.R. 4545.

By Mr. DOHERTY:

H.R. 4546.

By Mr. DOHERTY:

H.R. 4547.

By Mr. DODD:

H.R. 4548.

By Mr. DOLLINS:

H.R. 4549.

By Mr. DOMENICI:

H.R. 4550.

By Mr. DONALDSON:

H.R. 4551.

By Mr. DOUGHERTY:

H.R. 4552.

By Mr. DOUGLAS:

H.R. 4553.

By Mr. DRAKE:

H.R. 4554.

By Mr. DRAKE:

H.R. 4555.

By Mr. DREIER:

H.R. 4556.

By Mr. DREYER:

H.R. 4557.

By Mr. DUBERGER:

H.R. 4558.

By Mr. DUNCAN:

H.R. 4559.

By Mr. DUNHAM:

H.R. 4560.

By Mr. DUNBAR:

H.R. 4561.

By Mr. DUSDEN:

H.R. 4562.

By Mr. ECHOLS:

H.R. 4563.

By Mr. EDWARDS:

H.R. 4564.

By Mr. EDWARDS:

H.R. 4565.

By Mr. EDWARDS:

H.R. 4566.

By Mr. EDWARDS:

H.R. 4567.

By Mr. EDWARDS:

H.R. 4568.

By Mr. EDWARDS:

H.R. 4569.

By Mr. EDWARDS:

H.R. 4570.

By Mr. EICHER:

H.R. 4571.

By Mr. EICHER:

H.R. 4572.

By Mr. EICHER:

H.R. 4573.

By Mr. EICHER:

H.R. 4574.

By Mr. EICHER:

H.R. 4575.

By Mr. EICHER:

H.R. 4576.

By Mr. EICHER:

H.R. 4577.

By Mr. EICHER:

H.R. 4578.

By Mr. EICHER:

H.R. 4579.

By Mr. EICHER:

H.R. 4580.

By Mr. EICHER:

H.R. 4581.

By Mr. EICHER:

H.R. 4582.

By Mr. EICHER:

H.R. 4583.

By Mr. EICHER:

H.R. 4584.

By Mr. EICHER:

H.R. 4585.

By Mr. EICHER:

H.R. 4586.

By Mr. EICHER:

H.R. 4587.

By Mr. EICHER:

H.R. 4588.

By Mr. EICHER:

H.R. 4589.

By Mr. EICHER:

H.R. 4590.

By Mr. EICHER:

H.R. 4591.

By Mr. EICHER:

H.R. 4592.

By Mr. EICHER:

H.R. 4593.

By Mr. EICHER:

H.R. 4594.

By Mr. EICHER:

H.R. 4595.

By Mr. EICHER:

H.R. 4596.

By Mr. EICHER:

H.R. 4597.

By Mr. EICHER:

H.R. 4598.

By Mr. EICHER:

H.R. 4599.

By Mr. EICHER:

H.R. 4600.
By Mr. TIFFANY:

H.R. 491. Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article IV, Section 3, Clause 2 of the Constitution.

By Ms. VELÁZQUEZ:

H.R. 492. Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1 of the United States Constitution, to ‘‘provide for the common Defence and general Welfare of the United States.’’

By Mrs. WALORSKI:

H.R. 493. Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article IV, Section 3, Clause 2 of the Constitution.

By Mr. WENSTRUP:

H.R. 494. Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1 of the United States Constitution, to ‘‘provide for the common Defence and general Welfare of the United States.’’

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

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

H.R. 18: Mr. MELDER and Mr. PENCE.
H.R. 68: Ms. TRAHAN and Ms. SCHARKOWSKY.
H.R. 178: Mr. TAYLOR.
H.R. 180: Mr. TAYLOR.
H.R. 279: Mr. GARAMENDI.
H.R. 310: Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mrs. HARRIS-AROFF, Mr. STEIL, Mr. KILMER, Mr. GOHMERT, Mr. BISHOP of North Carolina, and Mr. MCCONNELL.
H.R. 366: Ms. DEMINGS, Ms. STANSBURY, and Mr. HARDER of California.
H.R. 402: Ms. TENNEY.
H.R. 421: Ms. NAPOLITANO, Mr. VARGAS, Ms. JACOBS of California, and Ms. VELÁZQUEZ.
H.R. 422: Ms. CHU, Ms. BLUNT ROCHester, and Mr. LEVIN of Michigan.
H.R. 434: Ms. BLUNT ROCHester.
H.R. 460: Mr. DESAULNIER.
H.R. 477: Mr. MURPHY of North Carolina.
H.R. 552: Mr. CHABOT.
H.R. 556: Mr. EVANS.
H.R. 616: Ms. WATERS.
H.R. 643: Mr. GARBARINO, Mr. CALVERT, and Mr. CROW.
H.R. 670: Mr. QUIGLEY.
H.R. 679: Ms. BLUNT ROCHester.
H.R. 763: Ms. ARCHENGLOSS.
H.R. 793: Ms. ESCHOO, Ms. WILD, and Ms. BARRAGÁN.
H.R. 825: Ms. JACOBS of California, Mr. CLEVERY, and Ms. MANNING.
H.R. 826: Mr. DAVIDSON.
H.R. 845: Mr. GRIFFITH.
H.R. 855: Mrs. LESKO.
H.R. 981: Mr. KAHNNA.
H.R. 882: Mr. KAHNNA.
H.R. 913: Mr. SAHLAN.
H.R. 928: Ms. MECHEN.
H.R. 955: Mr. RUTHERFORD, Ms. SPANBERGER, and Ms. PINORRE.
H.R. 991: Mr. POSEY.
H.R. 997: Mr. DESJARLAYS.
H.R. 1013: Mr. KAHNNA.
H.R. 1012: Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Mr. COMER, Ms. SLOTKIN, and Mrs. BECH of Oklahoma.
H.R. 1016: Ms. EUCINCHLOSS.
H.R. 1019: Mr. LARSEN of Washington.
H.R. 1057: Mr. TAYLOR.
The provisions that warranted a referral to the Committee on the Judiciary in H.R. 3985 do not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9 of Rule XXI.
The Senate met at 3 p.m. and was called to order by the Honorable MAZIE K. HIRONO, a Senator from the State of Hawaii.

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

Let us pray.
Gracious God of infinite goodness, confirm Your past mercies to us by giving us strength to be faithful to Your commands.

Lord, help our lawmakers this day to use their understanding, time, and talents to do what You desire. May they desire to please You with faithful service as You rule their hearts and guide their thoughts, words, and actions. Lord, enable our Senators to fulfill their duty to love You with all their heart, mind, soul, and strength. Take possession of their hearts and order their steps by the power of Your loving providence.

We pray in Your holy Name. Amen.

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

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

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE
The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication of Allegiance, as follows:

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

PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE.

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

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME
The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

MORNING BUSINESS
The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate will be in a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER
The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Republican leader is recognized.

THE ECONOMY
Mr. MCCONNELL. Madam President, the recovery costs and surging inflation are a huge worry for middle-class families. Every survey confirms it. Every conversation confirms it.

Over the last 12 months, during this economic recovery, the average American worker earned a 3.6-percent raise, but inflation has risen so steeply that it has turned that into a nearly 2-percent pay cut.

Remember, at the beginning of the year, the Biden administration inherited a historically strong economic trajectory. Thanks to the smart, targeted, bipartisan policies we passed last year, our economy was primed to get millions of Americans back to work with competitive pay while consumers unleashed pent-up demand. But, alas, that was before Democrats decided to pour $2 trillion into a long list of liberal pet projects and insisted on making it less appealing for workers to actually go back to work.

Today, essentials like gas and groceries have gotten more and more expensive. Bigger purchases consumers had put off during the pandemic are getting even further out of reach. Across the country, working families and employers alike are feeling the pinch, an effective tax increase on both the wages and the savings of the middle class.

Now, our colleagues weren’t flying blind. They weren’t naive. They knew they were passing what the White House Chief of Staff said was designed to be “the most progressive domestic legislation in a generation.” And they knew the risks, which one liberal economist described as “inflationary pressures of a kind we have not seen in a generation.”

Sure enough, inflation just clocked the fastest year-on-year increase since 2008, but, apparently, according to President Biden himself, the solution is—listen to this—even more of the same. Today, instead of deflecting attention from the fact that his administration’s springtime approach was flat wrong, the President actually doubled down. He suggested the right way to shake this inflation was—listen to this—another $3.5 trillion in spending.

This is the same reckless taxing and spending spree the Democrats dreamt up when they assumed our economy would be having the opposite problem. But now all that same borrowing, printing, and spending is supposed to be what the doctor ordered to fight inflation?

Inflate our way out of inflation. Let’s hope the American people don’t have to learn firsthand how that strategy would work out. Another multitrillion-dollar reckless taxing and spending spree, believe me, is the last thing American families need.

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

Mr. MCCONNELL. Madam President, now on an entirely different matter, a few months ago, a group of Democrats and leftwing activists brought the State of Georgia into the national spotlight. Tremendous outrage, an air of total crisis, was cooked up, cooked up out of nowhere.

The State of Georgia was passing a mainstream, commonsense election law. It combined widely popular integrity protections, protections like voter ID, with a great deal of flexibility and availability to make voting easy. It codified more flexible early voting and more flexible mail-in voting than many Democratic-run States offer—for example, New York.

Americans want to make it easier to vote and harder to cheat. Voter ID, for example, is popular with majorities of Black, White, and Hispanic Americans. But in the ongoing bid to mount a Washington DC takeover of our Nation's elections, Democrats seized on this mainstream law and decided to start shouting that the sky was falling down in Georgia—the sky is falling down in Georgia.

Unfortunately, for the people of Georgia, many people in the press and corporate America bought it. They got Major League Baseball to move its all-star game out of Georgia. Actual work opportunities, actual prosperity for working people, were sacrificed to serve the far-fetched hysteria.

Well, today, Georgians got what you might call a very weak consolation prize. Today, a week after the all-star game was supposed to happen in Atlanta, Democrats themselves descended on the State to stage a bit of partisan theater. Last week, the traveling road show was Texas Democrats coming here to Washington to beg Senate Democrats to seize power away from their own citizens and local government.

That week, it was our own colleagues' turn to get on the jets, but the rhetoric was just as hysterical and the conclusion all the same: Washington Democrats need to grab unprecedented power and rewrite all 50 States' election laws. It is the same shtick we have been hearing here in this Chamber for multiple years now.

Remember, their sweeping takeover bill was written long, long before any of the State laws which they now claim were prompting it. This phony outrage is of total crisis, was cooked up, cooked up out of nowhere.

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, in response to the majority leader's statement about the changes in voting laws across America, the record speaks for itself. I believe the number is 17–17 States which have set out to specifically limit previous opportunities under law to vote.

Is it a coincidence that 17 States would do these things? I don't think so. I think it is by design. That is why the Senate Rules Committee was in Georgia today, to talk specifically about the measures that they took after the last election.

Remember, this is all being done in the context of a former President, the sorest loser in the history of the United States, and his Big Lie about what was wrong with the last election. Well, I can tell you what was not wrong with the last election. In many States, the turnout broke records. More Americans eligible to vote turned up to vote, and that is a good thing in a democracy.

When it comes to allegations of fraud, all of the money that has been spent on lawsuits, all of the allegations of voter fraud that have been investigated, it turns out to be a handful of cases, maybe a dozen out of millions of votes cast in the United States. So there is no argument for changing election voting laws based on fraud. There certainly is no argument when it comes to the outcome of the election.

That was clear, and it has been to everyone except one former President for a long time. Yet the Republicans, when in control of State legislatures, are by design trying to make it more difficult for some people to vote. Why? The answer is very simple: The demographics of America are not on the side of the Republican Party.

The new voters in this country are moving away from them, away from Donald Trump, away from their party creed that they preach. Instead, they are moving to be Independents or even vote on the other side. To argue and fight against that, the Republicans in legislative settings are reducing and restricting the opportunity to vote. That is what it is all about.

The Senator from Kentucky attributes it to hysteria. It is not. It is a genuine concern over whether in this country, where democracy is our creed and goal in every election, we have the most participation, fair participation, by eligible voters that we have ever had, and we continue to build on that.

VOTING RIGHTS

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, on a separate issue, I cannot imagine what life would be like if I were a kid growing up in America, always wondering if something I did, something I said, would lead to some action that was taken by some member of my family would result in a knock on the door and my family being torn apart, my father or mother being deported to another country. But for hundreds of thousands of young people living in America, that has been the reality of their childhood.

Most of them, brought to this country at a very early age—infants and toddlers and young people—had nothing to say about the choice of America as home, but they always assumed it was their home. They grew up in this country. They went to the schools, got up every morning in the classroom and pledged allegiance to the flag, believing they were truly Americans. It wasn't, for many of them, until their teenage years that their parents sat down with them quietly and solemnly told them: You have a challenge in your life you didn’t even realize. You are undocumented. You were brought to this country by us as a little kid, and you don't have any papers. If you are challenged, if you are arrested, you could be deported. And the same thing might just happen to your mother or your father.

I can’t imagine, with all of the stress of childhood and adolescence, having that shadow as well. Thousands of young people, through no fault of their own, that was part of their lives.

That came to my attention 20 years ago, a case in Chicago, which I have spoken about on the floor many times, where a young girl finally realized at the end of high school the really stark choices she had in her life, and she reached out to my office. She looked into her family's situation and brought it here to the United States, born in Brazil to Korean parents, had no legal status in the United States and grew up here. She wanted to know what to do with her life, what was next for her. She asked to come here.

The answer was clear as well. At the age of 18, our law said to Tereza Lee, a young Korean girl in Chicago, you have to leave the United States for 10 years and petition to return. It didn’t seem right or fair to her, and she asked for the DREAM Act. That is when I came to realize Tereza’s story was not unique. There were thousands just like her. Over the last 20 years, I have met a lot of them, an amazing group of young men and women who have done remarkable things with their lives with limited resources and always under the shadow of deportation.

The DREAM Act has been brought to the floor of the Senate five different times and failed—not because it didn't win a majority but because of the filibuster. So we have tried in those 20 years to get something done, and we have had our really troublesome moments. I think back to one of the worst.

Under the previous President, Donald Trump, DACA, a program created by President Obama for these Dreamers, was really an issue from the start that we begged President Trump to consider. President Obama, a friend of mine and former colleague from Illinois, told me that he spent an extra
hour in transition with President Trump in the White House, while Obama was still President. It was supposed to last an hour; it lasted 2 hours. He said to me: I spent that last hour talking about DACA and Dreamers, telling him how important it was to get those young people the chance they deserved a chance, and he listened very intently. President Obama said: “I hope that he will help you when it comes to these Dreamers.”

The first time I ever met Donald Trump was on his Inauguration Day as President, not too far from here at a luncheon, and the first thing I said to him was, I hope you will give those Dreamers a chance to become part of America.

He said: Senator Durbin, don’t worry. I am going to take care of those Dreamers.

In the first year of his Presidency, he tried to abolish the DACA Program and subject these Dreamers to deportation. It was obvious. For months, they were despondent. Several of them said they couldn’t take it anymore, the pressure they were under to create a life in America under the shadow of deportation and now have a President who is really determined to make them leave America.

Well, the courts took a look at what President Trump had to do, all the way up to the Supreme Court across the street. It was Chief Justice Roberts who wrote the opinion, which said that Donald Trump’s administration used to eliminate DACA was stricken as “arbitrary and capricious.”

So there was a new lease on life and a new opportunity for them, until Friday—when the Federal judge in Texas made the most recent ruling. On Friday night, a Federal judge in Texas issued a ruling declaring that the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals, or DACA, was unlawful, and the judge blocked the Biden administration from approving new DACA applications, a new setback for the Dreamers.

This decision was made in response to a lawsuit filed by Republican State attorneys general. It was the culmination of a long campaign, which included the action of President Trump, by Republicans to deport the Dreamers. What is it about these young people that infuriates the Republicans so much? Well, I will tell you what I found when I knew these young people. They are some of the most amazing stories you could imagine. Not just the threat that I mentioned earlier, the shadow of deportation over their lives, but what they have done anyway—becoming doctors and nurses and engineers, serving in our Army, working for America in essential jobs in the midst of a pandemic. It is an amazing group of people. It is just the kind of people we want and need for the future of this country.

But let me state this unequivocally: The cruel and misguided decision of this court will not stand. DACA is a lawful exercise of executive prosecutorial discretion by the Department of Homeland Security. More than 800,000 young people in our country have received DACA protection, and they help save lives every day as nurses and doctors and first responders. They contribute to our economy and our future as business owners, lawyers, teachers.

They are a vital part of our communities as friends, family members, and loved ones. America is the only home these Dreamers have ever known, and Congress has waited long enough. It has waited too long to allow them to finally become American citizens.

Friday’s ruling is yet another reminder of the hell that these young people have put up with over the past two decades. Under the Trump administration, Dreamers endured one attack after another.

When former President Trump attempted to repeal DACA, it put hundreds of thousands of young people at risk of being deported to countries they didn’t even remember.

When the Supreme Court ruled that the former President’s repeal of DACA was unlawful, he simply defied the Court’s decision and stopped DACA applicants from being approved. For months, President Trump refused to reopen the program for new applicants despite the clear direction of the U.S. Supreme Court. Approximately 300,000 of these young people were unable to receive the protections they deserved because of President Trump’s unilateral, hateful action.

In response to a court order, DACA was finally reopened for the new applicants in December, but now, just as the Biden administration is processing these applications, the door was shut again in the Federal court in Texas on Friday.

In the words of one Dreamer, Adonias Arevalo, “It’s such an uncertainty, not to be able to plan my life.”

Thankfully, President Biden has vowed to appeal this decision, but we need to prevent conservative judicial activists on the bench, politicians in black robes, from striking down the President’s lawful efforts to protect Dreamers. Congress cannot wait any longer. America cannot wait any longer. Senate Democrats need to provide a permanent legislative solution for the Dreamers. We need to act swiftly.

I hope that my Republican colleagues with conscience will think long and hard about whether they are going to stand in the way of the Dreamers at this moment in history. We need their help, and not just some halfhearted symbolic attempt but genuinely to give these young people a fighting chance to make America a better nation.

To all the Dreamers out there, I promise you, we will work as hard as necessary to get this job done as quickly as possible.
this country. It is time for us to come together and put an end to the senseless violence.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore, Mr. PRESIDENT, informs the Senate that the order for the quorum call is rescinded.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

The PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE (Mr. Duckworth) Without objection, it is so ordered.

THE ECONOMY

Mr. TUBERVILLE. Madam President, I am starting to feel a little bit like a broken record. I am here on the floor again to echo the concerns of my constituents and so many folks across our great country. People across the country are cautiously checking their bank accounts, and they are looking at the price of milk, bread, and things that they have to buy every day. They are driving out of their way to see which gas stations even have gas, and when and do find that, they are looking for the lowest price.

Just as we are starting to come out of the pandemic, prices are starting to rise, and our dollar isn’t going as far. Why? Because the Democrats want to spend their way out of a pandemic, and it really makes no sense. They are throwing trillions around like it is Monopoly money. It is not targeted to those who need it the most. It is on policy items that only appease their base—the far left—not even a majority of their party. They are flooding the base—and so are the Democrats saying it is OK if this agreement has been set at $3.5 trillion. Let me take a minute to highlight what I think is wrong with the bill.

First of all, I am not sure how anyone can call this an agreement. One Democratic Senator, who doesn’t appear to have been consulted on the so-called agreement in the first place, said the package needs to be fully paid for. Let me translate that to you. That means we need tax increases. Last week, we talked about the 30 new tax increases that will probably be in this bill. On the other hand, we have Democratic Senators saying it is OK if this package adds to the deficit—$3.5 trillion added to the $30 trillion that we are already in debt. We already know at least one Senator wants the top-line number to be as much as $6 trillion while others are calling for $2 to $3 trillion, which, by the way, is still too much spending.

It doesn’t seem like everyone has fully committed to this so-called agreement. It appears the Democrats are in disarray when it comes to agreeing to increasing taxes to pay for the agreement. There is an agreement when they still have Members of their own party arguing over the final top-line number and how it will be paid for is a pretty interesting strategy. The only thing I can guess is that the strategy is really to pull the wool over all of our eyes. Trying to sell the agreement of a top-line number as a win is like saying that you have won the game after the first snap.

Folks, you have to play the game. You can’t go by the first quarter’s results. You have to play the entire game.

Second, I can’t understand why some of my colleagues across the aisle are still trying to sell this tax and spending bill as human and soft infrastructure. Most people have never heard of that. I haven’t been up here long, but I know enough to know there is really no such thing as human and soft infrastructure. For some reason, we keep adding definitions to Webster’s Dictionary. It appears our Democratic colleagues have, once again, duped a few members of the media, so they can’t stop parroting this “human infrastructure” phrase.

Let’s just call the package what it is: a spending plan on progressive social justice policies that will be paid for by the American taxpayers by 30 tax increases. It has nothing to do with infrastructure, even if they could define what infrastructure of the human and soft variety is. I know reckless tax and spending spree is not as catchy as soft infrastructure, but at least it is accurate.

Lastly—and this is the most important part—there are costs associated with this agreement that the Democrats are laying out, real costs that hurt American families. Whether it is fully paid for by tax increases or whether it adds to the deficit, it all boils down to the same thing: the cost to American families across our country, the small business owner, the operator, the manufacturing worker, the farmer, the moms and dads. Hard-working Americans across the country will be impacted at the absolute worst time, when they are trying to recover from a pandemic.

Take the cost of tax increases on small businesses, for example. According to the Job Creators Network, 1 million—that is 1 million—small businesses will feel the financial strain of tax increases through this bill—1 million. Many of these small businesses are still struggling after having been shuttered in place for a year and having battled against government-induced workforce shortages. With only 800,000 private sector jobs added back to solid economic footing after this past year—only 8 percent of our small businesses are really, actually, getting back on their feet—we should be working to help every small business see the light at the end of the tunnel, not increasing the heavy hand of government and keeping them in the dark. It makes no sense.

Then there is the “let’s just keep spending and add to the deficit approach.” The cost of spending so much and adding to the deficit means more inflation. More inflation means your dollar doesn’t go near as far as it has in the past.

In the June jobs report, we saw inflation up 4.5 percent, and the consumer price index increased by 5.4 percent, the biggest monthly jump in over a decade.

The rising cost of inflation means that Americans are making tough choices on what is most important to them, like filling up your car with gas or buying food for your family. There is no reason why we should have to be making these choices.

In a nation as great as ours, hard-working Americans shouldn’t have to choose between American families caught in the middle of rising prices and the Democrats’ never-ending need to appease the far left.

And then there is the Democrats’ view of America, one where Big Government reigns supreme. Well, let me tell you, the Big Government approach does not work, and it never has.

Alabamians want Big Government to get out of the way because they know that Big Government programs only tie their hands and stifle innovation and growth.

We need to give folks an opportunity, not a handout, and right now, Democrats are on the wrong track with that. A government-subsidized economic recovery is not an economic recovery. It is an entitlement state. We need to get back to work.

Prosperity is not purchased through the expansion of Big Government. How many times have we heard that? The expansion of Big Government safety net programs does not make people prosperous. Prosperity is found within the ideas of the American people. It always has been, and it always will.

Democrats are signaling that they are OK with the cost of American families if it means that they can pay for a whole grab bag of far-left policies, like the expansion of Medicare, free college, and amnesty for illegal immigrants.

If all this wasn’t bad enough, here is the worst of it: Our Democratic colleagues have taken their priorities that are too radical to pass the Senate and creating an if-then scenario with true infrastructure negotiations.

Forced by far-left voices in their party, Senator SCHUMER and Speaker PELOSI have decided a massive spending bill that has nothing to do with the pandemic or infrastructure should hold hostage in our country the expansion of Medicare, free college, and amnesty for illegal immigrants. In their world, if we pass a partisan spending bill, then we can pass infrastructure.
Well, that doesn’t sit right with a lot of folks. By linking a bipartisan proposal to a partisan reconciliation package, our Democrat colleagues are showing their cards. The cards show that they really want this reckless tax-and-spend spree to pass, and they are fundamentally about an infrastructure package that would make needed improvements to roads, bridges, and broadband possible, and that is a shame. By tying budget reconciliation to infrastructure, the American people are the ones who will be left out to dry. I have always said that I would be in favor of infrastructure. We all would be—a great infrastructure deal, where every penny of every dollar goes toward roads, bridges, broadband, and waterways.

But the American taxpayers know they have to pay for it. They know eventually they will have to pay for it, but they need something that they are putting their money into that they can get something back. But we cannot let a partisan tax-and-spend spree bog us down and hold back the American taxpayers.

This summer, so many Americans are traveling across the country. This includes my family who travel across our States, me across Alabama. As I have been on the road, I am reminded once again that we need improvements to our infrastructure.

It is more than just fixing potholes on a city street. We rely on infrastructure every day, during our drive to work, trucks moving our goods up and down the highways, when a ship leaves a port with cargo, or when we just get on the internet. All those are infrastructure.

Good infrastructure allows people to move freely, keeps our products flowing, and maintains America’s competitiveness in the global economy.

In Alabama, we have got 100,000 miles of public roads, and we need them to be in good shape. Driving on poor roads costs Alabama drivers a total of $4.2 billion every year. Because of things like vehicle operating costs, traffic congestion, and car crashes, we cantell our roads need work.

We have got 1,000 condemned bridges—1,000—just in the State of Alabama. Out of 16,000 bridges, we have got 1,000 that have been condemned that need to be repaired in the worst way.

In an increasingly online world, getting our rural areas access to reliable internet is more important than ever. Whether it is for work, healthcare, or going to school, we need broadband across our entire State. Investing in our infrastructure is investing in our future success. It is way past time to step up and act on this. The American people need help with infrastructure, and that is what we should be concentrating on.

But despite that, our colleagues on the left still can’t resist playing politics here. Before the actual bill text of the bipartisan infrastructure framework could be written and before the pay-fors were negotiated, Leader Schumer has called a vote on the framework.

Now, I know it is pretty hard to get a majority of skeptical Senators to vote on anything, much less something that has not even been written yet. We don’t even have the bill written, yet we are going to vote on it.

But these are serious times that call for serious actions. So we should be very careful considering this framework, not rushing toward arbitrary deadlines.

As our country’s economy is trying to recover from the pandemic, anything and everything we do has to be thoughtfully considered, especially when it comes to passing legislation that costs money in the long run. And this is going to cost a lot of money.

Because this is the taxpayers’ money, after all—your money—we owe it to the taxpayers to spend their money in the most efficient and effective way possible.

Personally, I don’t think it is ever a good time to raise taxes, but I can tell you the absolute worst time is when we are still coming out of an absolute global pandemic.

There are commonsense ways to pay for some of this new infrastructure spending. Chief among them is redirecting all that unused COVID money that has been paid out spending earlier this year, and there is a lot of it left.

Let me be clear. Raising taxes on the American people should be a non-starter for any potential bill. It certainly is for a lot of people.

Folks, simply put, a dollar spent on traditional infrastructure is a dollar well spent. But it has got to be done in a smart and targeted way, and we can’t allow Democrats to hurt Americans by creating an if-then scenario.

Let’s spend some time on the infrastructure bill the right way.

Then we can turn to debating all the spending that our colleagues on the left have their sights set on. But we have to do the infrastructure bill first.

Hopefully, Congress can deliver the targeted results our country deserves, results that don’t increase the tax burden on the American people.

Throughout this debate, you can count on a lot of us to be a strong voice for making infrastructure work for three or four things: Alabama, our neighbors, our country’s rural areas, and the American taxpayer.

We can get this done. Let’s just do it the right way.

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.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.
crimes. And murder, manslaughter, and murder of a pregnant woman can be, and often are, the final, tragic culmination of domestic violence. When these types of crimes are presented to commanders, they may be just the tip of an iceberg— the tip of an iceberg of cases we all agree should be handled by a special prosecutor.

So if we truly want to help survivors of sexual assault and domestic violence, we have to acknowledge that some of those crimes don’t happen in a vacuum. We must remove all serious crimes out of the chain of command and into the hands of trained prosecutors who have the education, training, and experience that these cases require and that our servicemembers deserve.

The Military Justice Improvement and Increasing Prevention Act does exactly that, and it is supported by the major veterans service organization groups, as well as groups like the National Alliance to End Sexual Violence and the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence, which recognize the true impact of this reform. It is also supported by a bipartisan, filibuster-proof majority of Senators who should be allowed the opportunity to cast their vote.

Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that at a time to be determined by the minority leader in consultation with the Republican leader, the Senate Committee on Armed Services have taken action to report S. 1520 and the Senate proceeded to its consideration; that there be 2 hours for debate equally divided in its consideration with the Republican leader, and determined by the majority leader in consultation with the Republican leader, that at a time to be determined by the majority leader in consultation with the Republican leader, that the Senate committee has been hit by the scourge of opioids, and every person in this Chamber, I believe, wants to turn the tide on this crisis.

Last year, more than 93,000 Americans died from drug overdoses. That is more than a 30-percent increase over the previous year. It marks the largest annual increase in at least three decades. Following years of fighting to turn the tide on the opioid epidemic, this is a stunning blow and yet another challenge during this difficult period. And those battling substance-use disorders faced an even steeper uphill climb. On top of the stress and isolation of the pandemic, many lost access to treatment facilities and outreach programs.

No community has been spared from the wrath of the opioid epidemic. In 2019, there were more than 70,000 overdose deaths in America, a devastating number. Now we have a much clearer picture of how this crisis worsened in 2020.

OPIOID EPIDEMIC

Mr. CORNYN. Madam President, over the last 16 months, no community has been spared from the devastation of COVID–19. The virus itself has claimed the lives of more than 600,000 Americans, including more than 50,000 Texans, and we are still gaining a fuller picture of the far-reaching consequences of this pandemic.

We know that the mitigation efforts led to the closure of countless small businesses and upended the livelihoods of millions of workers. The transition to virtual learning robbed children of valuable time alongside their peers in the classroom. And the emotional and financial stresses of the pandemic led to devastating consequences for our friends and neighbors who were already in a vulnerable situation.

As families spent more time isolating at home last year, we saw an increase in domestic violence. Individuals who were already experiencing anxiety and depression faced greater challenges during this difficult period. And those battling substance-use disorders faced an even steeper uphill climb.

But as has been noted before, we found out today is not that day. But that day should have been years ago, considering this problem is getting worse from year to year and, more importantly, the fact that it is such a big problem, and retaliation is such a big problem that you don’t even get accurate statistics on the number of people that have been sexually assaulted, because they know if they go forward and report it, they will be retaliated against. It is a situation that we have dealt with for too long without the solutions that have been promised working, and so the only way to solve this problem is with Senator GILLIBRAND’s legislation.

I yield the floor.

Mr. GILLIBRAND. Madam President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The quorum call is now in order.

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

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate will now proceed to the consideration of Senate Bill 1520, a bill to make improvements to the military justice system in the Armed Forces, and to the consideration of Senate Bill 1521, a bill to improve the military justice system in the National Guard.
Tomorrow, the Senate Caucus on International Narcotics Control will hold a hearing on the Federal Government’s response to the drug overdose crisis. We will hear from experts, including the acting directors of the Office of National Drug Control Policy and the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, as well as Dr. Nora Volkow, the Director of the National Institute on Drug Abuse. I hope we will learn more about what additional steps we can take to reverse the concerning trend, as well as what more needs to be done.

One of the most effective ways to avoid drug overdose deaths, though, is to prevent those drugs from ever reaching our communities in the first place. And, of course, Customs and Border Protection plays a vital role in stopping illicit drugs from entering our country. And it has seen an alarming amount of drugs coming across our southern border, as I speak—one of the most concerning, of course, being fentanyl, a synthetic opioid.

Depending on your body weight, 2 milligrams of fentanyl can be lethal; a kilogram, which is 2.2 pounds, could kill 500,000 people; 2.2 pounds of fentanyl and cocaine—a couple of kilograms in a backpack and walk it over to the southwestern border.

In fiscal year 2021, so far, Customs and Border Protection has seized more than 8,500 pounds of fentanyl and 500,000 pounds of cocaine from Mexico. 90 percent of which is imported in the United States comes from Mexico.

The alarming increase in the supply coming across our southwestern border foreshadows even more devastating overdose statistics in the months and years to come. And fentanyl isn’t the only dangerous drug moving across our southern border. Methamphetamine, cocaine, and heroin, as I said, are coming into our country at alarming rates. And it is the perception that if you come to the border, that you will successfully make your way into the interior and you will be allowed to stay. Of course, that is not what our laws call for, but that is exactly what these smugglers, the coyotes, are planning on and what is attracting, like a huge magnet, hundreds of thousands, even a million people this year alone, across our southern border. And it is the same chaos and confusion caused by the flooding of the border and the diversion of law enforcement that is allowing these drugs to come across the border, which, as I said, have killed 93,000 Americans in the last year alone.

In addition to stopping these drugs from making their way into our country, we also need to identify more effective ways to break the cycle of addiction, and that is especially true for those individuals who have been incarcerated. We don’t know the exact numbers, but research shows that an estimated 65 percent of the U.S. prison population has an active substance use disorder. Without access to treatment while incarcerated, those men and women are set up for an impossible, uphill climb after they are released. In order to give an incarcerated individual the strongest possible opportunity after serving their time in our criminal justice system, we need to invest more treatment options once they leave prison.

The good news is there is already a bipartisan bill out there that does exactly that. Earlier this year, Senator Whitehouse—the Senator from Rhode Island—and I introduced the Residential Substance Use Disorder Treatment Act to help incarcerated individuals break this cycle of addiction. We know we are not going to be able to save everybody, but for those who are willing to put in the hard work and effort and to seek the counseling and treatment that is necessary, we believe we can save some lives. This legislation updates the National Alliance on Mental Illness anti-Drug Coalition Act to help incarcerated individuals with access to treatment for substance use disorders. That treatment is coupled with programs to prepare these men and women for reentry into civil society and provide community-based treatment once they are released.

Because of these men and women who have struggled and have been in prison and in jail to overcome their addiction, many are returning to the same conditions and the same friends and the company and circumstances that they came from. Without the kind of help, we know what the results are likely to be.

Our legislation opens up even more opportunities for successful rehabilitation and continued recovery. It provides providers with more options to treat substance use disorders, requiring program staff to be trained in the science of addiction, evidence-based therapies and strategies for continuity of care, and it ensures programs are affiliated with providers who can continue treatment after incarceration. In short, these changes will give the formerly incarcerated men and women the best possible shot at living healthier, longer, and more productive lives.

I am sure it is no surprise that this kind of legislation has strong bipartisan support, both here in the Senate and among the various organizations that work in this field. Twenty-seven groups wrote a letter to Senator Whitehouse and me endorsing this legislation. This includes a broad range of criminal justice and behavioral groups, such as the Addiction Policy Forum, the National Alliance on Mental Illness, and the Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America.

I haven’t heard from a single Senator, Republican or Democrat, who has expressed oppositions or even concern about the bill. This is an example of the bipartisan, commonsense actions that we need to be taking more often and, in this case, to address a very serious and clearly growing problem. These commonsense policy changes can help people struggling with drug abuse to finally escape the cycle and build a better life when they return to their communities.

I hope that the Senate will soon pass this bill and move it one step closer to President Biden’s desk. The dramatic
spike in drug overdose deaths last year should serve as a call to action for all of us. To secure our border, to help those struggling to overcome addiction, the tools and the training to do so, there is an urgent action that we can take and should take to address both. I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Tennessee.

S4944

SOCIAL MEDIA

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Madam President, there was such an interesting occurrence that happened down the street a bit at 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue last weekend, and it is when White House Press Secretary Jen Psaki unveiled the scheme that her colleagues in the West Wing had worked out with Big Tech.

Well, what they are setting about to do is to remove—and I am quoting her—‘problematic’ content from Facebook and other digital platforms. That is right. They, the White House team, have decided that they are going to work with Big Tech, and they are going to remove “problematic”—their term—content from Facebook and other digital platforms.

Now, I am certain that the White House was very confident that the press would treat this rather bizarre admission like they have treated other blatant oversteps coming out of this administration. After all, they, the press, have provided reliable cover for this White House since Inauguration Day.

But here is the problem. It is no longer Inauguration Day. There is now a record to consider, and I will tell you what, no matter what they do, the mainstream media is not going to be able to turn the clock back on this overstep.

In just 6 months, the Biden administration has done an admirable job showing the American people exactly who they are. We have seen enough at this point to take the admission of being in cahoots with Big Tech face value. The administration has intentionally overwhelmed the airwaves with big promises that are conveniently light on details.

And there is a good reason for that. What President Biden and the Democrats do not want is to have the American people to join Big Tech, and they are going to do certain things. They have to get rid of all the things that make America so incredibly special: our commitment to safety and security, the importance of the family, and the near sacrosanct promise of free speech and open debate.

They have been given off to a pretty good start, those Democrats. But for their vision to take hold, the Democratic majority must convince a critical mass of their countrymen to adopt their social experiment. Fortunately, the American people arereluctantly accustomed to doing what they are told simply because an authority figure said go do it.

Here is a quote that former President Reagan made regularly, and I know we have heard it and seen it on this floor several times so far this year:

Freedom is never more than one generation away from extinction. It has to be fought for and defended by each generation. That is so important for us to remember. It is important because it is something that we are seeing really kind of lived out right now. We have to take this as something of a warning when you look at the steps that this administration is taking. If anything, they are taking big steps to see just how far they can push the limits of democracy. How much will the people take? How much freedom are they willing to give up?

Just about every single policy coming out of this White House has been used by the Democrats as a weapon to diminish freedom in the name of a preapproved socialist fantasy. And in that fantasy, there is no room for free speech or dissent. Censorship becomes normalized. It is expected. Collectivism replaces individualism. The philosophies of democracy and self-determination fall victim to the moving goalposts of a living Constitution, and freedom is reduced to an outdated trope that only the unenlightened cling to.

I wonder, how many people in this country do you think actually have this prepackaged American experience? They are going to allow them to exercise over their daily life, over their children’s education, over the education that they have to take, or the job they want to have, or the home they want to live in, or the car that they want to drive? Do you really think that Americans want to give up their freedom?

Since the 2016 election, the left has existed in a state of perpetual hysteria. It has been over the threat to our God-given freedom and how we are wanting to give up? Do you really think that Americans want to give up their freedom?

But I differ in my opinion. Yes, it is messy, but this big, beautiful, diverse mess is what sets our country apart. It makes us strong and successful and fit in with these failing systems. Stop diminishing the cause of freedom because it inconveniences you. Abandon your fear of open debate. This constant refusal to engage says much more about the strength of your policy positions than it does about ours. Above all, stop ignoring the American people. They didn’t vote for this. They do not want this.

It is so interesting to me each weekend to go home and listen to Tennesseans who talk about the changes
that they have seen in the Democratic Party and the policies that are coming forward that they are rejecting because they do not want to give up their freedom. They are willing to fight for their freedom so that their children and their grandchildren know the promises of the American dream and have the opportunity to live their lives in freedom.

I yield the floor.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. HICKENLOOPER). Under the previous order, the Senate will proceed to executive session to resume consideration of the following nomination, which the clerk will report.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Tiffany P. Cunningham, of Illinois, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Federal Circuit.

VOTE ON CUNNINGHAM NOMINATION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Cunningham nomination?

Mr. SCATZ. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. HEINRICH (assuming the Chair.).

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER) and the Senator from Arizona (Mr. KELLY) are necessarily absent.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO) and the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. SASSER).

The result was announced—yeas 63, nays 33, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 267 Ex.]

YEAS—63

Baldwin
Berger
Blumenthal
Brown
Burr
Cantwell
Capito
Cassidy
Cochrane
Collins
Coons
Coryn
Cortez Masto
Duckworth
Durbin
Ernst
Feinstein
Fischer
Gillibrand
Graham

NAYS—33

Barassin
Blackburn
Blumenthal
Boozman

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD — SENATE

S4945
But they have been working on this bipartisan framework for more than a month already, and it is time to begin the debate. We must make significant progress on both the bipartisan infrastructure bill and the budget resolution before the end of the work period. There is no reason we can’t get the ball rolling this week on both elements of the Senate’s infrastructure agenda.

VICTIMS OF CRIME ACT

Madam President, on one final matter, VOCA, tomorrow, the Senate will take up a measure to renew the Victims of Crime Act. Survivors of violent crime often bear tremendous financial hardship, everything from medical costs to emergency housing, to legal fees and mental health services. After suffering a violent crime, the last thing Americans should have to worry about is being unable to afford the basic services they need to stitch their lives back together. So, for over 35 years, the Justice Department’s Crime Victims Fund has provided assistance to Americans impacted by violent crime, such as domestic abuse, sexual assault, human trafficking, DUIs, and other horrific crimes.

Traditionally, most of the funding came from penalties paid through federal convictions, but over time the fund has shrunk dramatically. Compared to 5 years ago, next year, the victims of crime fund could fall to less than one-twentieth of its former size.

So, tomorrow, the Senate will vote on a measure to replenish the victims of crime fund and ensure that it remains stable for the foreseeable future. This legislation passed the House with overwhelming bipartisan support, and here in the Senate it has at least 63 sponsors. The legislation ought to sail through the Senate tomorrow.

The survivors of violent crimes deserve the peace of mind that they do not bear the burden of recovering from their trauma alone.

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

The clerk will report the nomination. The legislative clerk read the nomination of Bonnie D. Jenkins, of New York, to be Under Secretary of State for Arms Control and International Security.

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 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. 142, Bonnie D. Jenkins, of New York, to be Under Secretary of State for Arms Control and International Security.

Charles E. Schumer, Ben Ray Luján, Jeff Merkley, Alex Padilla, Sheldon Whitehouse, Christopher A. Coons, Benjamin L. Cardin, Jack Reed, Patrick J. Leahy, Tammy Baldwin, Robert P. Casey, Jr., Christopher Murphy, Tim Kaine, John Hickenlooper, Angus S. King, Jr., Tammy Duckworth.

INVESTING IN A NEW VISION FOR THE ENVIRONMENT AND SURFACE TRANSPORTATION IN AMERICA ACT—Motion to Proceed

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.

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I move to proceed to Calendar No. 100, H.R. 3684. The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the motion.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 142, Bonnie D. Jenkins, of New York, to be Under Secretary of State for Arms Control and International Security.

Charles E. Schumer, Ben Ray Luján, Jeff Merkley, Alex Padilla, Sheldon Whitehouse, Christopher A. Coons, Benjamin L. Cardin, Jack Reed, Patrick J. Leahy, Tammy Baldwin, Robert P. Casey, Jr., Christopher Murphy, Tim Kaine, John Hickenlooper, Angus S. King, Jr., Tammy Duckworth.

MEASURE READ THE FIRST TIME—S. 2382

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I understand there is a bill at the desk, and I ask for its first reading. The PRESIDING OFFICER. The leader is correct. The clerk will read the bill by title for the first time.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 2382) to authorize the National Cyber Director to accept details from other elements of the Federal Government on non-reimbursable basis, and for other purposes.

Mr. SCHUMER. I now ask for a second reading, and in order to place the bill on the calendar under the provisions of rule XIV, I object to my own request.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard. The bill will be read for the second time on the next legislative day.

Tribute to Bill Brasch

Mr. McCONNELL. Madam President, for the past 3 years Bill Brasch has led our shared fraternity, Phi Kappa Tau, as national president, helping the organization navigate the tumultuous COVID–19 pandemic. Through his work, he helped maintain a vast network of philanthropy and brotherhood that has raised more than $1.6 million for charity in the past 25 years and developed more than 100,000 of character into PHIk’s distinctive, thriving fraternity. Bill has contributed immensely to the continuity and growth of Phi Kappa Tau and helped it develop into a formidable nationwide organization.

Bill attended my alma mater, the University of Louisville, and built a prestigious reputation in student government and Greek life. He remained at the school after graduation, spending 32 years coordinating the construction and renovation of campus buildings, including the Phi Kappa Tau fraternity house in 2007. He continued his involvement in Phi Kappa Tau at both the local and national level, eventually rising to his current role in 2018.

Bill saw our fraternity through one of its most challenging periods when, in the spring of 2020, the COVID–19 pandemic forced colleges and universities across the country to shutter. Thousands of brothers were sent home from campus, threatening the very core of fraternity life. Bill, as national president, originally intended to a 2-year term, was extended into 2021 as the crisis forced Phi Kappa Tau to cancel its national convention. However, through Bill’s hard work, the fraternity didn’t just survive the pandemic but thrived. Phi Kappa Tau is now well-prepared to return to campuses across the country and bring young men back together in brotherhood, just as it has for more than a century.

Bill Brasch has devoted his life to Phi Kappa Tau on his mission “to champion a lifelong commitment to brotherhood, learning, ethical leadership and exemplary character.” In recognition of his
dedicated work, he has been named the University of Louisville Alumni Fellow for 2021 and will be honored during the halftime celebration at this year’s homecoming football game. His mentorship and leadership have been invaluable to our fraternity’s success, both in Kentucky and across America. On behalf of the Senate, I would like to thank Bill for his leadership in times of crisis and congratulate him on a successful presidency.

TRIBUTE TO MARK AND LORI WILSON
Mr. McCONNELL. Madam President, for the past 15 years, Mark and Lori Wilson have been key organizers of Kentucky’s legendary Fancy Farm Picnic, held annually at St. Jerome Catholic Church. This event brings together elected officials and spectators from all over the Commonwealth for good-natured debate and celebration. For decades, the impassioned speeches and zingers delivered at the Fancy Farm Picnic have riveted Kentuckians and brought nationwide fame to the event’s namesake hometown. The picnic also serves as a significant fundraiser for the church’s elementary school and charitable efforts serving the community.

All this success would never have been possible without the dedicated leadership of local volunteers like Mark and Lori.

Every year, Mark and Lori welcome upwards of 15,000 attendees to Fancy Farm, KY, but that is merely the most widely known aspect of their work. They are also deeply involved in St. Jerome, helping the church year-round with its public service efforts. Mark is a longtime member of the western Kentucky agriculture industry, often humorously comparing his role at the Fancy Farm Picnic to farming: “like growing a crop of tobacco, it’s a thirteen-month job.” The couple resides in the classic Kentuckians, dedicated to community and tradition.

Though the Fancy Farm Picnic was canceled last year due to the coronavirus pandemic, Mark and Lori built a strong foundation for the event to continue full-speed ahead this year. Under the leadership of their successor Steven Elder, Fancy Farm will continue to captivate the Commonwealth with its annual festival of bingo, barbecue, and amicable banter.

Mark and Lori have dedicated countless hours to their church, community, and State. On behalf of the Senate, I would like to express our gratitude for their committed work in support of the Commonwealth.

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE
At 3:02 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that pursuant to section 10(c) of title I, division T of the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2021, and the order of the House of January 4, 2021, the Speaker appoints the following individual on the part of the House of Representatives to the Smithsonian American Women’s History Museum Council: Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, New York.

The message further announced that pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 8468(a), and the order of the House of January 4, 2021, the Speaker appoints the following Members on the part of the House of Representatives to the Board of Visitors to the United States Naval Academy: Mr. RUPFERSBERGER of Maryland, Mr. BROWN of Maryland, Mr. PALAZZO of Mississippi, and Mr. WITTMAN of Virginia.

The message also announced that pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 7455(a), clause 10 of rule I, and the order of the House of January 4, 2021, the Speaker appoints the following Members on the part of the House of Representatives to the Board of Visitors to the United States Military Academy: Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York, Mrs. MURPHY of Florida, Mr. WOACK of Arkansas, and Mr. DAVIDSON of Ohio.

The message further announced that pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 9455(a), and the order of the House of January 4, 2021, the Speaker appoints the following Members to the Board of Visitors to the United States Air Force Academy: Chairwoman of California, Mr. JAVEN of Ohio, Mr. REED of New York, Mr. WITTMAN of Virginia, Mr. LEWIS of California, and Mr. LAMBORN of Colorado.

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

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED
As in executive session the President, Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

The messages received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.

MESSAGES TO THE BOARD OF VISITORS TO THE SMITHSONIAN AMERICAN WOMEN'S HISTORY MUSEUM COUNCIL
At 3:02 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that pursuant to section 10(c) of title I, division T of the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2021, and the order of the House of January 4, 2021, the Speaker appoints the following individual on the part of the House of Representatives to the Smithsonian American Women’s History Museum Council: Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, New York.

Remembering Betty Thompson

Mr. BLUNT. Madam President, today I would like to recognize a good friend who has meant so much to those in St. Louis, across Missouri, and throughout the nation. Betty Thompson passed away Sunday, July 11, 2021, at the age of 81.

Betty was a great leader, respected voice in the community, and was known for her service to others. Along with her public service, she was known for her generosity and caring nature to help those in need. She was the first African American to serve on the University City City Council and remained on that council for 18 years. She then was elected to serve in the Missouri House of Representatives where she represented the 72nd District until 2004. From being a State representative to her advocacy for civil rights, she truly was a beacon of light.

Betty and I saw each other many times over the past 12 years. She provided a welcoming environment no matter the place and was always a trusted counselor during our conversations.

Jacq and Betty Thompson were a month away from celebrating their 62nd wedding anniversary. Along with her husband, Betty is survived by her children Tony Thompson, Sonja Branscomb, and Kwame Thompson, and seven grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her son, Tyrone Thompson, and grandson, Tyrell Thompson.

I am grateful to have known Betty and thankful for the impact she has had on my own life, as well as those around Missouri.

MESSAGES TO THE BOARD OF VISITORS TO THE UNITED STATES NAVAL ACADEMY
At 3:02 p.m., a message from the President, Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

The messages received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.

EC-1998. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Approval and Promulgation of State Plans for Designated Facilities and Pollutants; North Dakota; Control of Emissions from Existing Municipal Solid Waste Incineration Units; Negative Declaration of Existing Hospital/Medical/Infectious Waste Incineration Units” (FRL No. 10092-55-OAR) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 12, 2021, to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-1349. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Approval and Promulgation of State Plans and Pollutants; North Dakota; Control of Emissions from Existing Municipal Solid Waste Incineration Units; Negative Declaration of Existing Hospital/Medical/Infectious Waste Incineration Units” (FRL No. 10024-28-Region–8) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 12, 2021, to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-1349. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Approval and Promulgation of State Plans for Designated Facilities and Pollutants; North Dakota; Control of Emissions from Existing Municipal Solid Waste Incineration Units; Negative Declaration of Existing Hospital/Medical/Infectious Waste Incineration Units” (FRL No. 10092-55-OAR) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 12, 2021, to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

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

S4947
July 19, 2021

S. 2777. An original bill to invest in the energy and outdoor infrastructure of the United States to deploy new and innovative technologies, update existing infrastructure to be reliable and resilient, and secure energy infrastructure against physical and cyber threats, and for other purposes.

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. MANCHIN (for himself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BERNSTEIN, Mr. HARKIN, Mr. HAWLEY, Mr. JACOBSEN, Mr. JUDD, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. LEE, Mr. MURAKAMI, Mr. PETERS, Mr. ROSEN, Mr. THURMOND, and Mr. WHELDEN):

S. 2380. A bill to amend title 23, United States Code, to improve the safety of children purchasing food items from frozen dessert trucks; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. DAINE’S:

S. 2382. A bill to authorize the National Cyber Director to accept details from other elements of the Federal Government on non-reimbursable basis, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. PORTMAN (for himself, Ms. SINEMA, Mr. PETERS, Mr. KING, and Mr. KUNDU):

S. 2383. A bill to amend title 23, United States Code, to improve the safety of children purchasing food items from frozen dessert trucks; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 199

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

S. 176

At the request of Mr. ROSEN, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 176, a bill to require a longitudinal study on the impact of COVID-19.
10. United States Code, to provide treatment for eating disorders for dependents of members of the uniformed services.

S. 198

At the request of Ms. Rosen, the name of the Senator from Hawaii (Ms. Hirono) was added as a cosponsor of S. 198, a bill to require the Federal Communications Commission to incorporate data on maternal health outcomes into its broadband health maps.

S. 422

At the request of Ms. Stabenow, the name of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. Hickenlooper) was added as a cosponsor of S. 422, a bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal to Willie O’Ree, in recognition of his extraordinary contributions and commitment to hockey, inclusion, and recreational opportunity.

S. 745

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

S. 827

At the request of Mr. Tillis, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. Van Hollen) was added as a cosponsor of S. 827, a bill to improve the provision of health care and other benefits from the Department of Veterans Affairs for veterans who were exposed to toxic substances, and for other purposes.

S. 1061

At the request of Mr. Portman, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. Heineich) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1061, a bill to encourage the normalization of relations with Israel, and for other purposes.

S. 1079

At the request of Mr. Heinrich, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. Tester) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1079, a bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal to the troops from the United States and the Philippines who defended Bataan and Corregidor, in recognition of their personal sacrifice and service during World War II.

S. 1125

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

S. 1125

At the request of Ms. Cantwell, the name of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. Cramer) 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. 1322

At the request of Mr. Kaine, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. Rounds) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1532, a bill to provide a work opportunity tax credit for military spouses and to provide for flexible spending arrangements for childcare services for uniformed services families.

S. 1544

At the request of Mr. Grassley, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. Boozman) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1544, a bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to streamline enrollment under the Medicaid program of certain providers across State lines, and for other purposes.

S. 1613

At the request of Ms. Duckworth, the names of the Senator from New York (Mrs. Gillibrand) and the Senator from Kansas (Mr. Marshall) were added as cosponsors of S. 1613, a bill to require the Administrator of the Small Business Administration to establish a grant program for certain fitness facilities, and for other purposes.

S. 1806

At the request of Mr. Schatz, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. Merkley) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1806, a bill to enhance the security operations of the Transportation Security Administration and stability of the transportation security workforce by applying the personnel system under title 5, United States Code, to employees of the Transportation Security Administration, and for other purposes.

S. 1839

At the request of Ms. Duckworth, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Ms. Murkowski) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1839, a bill to amend title 37, United States Code, to require the Secretary concerned to pay a member in the reserve component of an Armed Force a special bonus or incentive pay in the same amount as a member in the regular component of that Armed Force.

S. 2013

At the request of Mr. Casey, the names of the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. Baldwin), the Senator from Ohio (Mr. Brown), the Senator from Illinois (Ms. Duckworth), the Senator from Michigan (Ms. Stabenow) and the Senator from Colorado (Mr. Bennett) were added as cosponsors of S. 2013, a bill to provide for the coverage of medically necessary food and vitamins and individual amino acids for digestive and inherited metabolic disorder under Federal health programs, and private health insurance, to ensure State and Federal protection for existing coverage, and for other purposes.

S. 2058

At the request of Mr. Cornyn, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. Rubio) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2058, a bill to improve the safety and security of members of the Armed Forces, and for other purposes.

S. 2069

At the request of Ms. Stabenow, the name of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. Tillis) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2069, a bill to expand the Medicaid certified community behavioral health clinic demonstration program and to authorize funding for additional grants to certified community behavioral health clinics.

S. 2091

At the request of Ms. Sinema, the names of the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. Cassidy) and the Senator from Georgia (Mr. Warnock) were added as cosponsors of S. 2091, a bill to amend the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 to increase appropriations to Restaurant Revitalization Fund, and for other purposes.

S. 2129

At the request of Mr. Portman, the name of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. Tillis) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2129, a bill to promote freedom of information and counter censorship and surveillance in North Korea, and for other purposes.

S. 2132

At the request of Mr. Braun, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. Marshall) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2132, a bill to amend title 5, United States Code, to limit the use of taxpayer funded union time for employees of the Internal Revenue Service, and for other purposes.

S. 2160

At the request of Mr. Moran, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. Cardin) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2160, a bill to prohibit the Administrator of General Services from establishing per diem reimbursement rates for travel within the continental United States (commonly known as “CONUS”) for certain fiscal years below a certain level, and for other purposes.

S. 2236

At the request of Mr. Daines, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. Hassan) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2236, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to limit the charitable deduction for certain qualified conservation contributions.

S. 2270

At the request of Mrs. Blackburn, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. Boozman) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2270, a bill to prohibit Federal funding to entities that do not certify the entities will not perform, or provide any function of any other entity that performs, an abortion.

S. 2302

At the request of Mr. Barraso, the name of the Senator from Idaho (Mr.
RESCH] was added as a cosponsor of S. 2302, a bill to amend the Department of Energy Organization Act to assign certain functions to the Assistant Secretaries of Energy relating to energy emergencies and energy security, and for other purposes.

S. 2320

At the request of Mr. MARKEY, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2320, a bill to ensure greater accountability by licensed firearms dealers.

S. 2328

At the request of Ms. DUCKWORTH, the names of the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. SCOTT) and the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS) were added as cosponsors of S. 2328, a bill to direct the Presidential designee under the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act to develop and implement a plan to provide end-to-end electronic voting services for absent uniformed services voters under such Act who are deployed or mobilized to locations with limited or immature postal service.

S. 2331

At the request of Mr. CRUZ, the names of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. SULLIVAN), the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS) and the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MARSHALL) were added as cosponsors of S. 2331, a bill to temporarily suspend the admissibility of certain persons traveling from countries that currently have a moderate or higher level COVID-19 transmission.

S. 2337

At the request of Mr. PAUL, the name of the Senator from Texas (Mr. CRUZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2337, a bill to prohibit the imposition of mask mandates on public transportation.

S. J. RES. 10

At the request of Mr. KAINES, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. MURKOWSKI) was added as a cosponsor of S. J. Res. 10, a joint resolution to repeal the authorizations for use of military force against Iraq, and for other purposes.

S. CON. RES. 9

At the request of Mr. HEINRICH, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKY) was added as a cosponsor of S. Con. Res. 9, a concurrent resolution supporting the Local Radio Freedom Act.

At the request of Mr. BARRASSO, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. JOHNSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. Con. Res. 9, supra.

S. RES. 212

At the request of Mr. ROUND, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BRAUN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 212, a resolution establishing a McCoin-Mansfield Fellowship Program in the Senate.

S. RES. 303

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the name of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 303, a resolution supporting the people of Cuba in their demands for freedom and the fulfillment of basic needs and condemning the Communist regime in Cuba.

AMENDMENT NO. 221

At the request of Mr. TOOMEY, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BRAY) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 221 intended to be proposed to H.R. 1652, a bill to deposit certain funds into the Crime Victims Fund, to waive matching requirements, and for other purposes.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I have 2 requests for committees to meet during today’s session of the Senate. They have the approval of the Majority and Minority leaders.

Pursuant to rule XXVI, paragraph 5(a), of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the following committees are authorized to meet during today’s session of the Senate:

SUBCOMMITTEE ON CYBERSECURITY

The Subcommittee on Cybersecurity of the Committee on Armed Services is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Monday, July 19, 2021, at 6 p.m., to conduct a hearing.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON STRATEGIC FORCES

The Subcommittee on Strategic Forces of the Committee on Armed Services is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Monday, July 19, 2021, at 5:30 p.m., to conduct a hearing.

ORDERS FOR TUESDAY, JULY 20, 2021

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 10 a.m., Tuesday, July 20; that following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and morning business be closed; that upon the conclusion of morning business, the Senate proceed to executive session to resume consideration of the Polite nomination; further, that the cloture motions on the Polite and Abruzzo nominations be disposed of at 11:30 a.m.; that if cloture is invoked on the Polite nomination, the Senate immediately vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the Abruzzo nomination; that the Senate recess following the cloture vote on the Abruzzo nomination until 2:15 p.m. to allow for the weekly caucus meetings; that if cloture is invoked on the Polite nomination, all postcloture time expire at 2:30 p.m. and that, if confirmed, the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table and the President be immediately notified of the Senate’s action; finally, that if cloture is invoked on the Abruzzo nomination, all postcloture time be immediately expired and the Senate vote on the confirmation of the nomination at a time to be determined by the majority leader in consultation with the Republican leader on Wednesday, July 21.

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

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 10 A.M. TOMORROW

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

There being no objection, the Senate, at 7:24 p.m., adjourned until Tuesday, July 20, 2021, at 10 a.m.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate:

DEPARTMENT OF STATE


EUROPEAN BANK FOR RECONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT

JANET LOUISE YELLEN, OF CALIFORNIA, TO BE UNITED STATES GOVERNOR OF THE EUROPEAN BANK FOR RECONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT. VICE STEVEN T. MNUCHIN.

INTER–AMERICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK

JANET LOUISE YELLEN, OF CALIFORNIA, TO BE UNITED STATES GOVERNOR OF THE INTER–AMERICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK FOR A TERM OF FIVE YEARS. UNITED STATES GOVERNOR OF THE INTER– AMERICAN DEVELOPMENT AND INVESTMENT BANK FOR A TERM OF FIVE YEARS. UNITED STATES GOVERNOR OF THE INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND FOR A TERM OF FIVE YEARS. VICE STEVEN T. MNUCHIN.

IN THE ARMY


To be major general

BRIG. GEN. KRIS A. BELANGER
BRIG. GEN. MARK E. BLACK
BRIG. GEN. WINDSOR A. STREVA
BRIG. GEN. RICHARD J. HEITKAMP
BRIG. GEN. MARTIN F. KLEIN
BRIG. GEN. JOSCHA A. MANGELLA
BRIG. GEN. BRIAN E. MILLER
BRIG. GEN. MICHAEL S. MURPHY
BRIG. GEN. DUSTIN A. SHULTZ.

To be brigadier general

COL. DAPHNE D. DAVIS
COL. KELLY M. DICKERSON
COL. TODD L. BRUGGEBR
COL. JAREK S. KOWN
COL. YORIE S. MCHUNBERTTE
COL. LOUIS L. MITCHELL
COL. HEATHER A. RUTHER
COL. JAMES F. RANDERS
COL. JAMES M. SINDLE
COL. JASON D. SULLIVAN
COL. PETER J. WHALEN.

The following named army national guard officers for appointment in the reserve of the army to the grades indicated under title 10, U.S.C., section 1220.

To be major general

BRIG. GEN. WILLIAM J. FRIEDENBACH IV

IN THE NAVY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY TO THE GRADES INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 1210 AND 1211.

To be rear admiral (lower half)

CAPT. DAVID G. WILSON.

FOREIGN SERVICE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED CAREER MEMBERS OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE FOR PROMOTION WITHIN THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, CLASS OF CARRIER MINISTER:
Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Shawn Hause for his longstanding and esteemed career in law enforcement and service to our country.

At the age of 19, Shawn knew he wanted to serve in law enforcement and joined the Washington State Patrol Explorers in the Spokane District 4 Detachment and learned the ways of Washington State Patrol for two years until aging out of the program. At the age of 23, he was accepted into the Spokane County Reserve Deputy program where he volunteered a minimum of 16 hours a month in patrol work as a deputy sheriff. During this time, Shawn also was hired by the Colfax Police Department in Colfax, Wash. as a part-time officer. Shawn was credited with making the largest drug bust of any Colfax officer at that time after stopping a vehicle and seizing over one pound of marijuana enroute to the Washington State University campus.

Two years later, Shawn was hired by the Spokane County Sheriffs office as a full-time deputy sheriff. He attended the Spokane Police Academy and graduated at the top of his class in firearms proficiency. He went on to work graveyard, swing shift, power shift and dayshift patrol. He volunteered to be a firearms instructor where he instructed new recruits and his peers for six years. He was then accepted into the Spokane County SWAT (Special Weapons and Tactics) Team. He graduated from the Hanford SWAT Basic School in Richland, Wash. and served with the SWAT team for approximately nine months.

After working as a patrol deputy for about seven years, successfully making numerous arrests for various drug violations, Shawn was accepted to Spokane County’s drug unit, known as the Investigative Support Unit. In that role, he worked low to mid-level drug crimes within the Spokane County area. He worked in that position for four and a half years until the position was defunded at which time he returned to patrol work. Following six months of patrol, Shawn was accepted as part of the Spokane Regional Drug Task Force (SRDTF).

In the SRDTF, Shawn worked closely with the Drug Enforcement Agency, U.S. Attorney’s Office and other state and local agencies to identify, infiltrate and dismantle high-level drug traffickers and Drug Trafficking Organizations in the Eastern District of Washington. During this time, Shawn was involved in an officer-involved shooting that took the life of his partner and best friend. Shawn also worked in an undercover capacity, buying large quantities of methamphetamine from different factions of the Sinaloa Drug Cartel. Shawn also assisted other agents/officers with a large scale, multi-state Operation investigation that involved the Eight-Trey gang out of California which the SRDTF and DEA were nationally recognized for their work. Shawn also worked with the FBI’s Gang Enforcement Task Force where he worked to specifically target drug cartels and gang members that were committing drug crimes. While working with the FBI, Shawn held a Top Secret security clearance.

As a five-year rotated position, Shawn was rotated out of his drug investigator role after being granted an extra year based on his undercover work that was ongoing in the U.S. and Mexico.

In total, Shawn spent more than 10 years working drug crimes and finished his career as a uniformed patrol deputy. He medically retired in good standing in 2019. I want to extend my deepest appreciation for Shawn Hause’s service to the State of Washington, the surrounding region and our country.

FR. CAPODANNO LODGE 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. NICOLE MALLIOTAKIS
OF NEW YORK
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Monday, July 19, 2021

Ms. MALLIOTAKIS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the 50th anniversary of the Fr. Capodanno Lodge. A part of The Order Sons of Italy in America, the oldest and largest Italian American fraternal association in the nation, the Lodge was originally chartered on November 9, 1971. Since 2007, the Lodge has been named after Fr. Capodanno, a Catholic chaplain from Staten Island who died in service in Vietnam. Like its namesake, the lodge has dedicated itself to the community, hosting social events, raising money for charity, and offering scholarships. This September, the anniversary picnic will be celebrated concurrently with the grand opening celebration of the Garibaldi-Meucci Museum in September. I congratulate the Lodge for their fifty years of service.

HONORING CANDANCE CHILDRESS
HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON
OF MISSISSIPPI
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Monday, July 19, 2021

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable public servant, Candance Jasmine Childress. Ms. Childress is a Nurse Practitioner at Jackson Hinds Comprehensive Health Center. She attended Jones County Junior College in Ellisville, Mississippi, where she received an Associate’s Degree in Nursing. Mrs. Childress pursued her Bachelor’s Degree in Nursing from Mississippi University for Women, where she graduated with honors. While working full-time in a Telemetry Unit at St. Dominic Hospital, she sought her Master of Science in Nursing. In 2014, she received her Master’s of Science in Nursing as a Family Nurse Practitioner at Alcorn State University. Mrs. Childress is a Board-Certified Family Nurse Practitioner and is licensed in Mississippi.

Mrs. Childress is an active member of several professional organizations, including the American Association of Nurse Practitioners, Mississippi Nurses Association, Mississippi Association of Nurse Practitioners, and Sigma Theta Tau.

Candance Childress and her husband, Keneen Childress, reside in Terry, Mississippi. They are members of Greater Pearlie Grove Missionary Baptist Church, where Mrs. Childress serves as the Treasurer for the Health Ministry. In her spare time, she enjoys reading and spending time with her family and friends.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mrs. Candance Childress for her dedication to serving her community.

RECOGNIZING MEMBERS OF THE OHIO NATIONAL GUARD WHO ARE SERVING LORAIN FOODBANKS

HON. MARCY KAPTUR
OF OHIO
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Monday, July 19, 2021

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize our fine men and women from the Ohio National Guard who have risen to a challenge on the home front as our communities wrestle with the effects of the COVID–19 pandemic. When our local foodbanks began to see increases in people needing food to feed themselves and their families, even as the pandemic imposed restrictions on staff and volunteers to help, we were able to work with the Ohio National Guard to send units to help distribute food to our neighbors. This food has been a lifeline to those served, who through no fault of their own were left jobless, without funds, unsure of the future, and hungry.

Truly, the Ohio National Guard lives up to its motto, “Always ready! Always there!”, and we cannot thank them enough for their compassionate and brave service.

Lorain Ohio’s Second Harvest Foodbank coordinated with the Ohio National Guard’s SSGt. Danijel Vujicic and SSG Jacob Zieber, to serve the foodbank and its neighbors. They assisted in the coordination of the drive through mobile pantries and partnered with community organizations and law enforcement personnel in an effort to ensure that people were received food. The Ohio National Guard and its team helped the Second Harvest Foodbank of Lorain deliver 18.6 million pounds of food serving 172,000 unique individuals.
COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING BRIGADIER GENERAL JOHNNY S. LIZAMA ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT

HON. MICHAEL F.Q. SAN NICOLAS
OF GUAM
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 19, 2021

Mr. SAN NICOLAS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a true public servant, Brigadier General Johnny S. Lizama, and congratulate him on his retirement from the Guam Air National Guard after 43 years of service to our island and nation.

After graduating from Father Duenas Memorial School in 1977, Brigadier General Lizama remained determined for success and set his sights on a university degree. While earning his Bachelor of Arts in Business Management, he followed in the footsteps of his father, a Vietnam War-era sailor, and first enlisted with the Coast Guard Reserve on Guam. He then transitioned into active-duty status with the United States Air Force in 1982, where he was stationed at Eglin AFB, Florida and Beale AFB, California. Cognizant of the importance of both his education and experience, Brigadier General Lizama leveraged the educational opportunities offered by the military to assist in propelling his career forward. As a graduate of the Air War College with a master’s degree in public administration from Golden Gate University and numerous other certifications and training under his belt, Brigadier General Lizama emerged as a pillar of leadership for our community and servicemembers with unwavering resolution.

With recognitions such as a Small Arms Marksmanship Ribbon, Humanitarian Service Medal, Meritorious Unit Award, Army Achievement, Air Force Achievement, Air Force Command, Meritorious Service Medal, and Legion of Merit, Brigadier General Lizama’s countless awards and decorations only offer a glimpse of his character and long history in public service. By 1988, he returned to Guam to serve in our Air National Guard, where his work, achievements, and strategic understanding of Guam assisted in its development as a world-class organization. Humbly and steadily rising through the ranks, Brigadier General Lizama paved a path from machinery technician to interior electrician, manpower specialist, services specialist, and onto his first commission as an officer in 1992.

His breadth of experience and specialties further equipped him with valuable tools to successfully lead in numerous other senior positions. In his role as former Homeland Security Advisor for the Governor of Guam, Brigadier General Lizama advanced the safety and security of Guam as the frontline for all activities in the region. In this position, he exercised control of all Guam Air-National Guard personnel, material and fiscal resources, and advised the Adjutant General on Guard functions. As the Assistant Adjutant General and hand-picked Commander of the Guam Air National Guard, he was also responsible for the strategic administration, coordination, planning, and development of policies and programs to ensure mission readiness units that serve local communities, State, and Nation, for both homeland and defense missions.

Amid the COVID-19 pandemic, Brigadier General Lizama’s leadership has also been critical to our public and the Guam National Guard’s response to the dynamic needs of our government and community. Establishing yet another milestone for our community as the first Guam dual-status commander for Joint Task Force 671 appointed by the Secretary of Defense and the Governor of Guam, he oversaw the operations for all service members, federal entities, and local agencies responding to the pandemic on the island. Further working with Guam Homeland Security and FEMA to assess and plan current and future operations and missions which target flattening the curve, he embodies the definition of selflessness and fortitude.

Throughout his journey and with every success, Brigadier General Lizama has never failed to demonstrate the defining humility of a true servant leader. He credits his inspiration and achievements to his faith, the deep love he shared with his family, and a great many of his parents-in-law, Eloy G. and Dolores S. Lizama, Tomas G. and Delores C. San Nicolas, Dee, his wife of over 37 years, children, Major (USAF) Keith and his wife Paula-Jean, Lieutenant (USN) Kimberly and her husband Jonathan, Airman First Class (USAF) Cody and Rachel, and grandchildren Taehyun-Jean, Urijah-John, Logan-James and Brendan-Jacob, and the sons and daughters of Guam.

Brigadier General Johnny Lizama served our island and nation with much honor, actively transformed Guam and its Air National Guard, and continues to inspire many members of our community. Madam Speaker, I rise on behalf of the People of Guam, offering my greatest appreciation for his commitment to our country. I sincerely thank Brigadier General Lizama for his many years of service and sacrifice, congratulate him on his well-earned retirement, and wish him the best as he enters a new chapter in his life.

Tribute to Honor the Life of Paul O. Reimer

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO
OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 19, 2021

Ms. ESHOO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Paul O. Reimer, a California native who was born on July 15, 1927, and died on April 25, 2021, at his home in Portola Valley, California, at the age of 93.

Paul was the only child of Ruby and Paul Reimer and was raised in Alturas, California. He enlisted in the Army at the age of 17 and was assigned to the University of Idaho to learn basic engineering. After basic training he was assigned to the University of Texas and then to Stanford University. After his WWII service, Paul earned a Civil Engineering degree at the University of Nevada. It was at Reno that he met his wife, Kathryn Ann Brennan, and where he developed strong loyalties to his professors and friends, and he was a very proud and supportive alum.

Paul and Kathryn married in 1951 and moved to Palo Alto, California. They had three children, Mark, Ted (who died in 2018), and Kristie. Kay died in 2005, and Paul is survived by Mark and his wife Ana, daughter Kristie, seven grandchildren, 15 great-grandchildren, and many beloved nieces and nephews.

Paul formed Reimer Associates, Consulting Civil Engineers, in 1976, and went far beyond engineering design services. He was joined at the firm by his daughter Kristie in 1990, and together they gained national recognition for their work with the communities impacted by the Base Realignment and Closure Committee. Paul was a member of the Defense Environmental Response Task Force and appointment to this nine-member Task Force required House and Senate confirmation. He was an active member of many professional societies and received many honors for his work.

Paul gave back to his community through his work researching the path that Gaspar de Portola took during his 1769 expedition to the San Mateo and San Francisco County coasts, and through his long service with the Mid-Peninsula Regional Open Space District and the Peninsula Open Space Trust.

Madam Speaker, Paul Reimer has been described as a poet, a wise and true gentleman, a gifted engineer, a gracious host, a best friend, and most importantly, a beloved husband, father, grandfather, and godfather. He was a great and good man who made his community and his country better places for all of us. I ask the entire House of Representatives to join me in extending our deepest condolences to his family and in honoring the life of this extraordinary American.

SUB AND BOWL

HON. ED PERLMUTTER
OF COLORADO
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 19, 2021

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today, to recognize the Sub and Bowl restaurant for their 20 years of service to the Golden Hill Office Center and its tenants. This local, minority-owned small business in Lakewood, Colo. will be closing after two decades of service.

Sub and Bowl opened its doors in 2001 and has served the numerous tenants of the Golden Hill Office Center with American and Korean meals for breakfast and lunch. It has survived quite a few challenges over the last 20 years, including the Great Recession and most recently, the COVID-19 pandemic which kept workers home for many months.

I want to recognize owners Jung and Michelle for their dedication and service to the tenants of the Golden Hill Office Center: My staff and I will miss the warm greetings, conversation and great food.

I extend my gratitude to Jung and Michelle of the Sub and Bowl for their service to our community. I wish them the best in their move to Texas and all of their future endeavors.
Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable public servant, Colonel Paul L. Willis from Edwards, Mississippi.

Colonel Willis graduated from Utica Junior College in 1977 and from Alcorn State University in 1979, with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Sociology. In May 1989, Colonel Willis received his Master of Science Degree in Education from Chicago State University.

Colonel Willis was a Distinguished Military Graduate of the ROTC program at Alcorn, and in May 1979, was commissioned a Second Lieutenant in the U.S. Army Transportation Corps. He attended numerous military schools during his career, culminating with the Air War College, Maxwell AFB, Alabama.

Colonel Willis retired from active duty on August 1, 2004 after serving over 25 years. He assumed his current position as Director of Army Instruction at Jackson Public Schools, on July 1, 2004. During his active duty career, Colonel Willis served in locations across the U.S. and overseas, including the 1st Persian Gulf War, Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm, and he held a variety of command and staff positions. Most notably, he served as a commander of soldiers at every level in the Army from Platoon, Company, Battalion, Brigade and culminating as Commander, Eastern Region (ROTC), U.S. Army Cadet Command, Fort Knox, Kentucky.

As Director of Army Instruction at Jackson Public Schools, Colonel Willis provides leadership and oversight for the largest JROTC program in the State of Mississippi, which has an average enrollment exceeding 1,800 cadets. The units achieve an average high school graduation rate of 95 percent and nearly 100 percent of graduates are formally accepted to post high school institutions of higher learning, with annual scholarship offerings averaging $3.5 million.

Colonel Willis has received numerous military awards including the Legion of Merit with Oak Leaf Cluster and the Bronze Star Medal. He also received the Outstanding Civilian Service Medal for his selection as U.S. Army Cadet Command Director of Army Instruction for the Year of 2013, the Mississippi Magnolia Cross, was inducted into the inaugural class of U.S. Army Cadet Command ROTC Hall of Fame in June 2016, and the 2019 Andrew Jackson Council Boy Scouts of America Whitney M. Young, Jr. Award. In 2020, The Clarion Ledger Newspaper recognized him as a Community Hero and the U.S. Army Transportation Corps inducted him as a Distinguished Member of the Regiment.

Colonel Willis is married to the former Dorethene Torry of Utica, Mississippi, and they have two adult sons and six grandchildren. The Willis’ currently reside in Utica, MS and they are the Owners/Operators of Gazebo Lake Ranch.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Colonel Paul L. Willis for his passion and dedication for success and desire to make a difference in the community.
Mobius Science Center, and Director of the Finance and Marketing Committee for the Spokane County Boys and Girls Clubs, to name a few.

Larry always felt indebted to have these opportunities in life and never took anything for granted. He believed in making an impact outside of many in Eastern Washington, and I was grateful for his friendship and insights.

I will never forget his passion for being outdoors and enjoying God’s beautiful creations in the Western United States. Above all, I will always remember how proud Larry was to be an American. He embodied the American spirit by seizing every opportunity and encouraging others to chase their dreams. He always gave time and encouragement to everyone he knew, and we are better for his impact on our lives.

Madam Speaker, Larry Larison lived an amazing life that deserves to be celebrated. In honor of Larry’s legacy, passion, and contributions that inspired so many, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Larry Larison. May God grant him eternal peace in His kingdom.

ROBERT (BOB) COX
HON. ED PERLMUTTER
OF COLORADO
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Monday, July 19, 2021

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Robert (Bob) E. Cox of Lakewood, Colorado who passed away on June 25, 2021.

Bob grew up in Denver and graduated from East High School. He experienced other parts of the country before returning to Denver, where he finished his career in 1999. He retired in Santa Fe, New Mexico where he rebuilt an adobe home on the Chama River. He briefly attended the University of Miami and then studied political science and journalism at CU Boulder. During his career, he worked as editor of the Colorado Daily, a correspondent and regional executive at United Press International, and at the San Diego Union, managing editor at the Colorado Business Magazine, political writer at the Rocky Mountain News, editor at Weekly Newspaper in Glenwood Springs, and editor of the Green Mountain Gazette. He also served as press secretary for Tim Wirth’s first U.S. House of Representatives campaign in 1974.

In 1991, he and his wife, Sid O’Connell, purchased the Jefferson County weekly and formed a partnership with other Denver suburban newspapers. The weeklies covered the western suburban area of Denver including Lakewood, Wheat Ridge and Arvada. The Coxes led their news and advertising teams to win many Colorado Press Association awards before selling the papers in 1999.

Bob kept a sharp eye on the doings of elected officials, which was apparent in his many editorial columns. He coached his reporters to take time to dig for information and filled his editorials with directness yet wit and humor. Former staffers noted Bob’s continual efforts to make time for some fun in the high-intensity work of news reporting as well as the high-level impact and stature of his journalism community had for Bob. He enjoyed lively conversations and kept folks on their toes with questions.

In 2017, the dean of the College of Media, Communications and Journalism at CU Boulder, in an official ceremony, recognized Bob’s life’s accomplishments and retroactively awarded Bob a bachelor’s degree in journalism, despite him being a couple of credits short in 1962.

Upon Bob’s passing, his son, Kennedy Cox, said he felt he had lost his best friend. The father and son enjoyed engaging in musical endeavors—especially guitar—and traveling on the road to have semi-philosophical conversations and spend time together.

Bob is survived by his son; former wife, Sidnie O’Connell of Lakewood; sister Lynn Murphy of Seattle, Washington; niece Amie Servais of Sammamish, Washington; nephew Baxter Baldwin of Scottsdale, Arizona; and several great nieces and nephews. I am deeply grateful for his lifetime of service to our community.

HON. NICOLE MALLIOTAKIS
OF NEW YORK
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Monday, July 19, 2021

Ms. MALLIOTAKIS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor William J. Castello. Born in 1957, a diagnosis of chronic bronchitis left him spending much of his childhood indoors. One day he found a box of graphite lead sticks and began to faithfully reproduce the cover portraits of LOOK and LIFE magazine on typing paper, beginning his long love of art. Starting with his first public showing at the East Flatbush Public Library at the age of 9, he has been featured at Columbia University, the Newseum, and the Garibaldi-Meucci Museum in Staten Island. After marrying his childhood sweetheart, Maria Loccisano, he went on to work for the Associated Press as an artist. He is now an honorary associate of the Ancient Order of Hibernians, a Fourth-degree Knight and Past Grand Knight of the Knights of Columbus, and now, the Immediate Past President of the Fr. Capodanno Lodge of the Sons and Daughters of Italy in America. He and Maria have made their home in Staten Island since 1986 and have been an active part of the community since then.

HON. JIMMY PANETTA
OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Monday, July 19, 2021

Mr. PANETTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Colonel Gary M. Hausman on his departure from the Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center.

Col. Hausman was commissioned in the U.S. Army in 1994 as a Military Intelligence Officer from the University of California, Irvine. He was initially assigned to the 4th Infantry Division at Fort Carson, Colorado and served as a MiL Plt Leader, Assistant Battalion Intelligence Officer, Hq Company, Eo Battalion and Intelligence Officer, and Company Commander.

Throughout his well-decorated military career, Col. Hausman demonstrated exceptional leadership and dutifully upheld the seven core values of the U.S. Army. Because of these attributes, Col. Hausman was competitively selected for many prestigious assignments and postings, including Cryptologic Services Group Officer in Charge at the Joint Special Operations Command at Fort Bragg, North Carolina; Battalion Operations Office and Executive Officer for the 525th Battlefield Surveillance Brigade; Liaison Officer in support of the Special Operations Joint Task Force—Afghanistan; Liaison Officer for Joint Special Operations Command for the NSA in Fort Meade, Maryland assuming command of the 734th Military Intelligence Battalion, Buckley Air Force Base, Denver, CO; and as the Executive Officer to the Commanding General of Army Cyber Command and then the Deputy Chief of Staff, U.S. Cyber Command.

During these assignments, Col. Hausman deployed several times to Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom, demonstrating bravery and a commitment to democracy in our global fight against terrorism.

In June of 2018, Col. Hausman was appointed as Commandant for the Defense Language Institute Language Center and Presidio of Monterey, California. During his tenure, he oversaw the finest foreign language instruction of approximately 2,500 soldiers, marines, sailors, and airmen, as well as select Department of Defense and State members. Col. Hausman’s contributions to the Central Coast of California extend beyond the Defense Language Institute—he contributes to and supports our culture of service, learning, and community.

Madam Speaker, Colonel Gary M. Hausman is an outstanding Army officer and model citizen who has served with honor throughout his nearly three decades of service. I ask my colleagues in the House to join me in honoring him today.

IN RECOGNITION OF WARREN COUNTY FIRST RESPONDERS
HON. BRETT GUTHRIE
OF KENTUCKY
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Monday, July 19, 2021

Mr. GUTHRIE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Warren County Sheriff’s Office, Richmondville Volunteer Fire Department, and Warren County Emergency Management Office. These local responders provide extraordinary services to protect all who visit and call Warren County home.

First responders in Warren County have continued to serve our community honorably, even with the added threat of COVID-19. The Warren County Sheriff’s Office, led by Sheriff Brett Hightower, plays an important role in keeping drugs out of the community, safeguarding local schools, and much more. The Richmondville Fire Department with Chief Brian Lee manages multiple fire stations to quickly respond to fires and other emergencies. The Warren County Emergency Management Office under the leadership of Director Ronnie Pearson helps with recovery, preparedness, and other endeavors.

On May 31, 2021, first responders from these three emergency offices were called in to help find Jeff Halter. Sadly, he was taken
from this world too soon due to a tragic accident. Jeff is the late husband of Kim, who is the director of constituent services for my congressional office, and also my friend and neighbor. Jeff loved his family and was a proud father to Katherine Chelsey and Laura-Leigh. Jeff will leave a lasting positive impact on the community and patients he served through his pharmacies.

I appreciate the work and dedication of first responders with the Warren County Sheriffs Office, Richmondville Volunteer Fire Department, and Warren County Emergency Management Office in recovering Jeff, who I miss dearly. I am thankful for these responders, who uphold their duty every day to ensure our community is a safe place to live and work.

HONORING CHESTER HENDERSON

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON
OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 19, 2021

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable hero, Mr. Chester Henderson.

Mr. Henderson was born on May 26, 1918 in Webster County, Mississippi. After the passing of his father, he had to quit school in the fourth grade in order to help his mother support their family.

At an early age, Mr. Henderson worked for Mississippi Valley Gas Company and then at Mississippi Power and Light Company, where he worked from 1946 until the passing of Mrs. Henderson in 1987. They spent 42 years of marriage together, becoming the proud parents of six children.

Mr. Henderson was born when Woodrow Wilson was President of the United States of America and Theodore G. Bilbo was Governor of the State of Mississippi. His life has spanned the administration of 19 United States Presidents, from Woodrow Wilson to Joe Biden; and 26 Mississippi Governors, from Theodore G. Bilbo to Tate Reeves. This family icon has witnessed many historic events during his lifetime, including the Great Depression, World War II, and man’s walk on the moon. He is truly blessed.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mr. Chester Henderson for his dedication to serving his family, community and this nation.

IN RECOGNITION OF FRED ROGERS

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS
OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 19, 2021

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the exemplary life of Fred Rogers, the outgoing commander of American Legion Post 178 in Frisco, Texas. Mr. Rogers has conducted his life with distinguished service to his community and nation, through his service in the U.S. Armed Forces and his subsequent volunteer efforts.

Mr. Rogers served honorably as an Air policeman in the U.S. Air Force from 1960 to 1964. After retiring from his decades-long civil career as a Vice President of Sales & Marketing, Mr. Rogers joined the American Legion in 2008. Mr. Rogers’ leadership roles at multiple North Texas posts in The Colony, McKinney, and Frisco led to him receiving numerous post, district, division, department, and national awards.

Mr. Rogers is a founding post member and has served as the Commander of Post 178 for the past seven years. His tireless efforts to bolster the post’s community involvement and promote its membership led to Post 178 earning the Texas Post Excellence Award for four consecutive years from 2016 through 2019. The post also earned the National Post Excellence Award for three consecutive years from 2016 through 2018. Despite the post’s recent founding, it is one of the most recognized and fastest growing in the state of Texas. The post also recently earned recognition for establishing a Membership All-Time High for consecutive years from 2015 through 2021.

Under his leadership as Post Commander, Post 178 has organized Memorial and Veterans Day events, sponsored dozens of high school juniors for American Legion Boys State, promoted the annual American Legion High School Oratorical Scholarship contest, worked alongside the Wreaths Across America organization at the Dallas-Fort Worth National Cemetery and contributed to many other community events and celebrations. I join Post 178 and the Frisco community in thanking Mr. Rogers for his devoted service to our veterans and his fellow citizens. He is truly an outstanding model of selfless civic service.

RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING COLUMBIA HEIGHTS, MINNESOTA, ON ITS 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. ILHAN OMAR
OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 19, 2021

Ms. OMAR. Madam Speaker, I include in the RECORD the following proclamation.

Whereas Columbia Heights quickly became a village in 1898, became a city in 1921, and
continues to be a community where all residents can feel proud to live, work, and raise their families;

Whereas Columbia Heights has successfully balanced economic growth and business development with an enduring focus on community relationships and small town charm;

Whereas the date of agreement to this resolution, at only 3.5 square miles Columbia Heights boasts 15 parks, a first-rate education system, a thriving business district, accessible transportation, and the All-American City Award; and

Whereas Columbia Heights is a city with a proud history and a strong place in the heritage of the State of Minnesota and the United States: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—congratulates Columbia Heights, Minnesota on its 100th anniversary; and

commends the Minnesotans who have made Columbia Heights, Minnesota the gem that it is today.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE PROTEIN DATA BANK IN THE UNITED STATES

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.
OF NEW JERSEY
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Monday, July 19, 2021

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the 50th anniversary of the Protein Data Bank (PDB) in the United States and its outsized impact on the scientific community. Established at Brookhaven National Laboratory in 1971, the PDB was created because researchers were unable to share the valuable information they collected due to the lack of advanced computer systems at that time. The PDB solved this problem by serving as a depository for three-dimensional structures of large, biological molecules—such as proteins, DNA, and RNA—and offered the data free of charge or restrictions on usage to individuals researching across the world. Since 1998, I am proud to say the PDB has been co-managed by Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey. Today, the PDB archive in America hosts more than 180,000 structures of molecules found in all living organisms on the planet and is part of a worldwide network with other data centers in Europe and Asia.

The PDB's legacy as the first open-access digital data resource in biology and medicine has led to countless breakthroughs and has democratized access to data in a way that has tremendously benefited the public. Each year, millions of researchers, scientists, educators, students, medical professionals, patients, patient advocates as well as pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies around the world utilize the PDB for basic and applied research, STEM education, and the discovery of life-saving medicines, particularly anti-viral and anti-cancer drugs. Examples of its profound impact include the more than two million structures data file downloads it generates per day; its contribution to over one million published research papers; and its enabling of research in many subject areas, ranging from Agriculture to Zoology. But this ambitious project would not have been possible without significant federal investment in scientific research. The National Science Foundation, the Department of Energy, and the National Institutes of Health all contribute funding to the PDB, which generates a return on investment 1,500 times more than federal dollars it receives. This kind of investment clearly demonstrates the importance of the government-university research partnership and why it is critical that we maintain and strengthen that partnership to bolster American innovation and competitiveness for years to come.

In conclusion, Madam Speaker, I offer my congratulations on the United States as it celebrates its first 50 years as a leading global resource for experimental data central to scientific discovery, and I look forward to its contributions to science and our society over the next 50 years.

RECOGNIZING BARBARA TETREAULT’S SERVICE TO NEW HAMPSHIRE

HON. ANN M. KUSTER
OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Monday, July 19, 2021

Ms. KUSTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Barbara Tetreault, long-time Editor of the Berlin Daily Sun newspaper, on her well-deserved retirement. Barbara has been with the paper since 1993 and the Edits since 2013. Her departure will be an end of an era.

The city of Berlin and the paper have both struggled over the years, yet Barbara’s constant, dedicated, professional reporting has always presented the news in a candid and transparent manner to the people of Berlin. With New Hampshire’s First in the Nation primary status, Barbara was there to ask the hard questions of candidates in the earliest days of their campaigns. Barbara’s questions, often repeated across the state and country during the campaign, would help define the credibility and integrity of many candidates. As Barbara steps back from the deadline to the slower pace, The Berlin Daily Sun will take on a new Editor who will put their stamp on the masthead. We know we will, occasionally, still see Barbara’s name at the end of a column in the paper.

It is with great pleasure that I recognize and give honor to this wonderful woman who kept her community informed about the news of Berlin and the North Country.

COST ESTIMATE FOR H.R. 3243, THE PIPELINE SECURITY ACT

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON
OF MISSISSIPPI
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Monday, July 19, 2021

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the cost estimate prepared by the Congressional Budget Office for H.R. 3243, the Pipeline Security Act. The cost estimate was not available at the time of the Committee report filing.

HONORING EDDIE BERNARD HARRIS

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON
OF MISSISSIPPI
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Monday, July 19, 2021

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a community leader, Mr. Eddie B. Harris. Eddie Bernard Harris was born October 31, 1961, to the late Willie Harris, Jr., and Mrs. Lillian Harris in Coffeeville, Mississippi. Eddie is...
Evelyn gained employment at Blue Cross Blue Shield of Georgia and rose quickly through the ranks holding a plethora of positions ranging from entry level to managerial across a span of 30 years. In 1999 she was appointed Vice President of Sun Trust Bank, a position she held until her retirement from the banking industry in 2012.

When her marriage ended in divorce, she successfully managed her roles as mother and business executive but felt a calling to serve her community. Growing out of a group of adult political concerns in the Columbus community, “People For A Cause”, Evelyn offered herself for public office and in 1988 was elected to the City Council of Columbus where she served for 30 years, 14 as Mayor Pro Tem, working to improve the quality of life for the people of Columbus.

Due to her strong leadership and dedication to public service, she was selected for numerous other responsibilities. She was appointed Governor Zell Miller to the Georgia Policy Council on Children and Families; to the University of Georgia Carl Vinson Institute of Government Advisory Committee; and the Mental Health Mental Retardation Substance Abuse Funding Study Committee. She was appointed Chair of the National League of Cities’ Public Safety and Crime Prevention Steering Committee working with U.S. Attorney General Janet Reno on the use of grants from the Community Oriented Policing Services Program; was elected Georgia Chair of Women in Municipal Government; President of the Georgia Municipal Association and Board of Directors of the National League of Cities.

And if that was not enough, she continued service on local boards, including the Board of Directors of Girls, Inc.; St. Francis Hospital; Columbus Technical College; Liberty Theater and Muscogee Educational Excellence Foundation. She was a faithful member of the Columbus Chapter of The Links, Inc.; and Columbus Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., serving as Treasurer and Financial Secretary. She was awarded the Martin Luther King, Jr. Unity Award, among other distinguished honors, including being named by Georgia Trend Magazine as one of Georgia’s top public servants. Moreover, she served as Treasurer for my political campaign committees, both State and Federal, for over 4 decades and was a trusted friend.

Evelyn was a devoted sister, mother, grandmother, aunt, and friend to many. She poured herself into her sons, Deon and Maurice. She found love later in life, married the late Lieutenant Colonel (Ret) Reginald Pugh
Congressional Record — Extensions of Remarks

July 19, 2021

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mr. Leonce Young for his passion and desire to make a difference in the community.

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON
OF MISSISSIPPI
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Monday, July 19, 2021

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I include in the Record the cost estimate prepared by the Congressional Budget Office for H.R. 3264, the Domains Critical to Homeland Security Act. The cost estimate was not available at the time of the Committee report filing.

COST ESTIMATE OF H.R. 3264, THE DOMAINS CRITICAL TO HOMELAND SECURITY ACT

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON
OF MISSISSIPPI
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Monday, July 19, 2021

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I include in the Record the cost estimate prepared by the Congressional Budget Office for H.R. 3264, the Domains Critical to Homeland Security Act. The cost estimate was not available at the time of the Committee report filing.

If you wish further details on this estimate, we will be pleased to provide them. The CBO staff contact is Lindsay Wylie.

Sincerely,

PHILLIP L. SWAGLER,
Director.

Enclosure.
Texas Motor Speedway (TMS), offered the individuals. Eddie Gossage, President of Stadium with the vaccination of over 12,000 January 2021 at Denton ISD's C.H. Collins Denton County Mass Vaccination Site. The success of the Texas Motor Speedway (TMS) model for Texas and across the country. The Denton County Mass Vaccination Site. The 42-regional partners that made this operation possible are truly an estimable model of community service.

The Denton County Mass Vaccination Cooperative in extolling the monumental cooperation that allowed the vaccination effort to reach across city and county lines. The 42-regional partners that made this success possible are truly an estimable model of community service.

The Denton County Mass Vaccination Cooperative has been invaluable to bolstering the public health and wellbeing of the citizens of the county, state, and nation. The North Texas community gratefully applauds the staff and volunteers for their heart-and-soul service in the face of the COVID–19 pandemic, and their aid in bringing this crisis under control.

It is my privilege to recognize the Denton County Mass Vaccination Program and congratulate the TMS clinic for receiving the NCTCOG Regional Cooperation Award, and the Denton County MRC for its national commendation. I trust that Denton County's continuing efforts will enhance the safety and security of our community. The frontline workers and volunteers that have shouldered the burden of the vaccination distribution are truly a model of civic responsibility and courage, and I thank them for their outstanding efforts.

**HONORING JOSEPH FRATTA**

**HON. NICOLE MALLIOTAKIS**

**NEW YORK**

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 19, 2021

Ms. MALLIOTAKIS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Joseph Fratta, a New York State Trustee for District III and an Overseer to the Fr. Vincent Capodanno Lodge. Born in 1948, Joseph was raised in Little Italy, where he worked at his family's floral shop. In 1968, he was drafted to fight in Vietnam, where he was highly decorated. After one skirmish where he was hurt, he turned down his Purple Heart because he did not want to worry his mother about his injuries. While in Vietnam, Joseph sought to build an orphanage for the dozens of orphans in the village he was stationed in. With the help of others, Joseph was able to get the orphanage up and running, where he cared for twenty-five children. In 1999, he joined the Order of the Sons of Italy, quickly rising up the ranks. Joseph is a dedicated member of the Lodge, chairing the Arbitration Committee and Cancer Research on the state level. Joseph now lives in Staten Island where he is a caring husband, father, and grandfather.

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

**OF COLORADO**

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 19, 2021

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Denver resident and Good Samaritan, Johnny Hurley, for his heroic actions in Arvada, Colo. on June 21, 2021.

On June 21, 2021, an Arvada Police Officer was ambushed and shot by a man who had immense hatred toward police. Minutes later, 40-year-old Denver resident Hurley intervened and shot the suspect, undoubtedly saving countless other lives. A tragedy upon a tragedy, Hurley was then mistook as the suspect and shot by a member of the Arvada Police Department.

Hearing gunshots, Hurley stepped up to protect and defend his community. According to Arvada’s Chief of Police, Johnny’s actions were “decisive, courageous and effective in stopping further loss of life.” Hurley’s friends and family remember him as “an idealist” and “an iconoclast,” and were not surprised to learn Hurley stepped up to defend his community in a time of need. The loss of Hurley is tragic, and I join the Arvada Police Department and our community at large in honoring his bravery for his actions that day which undoubtedly saved lives.

I want to extend my deepest and heartfelt condolences to Johnny Hurley’s family. We will remember Johnny Hurley for his heroic actions on June 21, 2021, and his sacrifice for our community.
IN RECOGNITION OF THE LEMOORE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

HON. DAVID G. VALADAO
OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 19, 2021

Mr. VALADAO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the 100th anniversary of the Lemoore Volunteer Fire Department. The Lemoore Volunteer Fire Department is celebrating their 100th anniversary of service to the Central Valley community of Lemoore. Over the last one hundred years, this fire department has consisted of entirely community volunteers. The dedication, commitment, and service of these citizens have kept the community safe and informed.

In service to the Lemoore community, fire department members contribute hundreds of volunteer hours in service, training, and community involvement. They participate in the annual Lemoore Christmas Tree display, educational school presentations, and various community celebrations. In addition, the Lemoore Volunteer Fire Department has maintained their commitment to service throughout the COVID–19 pandemic in risk of their own health and safety.

The Lemoore Volunteer Fire Department members have worked hard to uphold the numerous traditions and sense of camaraderie that set the department apart. These continued traditions work to promote unity and loyalty throughout the Lemoore community.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the House to join me in honoring the Lemoore Volunteer Fire Department on their 100th anniversary.

HON. DAVID G. VALADAO
OF CALIFORNIA

HONORING THE LIFE & SERVICE OF GEORGE EDWARD HAIRSTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 19, 2021

Mr. HAIRSTON of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the life and service of Mr. George Edward Hairston.

George E. Hairston was born and raised in Chattanooga, Tennessee, on February 11, 1942. He passed away on March 8, 2021, at the age of seventy-nine. He was buried with military honors next to his beloved brother Richard Hairston. After graduating high school, George graduated from Morehouse College in Atlanta, GA, and went on to attend Columbia University in New York City, NY receiving his master’s degree in Social Work.

George served in the United States military during the Vietnam War where he was assigned to a medical unit in Korea helping those who were wounded in combat. After his honorable discharge, George attended, and graduated, from New York University School of Law. While attending law school, he worked as a legal intern at the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund. Afterwards, Mr. Hairston was employed by the NAACP as an Assistant General Counsel.

After leaving the NAACP, he entered private practice as an independent practitioner in New York City where he maintained a distinguished national civil rights litigation and criminal defense practice.

After living out and accomplishing his goal to be a renowned attorney fighting racial injustice, Mr. Hairston went home to Chattanooga where he lived out the rest of his life until his demise. Due to his salient role and efforts in addressing racial injustice, Mr. Hairston addressed the 97th Congress at hearings held by the Subcommittee on the Judiciary of the United States House of Representatives. His expertise helped Congress address racially motivated violence and systemic racism.

Mr. Hairston labored decades to make our nation more inclusive and fought for those in need of justice.

Madam Speaker, I would like to acknowledge Mr. George E. Hairston for his honorable lifetime endeavors.

IN MEMORY OF SHARON SILZEL

HON. CATHY McMORRIS RODGERS
OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 19, 2021

Mrs. RODGERS of Washington. Madam Speaker, my heart is heavy as I rise today to honor the life of my dear friend, Sharon Silzel, who passed away on December 17, 2020 after a long battle with Parkinson’s Disease. My prayers are with Sharon’s family as we mourn her passing.

Sharon spent her first 30 years in Spokane, Washington as a dental and orthopedic assistant before answering her true calling—politics. In 1994, she hopped on the campaign trail, helping to elect George Nethercutt to the very seat in Congress that I have the honor of representing today. She was a force as a volunteer on my first campaign for Congress and remained a supporter and friend through the years.

In every sense of the word, Sharon was a trailblazer. After marrying her soulmate Jack in 2001, Sharon moved to Washington, D.C., where she served in the White House screening student correspondence for President George W. Bush.

Upon returning to Eastern Washington, Sharon kept her passion for politics alive as a member of Ponderosa Republican Women where she continued to champion the values that make our nation the greatest in the world. Her love for politics never stopped Sharon from fully immersing herself in the Spokane County community. She was well-known by her neighbors as a faithful member of St. Anthony Catholic Church and proud supporter of Trinity Elementary School.

I knew Sharon to be a faithful follower of the Lord, and her light touched the lives of so many from Spokane to Washington, D.C. and everyone she met in between. Each and every one of us who had the privilege of knowing Sharon in this life are better because of it, and I thank God for giving me the blessing of calling her my friend.

Madam Speaker, Sharon Silzel lived an amazing life that deserves to be celebrated. In honor of her legacy, passion, and contributions, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing Sharon Silzel. May God grant her eternal peace in His kingdom.

COST ESTIMATE FOR H.R. 3138, THE STATE AND LOCAL CYBERSECURITY IMPROVEMENT ACT

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON
OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 19, 2021

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I include in the RECORD the cost estimate prepared by the Congressional Budget Office for H.R. 3138, the State and Local Cybersecurity Improvement Act. The cost estimate was not available at the time of the Committee report filing.

U.S. CONGRESS,
CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE,
Washington, DC, June 8, 2021.

Hon. Bennie G. Thompson, Chairman, Committee on Homeland Security, House of Representatives, Washington, DC;

Dear Mr. Chairman: The Congressional Budget Office has prepared the enclosed cost estimate for H.R. 3138, the State and Local Cybersecurity Improvement Act. If you wish further details on this estimate, we will be pleased to provide them. The CBO staff contact is Aldo Prosperi.

Sincerely,

Phillip L. Swagel,
Director.

Enclosure.
H.R. 3138, STATE AND LOCAL CYBERSECURITY IMPROVEMENT ACT—June 1, 2021

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* += between zero and $500,000.
** = not estimated.

Statutory pay-as-you-go procedures apply? No.

Increased on-budget deficits in any of the four consecutive 10-year periods beginning in 2022? No.

Mandate Effects:
Contains intergovernmental mandate? No.
Contains private-sector mandate? No.

H.R. 3138 would establish a cybersecurity grant program in the Department of Homeland Security (DHS). State and local governments would use the grants to address cybersecurity threats and risks to their information systems. The bill would also establish a process for assessing grant applications, reviewing cybersecurity plans, and monitoring the performance of grant recipients. CBO estimates that implementing H.R. 3138 would cost about $1.1 billion over the 2021–2026 period (detailed in Table 1). Such spending would be subject to the appropriations of the specified and estimated amounts.

H.R. 3138 would authorize appropriations of $500 million annually over the 2022–2026 period and such sums as may be necessary for subsequent years. Those amounts would be distributed as grants to state, local, and tribal governments. Using historical spending rates for similar grant programs, CBO estimates that providing those grants would cost $1.1 billion over that period.

CBO estimates that reviewing grant applications and cybersecurity plans, disbursing grants, communicating with state and local governments, and completing other oversight and administrative functions required
by the bill would cost $17 million over the 2021–2026 period. That estimate is based on a comparison with the Federal Emergency Management Agency’s costs to manage the State and Local Preparedness Grant Program. That agency spends approximately $25 million (or 0.8 percent of total program funding) per year to manage $3 billion grants. Using that rate as a basis, CBO estimates that administering the cybersecurity grant program authorized under H.R. 3138 would cost $4 million each year and total $17 million over the 2021–2026 period, after accounting for the time to establish the program.

The bill also would establish an independent committee to provide recommendations and guidance on the operation of the grant program. Using information from DHS about the costs of similar committees, CBO estimates that staff salaries, travel expenses, and facilities would cost $1 million annually and total $5 million over the 2021–2026 period.

For the estimate, CBO assumes that the bill will be enacted in fiscal year 2021. Under the assumption, DHS could incur some costs in 2021, but CBO expects that most of the costs would be incurred in 2022 and later.

### TABLE 1.—ESTIMATED INCREASES IN SPENDING SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATION UNDER H.R. 3138

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<tr>
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<th>2021</th>
<th>2022</th>
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<tr>
<td>Administrative Costs:</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>17</td>
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<td>Total Changes:</td>
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<td>Estimated Outlays</td>
<td>18</td>
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* = between zero and $500,000.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Aldo Prosperi. The estimate was reviewed by Leo Lex, Deputy Director of Budget Analysis.

### IN HONOR OF THE LIFE OF TROY DAVIS

**HON. BLAKE D. MOORE**

OF UTAH

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 19, 2021

Mr. MOORE of Utah. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life of Police Corporal Troy C. Davis, a true servant of the community who passed away suddenly and tragically on July 12, 2021.

Born August 15, 1970, Troy lived a life defined by service to his community and his family. Corporal Davis served for over two decades as a member of the Vernal City Police Department with the utmost care. Through his actions, he demonstrated that our law enforcement truly cares for members of our communities.

Corporal Davis took on a unique role by serving the younger generation. The Vernal City Police Department partnered with the Uintah School District to establish a School Resource Officer position to keep local schools safe. As the School Resource Officer at both Vernal Middle School and Uintah Middle School, Corporal Davis’s work ensured that the students of Vernal had a safe learning environment. All who knew Corporal Davis knew of his genuine care for the students he protected and served. His passing leaves a tremendous void in the community.

On July 16 and 17, Vernal came together to honor his life and service of Corporal Davis. With his police vehicle parked at the Uintah Conference Center for tribute, members of the community left signs, notes, cards, and flowers to honor his life and his decades of service. His funeral was held on Saturday, and it provided all those who knew him an opportunity to celebrate his life of selfless service.

Corporal Davis was a lifelong member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. In addition to his service as a member of the Vernal City Police Department, Corporal Davis served an LDS mission in Sydney, Australia. He was defined by his faithful service to his church and community.

Corporal Davis was survived by his wife, Mariel (Goodrich) Davis; his children, Hayden Troy (Erin) Davis, Alyia Madeline Rich, Breanna Marie (Cad) Nerdin, Ashlen Layne Davis, Randon Bryan Davis, and Taegan Troy Davis; and his grandchildren, Kayson Troy Davis and Noah Scott Davis. I join the Davis family and the entire community in mourning his loss.

### CONGRATULATING SEYMOUR VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT ON FIFTY YEARS OF SERVICE

**HON. DIANA HARSHBARGER**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 19, 2021

Mrs. HARSHBARGER. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the Seymour Volunteer Fire Department in Sevier County in the First Congressional District in Tennessee which recently celebrated fifty years of protecting and serving their community. Fire protection in our great Nation began as an all-volunteer service and in Seymour that rich tradition of volunteer service continues today.

In 1971, Seymour was a small community comprised of family farms and some small businesses. The owners of those businesses made the wise decision to establish fire protection for their homes and businesses as there was no such service in the thirty mile stretch between Knoxville and Sevierville. And thus, with the purchase of a new Boardman Class A fire engine, the Seymour Volunteer Fire Department was born. In that first year, twelve firefighters responded to 24 calls for service and their engine was stored outside in a vacant lot at the corner of Chapman Highway and Old Sevierville Road.

Over the last fifty years, as the community of Seymour has grown and gone from zero stoplights to eight and those family farms have developed into subdivisions, the Seymour Volunteer Fire Department has also grown to serve over 40,000 people, 400 businesses, 70 churches, 2 private schools, 8 public schools and Johnson University. The Fire District is spread across three Tennessee counties: Blount, Knox, and Sevier, covering a response area of almost 120 square miles. The Department now has six stations, 26 pieces of equipment and over 60 volunteers that continue to answer the call of duty. With all these changes, the original fire truck remains and serves as a reminder of the many volunteers who have responded to the call of duty over these last five decades.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating the Seymour Volunteer Fire Department on fifty years of service.

### RECOGNIZING DAYANARA RAMIREZ FOR HER PUBLIC SERVICE IN CONGRESS

**HON. MARK TAKANO**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 19, 2021

Mr. TAKANO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a member of my staff, Dayanara Ramirez, who dutifully served for three years in my office as Communications Director. Dayanara is leaving Congress—for now—to join the Biden Administration after an incredibly successful 5-year tenure in the House of Representatives.

Dayanara first joined Team Takano in July 2018 and quickly became integral to my office’s role as a progressive voice in Congress. Her tenure could be defined by her ferocious defense of equality and progressive values, and her energy helped foster a creative and industrious environment on her team. Dayanara worked diligently to expand our communications team and grow our social media footprint across every major platform into what it is today.

In addition to her official duties in Congress, Dayanara made it a point to contribute to the...
### 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—for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, when scheduled and with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for publication.

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

Meetings scheduled for Tuesday, July 20, 2021 may be found in the Daily Digest of today’s RECORD.

### MEETINGS SCHEDULED

**JULY 21**

**Time to be announced**

**Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions**

Business meeting to consider S. 1275, to amend the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act to make improvements, and the nominations of Catherine Elizabeth Lhamon, of California, to be Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, Elizabeth Merrill Brown, of Maryland, to be General Counsel, and Roberto Josue Rodriguez, of the District of Columbia, to be Assistant Secretary for Planning, Evaluation, and Policy Development, all of the Department of Education, David Weil, of Massachusetts, to be Administrator of the Wage and Hour Division, Department of Labor, Gwynne A. Wilcox, of New York, and David M. Prouty, of Maryland, both to be a Member of the National Labor Relations Board, and other pending calendar business.

**9:45 a.m.**

**Committee on Environment and Public Works**

To hold hearings to examine cybersecurity vulnerabilities facing our nation's physical infrastructure.

**SD–406**

**10 a.m.**

**Committee on Appropriations**

Subcommittee on Defense

To hold hearings to examine Navy and Air Force weapons systems diversification.

**SD–138**

**Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions**

Subcommittee on Primary Health and Retirement Security

To hold hearings to examine disparities in life expectancy.

**SD–430**

**Committee on the Judiciary**

To hold hearings to examine immigrant farmworkers and feeding America.

**SD–226**

**10:30 a.m.**

**Committee on Armed Services**


**SD–106**

**11:15 a.m.**

**Committee on Foreign Relations**

To hold hearings to examine U.S. Policy on Turkey.

**SD–450/VTC**

**2 p.m.**

**Committee on Foreign Relations**

Subcommittee on East Asia, the Pacific, and Inter-American Affairs

To hold hearings to examine combating climate change in East Asia and the Pacific.

**SH–216**

**2:30 p.m.**

**Committee on Indian Affairs**

To hold hearings to examine S. 1797, to amend the Indian Health Care Improvement Act to expand the funding authority for renovating, constructing, and expanding certain facilities, S. 1885, to require the Secretary of Health and Human Services to award additional funding through the Sanitation Facilities Construction Program of the Indian Health Service, and H.R. 1088, to amend the Indian Child Protection and Family Violence Prevention Act.

**SD–638**

**Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe**

To hold hearings to examine Rodchenkov Act enforcement at the Tokyo 2021 Olympics.

**SR–428A**

**3 p.m.**

**Select Committee on Intelligence**

To hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters.

**SH–219**

**JULY 22**

**9 a.m.**

**Committee on the Judiciary**

Business meeting to consider S. 1425, to establish the Federal Trade Commission to deter filing of sham citizen petitions to cover an attempt to interfere with approval of a competing generic drug or biosimilar, to foster competition, and facilitate the efficient review of petitions filed in good faith to raise legitimate public health concerns, S. 1428, to prohibit brand name drug companies from compensating generic drug companies to delay the entry of a generic drug into the market, and to prohibit biological product manufacturers from compensating biosimilar and interchangeable companies to delay the entry of biosimilar biological products and interchangeable biological products, S. 1388, to require the Federal Trade Commission to study the role of intermediaries in the pharmaceutical supply chain and provide Congress with appropriate policy recommendations, S. 1435, to amend the Federal Trade Commission Act to prohibit product hopping, and the nominations of Gustavo A. Gelpi, of Puerto Rico, to be United States Circuit Judge for the First Circuit, Angel Kelley, to be United States District Judge for the District of Massachusetts, Christine P. O’Hearn, to be United States District Judge for the District of New Jersey, and Helaine Ann Greenfeld, of Maryland, and Christopher H. Druce, of North Carolina, both to be an Assistant Attorney General, Department of Justice.

**SR–325**

**9:30 a.m.**

**Committee on Armed Services**

Closed business meeting to continue to markup the proposed National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2022.

**SD–106**

**Committee on Energy and Natural Resources**

Business meeting to consider the nominations of Robert T. Anderson, of Washington, to be Solicitor, and Tracy Stone-Manning, of Montana, to be Director of the Bureau of Land Management, both of the Department of the Interior, and Shalanda H. Baker, of Texas, to be Director of the Office of Minority Economic Impact, Samuel T. Walsh, of New York, to be General Counsel, and Andrew Rilperin Light, of Georgia, to be an Assistant Secretary (International Affairs), all of the Department of Energy.

**SD–366**

**10 a.m.**

**Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs**

Subcommittee on Securities, Insurance, and Investment

To hold hearings to examine frameworks to address future pandemic risk.

**SD–538**

**Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation**

Subcommittee on Space and Science

To hold hearings to examine space situational awareness, space traffic management, and orbital debris, focusing on solutions for emerging threats.

**SR–253**

**Committee on Environment and Public Works**

Subcommittee on Chemical Safety, Waste Management, Environmental Justice, and Regulatory Oversight

To hold hearings to examine current issues adversely affecting environmental justice populations.

**SD–406**

**Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions**

To hold hearings to examine American workers in a 21st century economy, focusing on the right to organize.

**SD–430**

**JULY 27**

**10 a.m.**

**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 the Interior.

**SD–366**
Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs
To hold hearings to examine resources and authorities needed to protect and secure the homeland.
SD-342/VTC
**Chamber Action**

*Routine Proceedings, pages S4937–S4951*

**Measures Introduced:** Six bills were introduced, as follows: S. 2377–2382.

**Measures Reported:**
- S. 671, to require the collection of voluntary feedback on services provided by agencies. (S. Rept. No. 117–30)
- S. 2377, to invest in the energy and outdoor infrastructure of the United States to deploy new and innovative technologies, update existing infrastructure to be reliable and resilient, and secure energy infrastructure against physical and cyber threats.

**Invest in America Act—Cloture:** Senate began consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of H.R. 3684, to authorize funds for Federal-aid highways, highway safety programs, and transit programs.

A motion was entered to close further debate on the motion to proceed to consideration of the bill, and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur upon disposition of the nomination of Bonnie D. Jenkins, of New York, to be Under Secretary of State for Arms Control and International Security.

Prior to the consideration of this measure, Senate took the following action:
- Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Legislative Session.

**Jenkins Nomination—Cloture:** Senate began consideration of the nomination of Bonnie D. Jenkins, of New York, to be Under Secretary of State for Arms Control and International Security.

A motion was entered to close further debate on the nomination, and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur on Wednesday, July 21, 2021.

**Polite, Jr., and Abruzzo Nominations—Agreement:** A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that at approximately 10 a.m., on Tuesday, July 20, 2021, Senate resume consideration of the nomination of Kenneth Allen Polite, Jr., of Louisiana, to be an Assistant Attorney General, Department of Justice; that the motions to invoke cloture on the nominations of Kenneth Allen Polite, Jr., and Jennifer Ann Abruzzo, of New York, to be General Counsel of the National Labor Relations Board, ripen at 11:30 a.m.; that if cloture is invoked on the nomination of Kenneth Allen Polite, Jr., Senate immediately vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Jennifer Ann Abruzzo; that if cloture is invoked on the nomination of Kenneth Allen Polite, Jr., all post-cloture time expire at 2:30 p.m.; and that if cloture is invoked on the nomination of Jennifer Ann Abruzzo, all post-cloture time be immediately expired, and Senate vote on confirmation of the nomination at a time to be determined by the Majority Leader, in consultation with the Republican Leader, on Wednesday, July 21, 2021.

**Nomination Confirmed:** Senate confirmed the following nomination:
- By 63 yeas to 33 nays (Vote No. EX. 267), Tiffany P. Cunningham, of Illinois, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Federal Circuit.

**Nominations Received:** Senate received the following nominations:
- Julie Chung, of California, to be Ambassador to the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka.
- Janet Louise Yellen, of California, to be United States Governor of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development.
- Janet Louise Yellen, of California, to be United States Governor of the Inter-American Development Bank for a term of five years; United States Governor of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development for a term of five years; and
United States Governor of the International Monetary Fund for a term of five years.
22 Army nominations in the rank of general.
1 Navy nomination in the rank of admiral.
Routine lists in the Foreign Service.

**Committee Meetings**

(Committees not listed did not meet)

**AUTHORIZATION: DEFENSE**

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Strategic Forces met in closed session and approved for full committee consideration, those provisions which fall within the jurisdiction of the subcommittee, of the proposed National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2022.

**AUTHORIZATION: DEFENSE**

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Cybersecurity met in closed session and approved for full committee consideration, those provisions which fall within the jurisdiction of the subcommittee, of the proposed National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2022.

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**House of Representatives**

**Chamber Action**

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 43 public bills, H.R. 4500–4501, 4503–4504, and 4506–4544; and 4 resolutions, H. Res. 536–539 were introduced.

Additional Cosponsors:

Reports Filed: A report was filed on July 16, 2021, as follows:

Committee on Appropriations. Revised Suballocation of Budget Allocations for Fiscal Year 2022 (H. Rept. 117–91).

Reports were filed today as follows:

H.R. 2928, to require the Secretary of Energy to establish a voluntary Cyber Sense program to test the cybersecurity of products and technologies intended for use in the bulk-power system, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 117–92);

H.R. 2931, to provide for certain programs and developments in the Department of Energy concerning the cybersecurity and vulnerabilities of, and physical threats to, the electric grid, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 117–93);

H.R. 3119. A bill to amend the Department of Energy Organization Act with respect to functions assigned to Assistant Secretaries, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 117–94);

H. Res. 535, providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 2467) to require the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to designate per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances as hazardous substances under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980; providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 2668) to amend the Federal Trade Commission Act to affirmatively confirm the authority of the Federal Trade Commission to seek permanent injunctions and other equitable relief for violations of any provision of law enforced by the Commission; and providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 3985) to amend the Afghan Allies Protection Act of 2009 to expedite the special immigrant visa process for certain Afghan allies, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 117–95);

H.R. 4502, making appropriations for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2022, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 117–96); and

H.R. 4505, making appropriations for the Departments of Commerce and Justice, Science, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2022, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 117–97).
Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein she appointed Representative Casten to act as Speaker pro tempore for today.

Suspensions: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures:

Energy Emergency Leadership Act: H.R. 3119, to amend the Department of Energy Organization Act with respect to functions assigned to Assistant Secretaries;

Pages H3638–39

Enhancing Grid Security through Public-Private Partnerships Act: H.R. 2931, to provide for certain programs and developments in the Department of Energy concerning the cybersecurity and vulnerabilities of, and physical threats to, the electric grid; and

Divided Families Reunification Act: H.R. 826, to require consultations on reuniting Korean Americans with family members in North Korea, by a 2/3 yea-and-nay vote of 415 yeas with none voting “nay”, Roll No. 209.

Pages H3651–52, H3658–59

Recess: The House recessed at 4:10 p.m. and reconvened at 6:30 p.m.

Suspensions—Proceedings Postponed: The House debated the following measure under suspension of the rules. Further proceedings were postponed.

Cyber Sense Act of 2021: H.R. 2928, to require the Secretary of Energy to establish a voluntary Cyber Sense program to test the cybersecurity of products and technologies intended for use in the bulk-power system;

Pages H3641–42

Emergency Reporting Act: H.R. 1250, to direct the Federal Communications Commission to issue reports after activation of the Disaster Information Reporting System and to make improvements to network outage reporting;

Pages H3642–44

Measuring the Economics Driving Investments and Access for Diversity Act of 2021: H.R. 1754, to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to require the Federal Communications Commission to consider market entry barriers for socially disadvantaged individuals in the communications marketplace report under section 13 of such Act;

Page H3644

Reaffirming the commitment to media diversity and pledging to work with media entities and diverse stakeholders to develop common ground solutions to eliminate barriers to media diversity: H. Res. 277, reaffirming the commitment to media diversity and pledging to work with media entities and diverse stakeholders to develop common ground solutions to eliminate barriers to media diversity;

Pages H3644–46

Promoting United States Wireless Leadership Act of 2021: H.R. 3003, to direct the Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information to take certain actions to enhance the representation of the United States and promote United States leadership in communications standards-setting bodies;

Pages H3646–47

Preserving Home and Office Numbers in Emergencies Act of 2021: H.R. 678, to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to provide for a moratorium on number reassignment after a disaster declaration;

Pages H3647–50

Refugee Sanitation Facility Safety Act of 2021: H.R. 1158, to provide women and girls safe access to sanitation facilities in refugee camps;

Pages H3650–51

Encouraging reunions of divided Korean-American families: H. Res. 294, encouraging reunions of divided Korean-American families;

Pages H3652–54

Securing America From Epidemics Act: H.R. 2118, to authorize United States participation in the Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations;

Pages H3654–55

Desert Locust Control Act: H.R. 1079, amended, to establish an interagency working group to develop a comprehensive, strategic plan to control locust outbreaks in the East Africa region and address future outbreaks in order to avert mass scale food insecurity and potential political destabilization; and

Pages H3655–57

Bassam Barabandi Rewards for Justice Act: H.R. 1036, to amend the State Department Basic Authorities Act of 1956 to authorize rewards under the Department of State’s rewards program relating to information regarding individuals or entities engaged in activities in contravention of United States or United Nations sanctions.

Pages H3657–58

Quorum Calls—Votes: One yea-and-nay vote developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H3658–59.

Adjournment: The House met at 2 p.m. and adjourned at 8:08 p.m.

Committee Meetings

ALLIES ACT OF 2021; PFAS ACTION ACT OF 2021; CONSUMER PROTECTION AND RECOVERY ACT

Committee on Rules: Full Committee held a hearing on H.R. 3985, the “Allies Act of 2021”; H.R. 2467, the “PFAS Action Act of 2021”; and H.R. 2668, the “Consumer Protection and Recovery Act”. The Committee granted, by record vote of 9–4, a rule
providing for consideration of H.R. 2467, the “PFAS Action Act of 2021”, H.R. 2668, the “Consumer Protection and Recovery Act”, and H.R. 3985, the “Allies Act of 2021”. The rule provides for consideration of H.R. 2467, the “PFAS Action Act of 2021”, under a structured rule. The rule provides one hour of general debate on the bill equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Energy and Commerce 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 117–10, modified by the amendment printed in part A of the Rules Committee report, 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 part B of the Rules Committee report not earlier considered as part of amendments en bloc pursuant to section 3 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 3 of the rule provides that at any time after debate the chair of the Committee on Energy and Commerce or his designee may offer amendments en bloc consisting of further amendments printed in part B of 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 Energy and Commerce 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 part B of the Rules Committee report or amendments en bloc described in section 3 of the resolution. The rule provides one motion to recommit. The rule provides for consideration of H.R. 2668, the “Consumer Protection and Recovery Act”, under a closed rule. The rule provides one hour of general debate on the bill equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Energy and Commerce 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 117–11 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 one motion to recommit. The rule provides for consideration of H.R. 3985, the “Allies Act of 2021”, under a closed rule. The rule provides one hour of general debate on the bill equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on the Judiciary or their designees. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill. The rule provides that the amendment printed in part C of the Rules Committee report 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 one motion to recommit. The rule provides that at any time through the legislative day of Thursday, July 22, 2021, the Speaker may entertain motions offered by the Majority Leader or a designee that the House suspend the rules with respect to multiple measures that were the object of motions to suspend the rules on the legislative days of July 19 or 20, 2021, and on which the yeas and nays were ordered and further proceedings postponed. The Chair shall put the question on any such motion without debate or intervening motion, and the ordering of the yeas and nays on postponed motions to suspend the rules with respect to such measures is vacated. Testimony was heard from Representatives Raskin, Jordan, Dingell, Carter of Georgia, Schakowsky, and Bilirakis.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR TUESDAY, JULY 20, 2021

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Readiness and Management Support, business meeting to markup those provisions which fall under the subcommittee’s jurisdiction of the proposed National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2022, 9:30 a.m., SD–106.

Subcommittee on Personnel, business meeting to markup those provisions which fall under the subcommittee’s jurisdiction of the proposed National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2022, 11 a.m., SD–106.

Subcommittee on Airland, closed business meeting to markup those provisions which fall under the subcommittee’s jurisdiction of the proposed National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2022, 2:15 p.m., SR–232A.

Subcommittee on Emerging Threats and Capabilities, closed business meeting to markup those provisions
which fall under the subcommittee’s jurisdiction of the proposed National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2022, 3:30 p.m., SR–232A.

Subcommittee on Seapower, closed business meeting to markup those provisions which fall under the subcommittee’s jurisdiction of the proposed National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2022, 5 p.m., SR–232A.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: to hold hearings to examine 21st century communities, focusing on climate change, resilience, and reinsurance, 10 a.m., SD–538.

Subcommittee on Housing, Transportation, and Community Development, to hold hearings to examine preserving and improving Federally assisted housing, 2:30 p.m., SD–538.

Committee on Foreign Relations: to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Karen Erika Donfried, of the District of Columbia, to be an Assistant Secretary (European Affairs and Eurasian Affairs), Mary Catherine Phee, of Illinois, to be an Assistant Secretary (African Affairs), and to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the African Development Foundation, and Anne A. Wirtzowsky, of Maryland, to be an Assistant Secretary (Conflict and Stabilization Operations), and to be Coordinator for Reconstruction and Stabilization, all of the Department of State, and Paloma Adams-Allen, of the District of Columbia, to be a Deputy Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development, 10 a.m., SD–G50/VT.

Subcommittee on State Department and USAID Management, International Operations, and Bilateral International Development, to hold hearings to examine modernizing the State Department for the 21st century, 2:30 p.m., SD–419/VT.

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: to hold hearings to examine a Federal perspective on the COVID–19 response, focusing on the path forward, 10 a.m., SD–430.

Select Committee on Intelligence: to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Stacey A. Dixon, of the District of Columbia, to be Principal Deputy Director of National Intelligence, Matthew G. Olsen, of Maryland, to be an Assistant Attorney General, Department of Justice, and Thomas Andrew Monheim, of Virginia, to be Inspector General of the Intelligence Community, Office of the Director of National Intelligence, 2:45 p.m., SH–216.

United States Senate Caucus on International Narcotics Control: to hold hearings to examine the Federal response to the drug overdose epidemic, 2:30 p.m., SD–608.

House

Committee on Armed Services, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Non-Governmental Views on the Fiscal Year 2022 Department of Defense Budget”, 10 a.m., 2118 Rayburn and Webex.


Committee on Education and Labor, Subcommittee on Health, Employment, Labor, and Pensions; and Subcommittee on Higher Education and Workforce Investment, joint hearing entitled “Care for Our Communities: Investing in the Direct Care Workforce”, 10:15 a.m., Zoom.


Committee on Financial Services, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Building Back A Better, More Equitable Housing Infrastructure for America: Oversight of the Department of Housing and Urban Development”, 10 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

Committee on Foreign Affairs, Subcommittee on the Western Hemisphere, Civilian Security, Migration and International Economic Policy, hearing entitled “The Crackdown on Artists and Free Expression in Cuba”, 10 a.m., 2172 Rayburn and Webex.

Subcommittee on Asia, the Pacific, Central Asia, and Nonproliferation; and Subcommittee on Europe, Energy, the Environment and Cyber, joint hearing entitled “U.S.-European Cooperation on China and the Broader Indo-Pacific”, 2 p.m., Webex.


Committee on Natural Resources, Subcommittee for Indigenous Peoples of the United States, hearing on H.R. 442, the “Southeast Alaska Regional Health Consortium Land Transfer Act”; and H.R. 3496, the “Urban Indian Health Providers Facilities Improvement Act”, 12 p.m., Webex.

Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests, and Public Lands, hearing entitled “Examining the Potential for a Civilian Climate Corps”, 3 p.m., 1324 Longworth and Webex.

Committee on Oversight and Reform, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 4125, the “Keep the Watchdogs Running Act”; H.R. 1508, the “Guidance Clarity Act”; H.R. 4465, the “Federally Funded Research and Technology Development Protection Act”; H.R. 564, the “Comprehensive Paid Leave for Federal Employees Act”; H.R. 2994, the “Accountability for Acting Officials Act”; H.R. 4448, the “Administrative Law Judge Competitive Service Restoration Act”; H.R. 3533, to establish occupational series for Federal positions in software development, software engineering, data science, and data management; H.R. 4393, to require the Directors of the Courts Services and Offender Supervision Agency of the District of Columbia and the District of Columbia Pretrial Services Agency to reside in the District of Columbia; H.R. 4468, the “Artificial Intelligence for Agency Impact Act”; H.R. 4469, the “AI in Counterterrorism Oversight Enhancement Act”; H.R. 4470, the “Made in America Pandemic Preparedness Act”; H.R. 2842, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 120 4th Street in Petaluma, California, as the “Lynn C. Woolsey Post Office Building”; H.R. 3539, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 223 West Chalan Santo Papa in Hagatna, Guam, as the “Atanasio Taitano Perez Post Office”; H.R. 4448.
CONGRESSIONAL PROGRAM AHEAD

Week of July 20 through July 23, 2021

Senate Chamber

On Tuesday, Senate will resume consideration of the nomination of Kenneth Allen Polite, Jr., of Louisiana, to be an Assistant Attorney General, Department of Justice. Senate will vote on the motions to invoke cloture on the nominations of Kenneth Allen Polite, Jr., and Jennifer Ann Abruzzo, of New York, to be General Counsel of the National Labor Relations Board, at 11:30 a.m. If cloture is invoked on the nomination of Kenneth Allen Polite, Jr., 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: July 21, Subcommittee on Defense, to hold hearings to examine Navy and Air Force weapons systems divestments, 10 a.m., SD–138.

Committee on Armed Services: July 20, Subcommittee on Readiness and Management Support, business meeting to markup those provisions which fall under the subcommittee’s jurisdiction of the proposed National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2022, 9:30 a.m., SD–106.

July 20, Subcommittee on Personnel, business meeting to markup those provisions which fall under the subcommittee’s jurisdiction of the proposed National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2022, 11 a.m., SD–106.

July 20, Subcommittee on Airland, closed business meeting to markup those provisions which fall under the subcommittee’s jurisdiction of the proposed National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2022, 2:15 p.m., SR–232A.

July 20, Subcommittee on Emerging Threats and Capabilities, closed business meeting to markup those provisions which fall under the subcommittee’s jurisdiction of the proposed National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2022, 3:30 p.m., SR–232A.

July 21, Full Committee, closed business meeting to markup the proposed National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2022, 10:30 a.m., SD–106.

July 22, Full Committee, closed business meeting to continue to markup the proposed National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2022, 9:30 a.m., SD–106.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: July 20, to hold hearings to examine 21st century communities, focusing on climate change, resilience, and reinsurance, 10 a.m., SD–538.

July 20, Subcommittee on Housing, Transportation, and Community Development, to hold hearings to examine preserving and improving Federally assisted housing, 2:30 p.m., SD–538.

July 22, Subcommittee on Securities, Insurance, and Investment, to hold hearings to examine frameworks to address future pandemic risk, 10 a.m., SD–538.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: July 22, Subcommittee on Space and Science, to hold hearings to examine space situational awareness, space traffic management, and orbital debris, focusing on solutions for emerging threats, 10 a.m., SR–253.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: July 22, business meeting to consider the nominations of Robert T. Anderson, of Washington, to be Solicitor, and Tracy Stone-Manning, of Montana, to be Director of the Bureau of Land Management, both of the Department of the Interior, and Shalanda H. Baker, of Texas, to be Director of the Office of Minority Economic Impact, Samuel T. Walsh, of New York, to be General Counsel, and Andrew Eilperin Light, of Georgia, to be an Assistant Secretary (International Affairs), all of the Department of Energy, 9:30 a.m., SD–366.

Committee on Environment and Public Works: July 21, to hold hearings to examine cybersecurity vulnerabilities facing our nation’s physical infrastructure, 9:45 a.m., SD–406.

July 22, Subcommittee on Chemical Safety, Waste Management, Environmental Justice, and Regulatory
Oversight, to hold hearings to examine current issues adversely affecting environmental justice populations, 10 a.m., SD–406.

Committee on Foreign Relations: July 20, to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Karen Erika Donfried, of the District of Columbia, to be an Assistant Secretary (European Affairs and Eurasian Affairs), Mary Catherine Phee, of Illinois, to be an Assistant Secretary (African Affairs), and to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the African Development Foundation, and Anne A. Witkowsky, of Maryland, to be an Assistant Secretary (Conflict and Stabilization Operations), and to be Coordinator for Reconstruction and Stabilization, all of the Department of State, and Paloma Adams-Allen, of the District of Columbia, to be a Deputy Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development, 10 a.m., SD–G50/VTC.

July 20, Subcommittee on State Department and USAID Management, International Operations, and Bilateral International Development, to hold hearings to examine modernizing the State Department for the 21st century, 2:30 p.m., SD–419/VTC.

July 21, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine U.S. Policy on Turkey, 11:15 a.m., SD–G50/VTC.

July 21, Subcommittee on East Asia, the Pacific, and International Cybersecurity Policy, to hold hearings to examine combating climate change in East Asia and the Pacific, 2 p.m., SH–216.

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: July 20, to hold hearings to examine a Federal perspective on the COVID–19 response, focusing on the path forward, 10 a.m., SD–430.

July 21, Full Committee, business meeting to consider S. 1275, to amend the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act to make improvements, and the nominations of Catherine Elizabeth Lhamon, of California, to be Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, Elizabeth Merrill Brown, of Maryland, to be General Counsel, and Roberto Josue Rodriguez, of the District of Columbia, to be Assistant Secretary for Planning, Evaluation, and Policy Development, all of the Department of Education, David Weil, of Massachusetts, to be Administrator of the Wage and Hour Division, Department of Labor, Gwynne A. Wilcox, of New York, and David M. Prouyt, of Maryland, both to be a Member of the National Labor Relations Board, and other pending calendar business, Time to be announced, Room to be announced.

July 21, Subcommittee on Primary Health and Retirement Security, to hold hearings to examine disparities in life expectancy, 10 a.m., SD–430.

July 22, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine American workers in a 21st century economy, focusing on the right to organize, 10 a.m., SD–430.

Committee on Indian Affairs: July 21, to hold hearings to examine S. 1797, to amend the Indian Health Care Improvement Act to expand the funding authority for renovating, constructing, and expanding certain facilities, S. 1895, to require the Secretary of Health and Human Services to award additional funding through the Sanitation Facilities Construction Program of the Indian Health Service, and H.R. 1688, to amend the Indian Child Protection and Family Violence Prevention Act, 2:30 p.m., SD–628.

Committee on the Judiciary: July 21, to hold hearings to examine immigrant farmworkers and feeding America, 10 a.m., SD–226.

July 22, Full Committee, business meeting to consider S. 1425, to enable the Federal Trade Commission to deter filing of sham citizen petitions to cover an attempt to interfere with approval of a competing generic drug or biosimilar, to foster competition, and facilitate the efficient review of petitions filed in good faith to raise legitimate public health concerns, S. 1428, to prohibit brand name drug companies from compensating generic drug companies to delay the entry of a generic drug into the market, and to prohibit biological product manufacturers from compensating biosimilar and interchangeable companies to delay the entry of biosimilar biological products and interchangeable biological products, S. 1388, to require the Federal Trade Commission to study the role of intermediaries in the pharmaceutical supply chain and provide Congress with appropriate policy recommendations, S. 1435, to amend the Federal Trade Commission Act to prohibit product hopping, and the nominations of Gustavo A. Gelpi, of Puerto Rico, to be United States Circuit Judge for the First Circuit, Angel Kelley, to be United States District Judge for the District of Massachusetts, Christine P. O’Hearn, to be United States District Judge for the District of New Jersey, and Helaine Ann Greenfeld, of Maryland, and Christopher H. Schroeder, of North Carolina, both to be an Assistant Attorney General, Department of Justice, 9 a.m., SR–325.

Select Committee on Intelligence: July 20, to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Stacey A. Dixon, of the District of Columbia, to be Principal Deputy Director of National Intelligence, Matthew G. Olsen, of Maryland, to be an Assistant Attorney General, Department of Justice, and Thomas Andrew Monheim, of Virginia, to be Inspector General of the Intelligence Community, Office of the Director of National Intelligence, 2:45 p.m., SH–216.

July 21, Full Committee, to hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters, 3 p.m., SH–219.

United States Senate Caucus on International Narcotics Control: July 20, to hold hearings to examine the Federal response to the drug overdose epidemic, 2:30 p.m., SD–608.

House Committees


Committee on Armed Services, July 21, Subcommittee on Intelligence and Special Operations, hearing entitled “Review of the Fiscal Year 2022 Budget Request for U.S. Special Operations Forces and Command”, 3 p.m., 2118 Rayburn and Webex.

Committee on Financial Services, July 21, Subcommittee on Consumer Protection and Financial Institutions, hearing entitled “Banking the Unbanked: Exploring Private
and Public Efforts to Expand Access to the Financial System”, 10 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.


Committee on Foreign Affairs, July 21, Subcommittee on the Middle East, North Africa, and Global Counterterrorism, hearing entitled “People to People: Examining Grassroots Peacebuilding Efforts Between Israelis and Palestinians”, 10 a.m., Webex.

Committee on Homeland Security, July 22, Subcommittee on Intelligence and Counterterrorism, hearing entitled “Terrorism and Digital Financing: How Technology is Changing the Threat”, 10 a.m., 310 Cannon and Webex.

Committee on the Judiciary, July 21, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 1693, the “EQUAL Act”; H.R. 4035, the “Real Justice for Our Veterans Act of 2021”; H.R. 3372, the “The One Stop Shop Community Reentry Program Act of 2021”; and H.R. 4435, the “Fight Notario Fraud Act of 2021”, 10 a.m., 2141 Rayburn and Zoom.


Committee on Oversight and Reform, July 21, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Building Back with Justice: Environmental Justice Is Central to the American Jobs Plan”, 10 a.m., 2154 Rayburn and Zoom.


Committee on Small Business, July 21, Subcommittee on Oversight, Investigations, and Regulations, hearing entitled “SBA’s Role in Climate Solutions”, 10 a.m., 2360 Rayburn and Zoom.

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, July 21, Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation, hearing entitled “Review of Fiscal Year 2022 Budget for the Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation Programs”, 11 a.m., 2167 Rayburn and Zoom.

Committee on Veterans’ Affairs, July 21, Subcommittee on Technology Modernization, hearing entitled “Moving Forward: Evaluating Next Steps for the Department of Veterans Affairs Electronic Health Record Modernization Program”, 2 p.m., HVC–210 and Zoom.


Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, July 21, Subcommittee on Defense Intelligence and Warfighter Support, hearing entitled “Military Intelligence Program Budget Overview Hearing”, 9:30 a.m., HVC–304 Hearing Room. This hearing is closed.

July 22, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Defense Intelligence Agency Budget Hearing”, 9:30 a.m., HVC–304 Hearing Room. This hearing is closed.

Joint Meetings

Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe: July 21, to hold hearings to examine Rodchenkov Act enforcement at the Tokyo 2021 Olympics, 2:30 p.m., SR–428A.
Next Meeting of the SENATE  
10 a.m., Tuesday, July 20  

Senate Chamber  

Program for Tuesday: Senate will resume consideration of the nomination of Kenneth Allen Polite, Jr., of Louisiana, to be an Assistant Attorney General, Department of Justice. Senate will vote on the motions to invoke cloture on the nominations of Kenneth Allen Polite, Jr., and Jennifer Ann Abruzzo, of New York, to be General Counsel of the National Labor Relations Board, at 11:30 a.m. If cloture is invoked on the nomination of Kenneth Allen Polite, Jr., 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 Jennifer Ann Abruzzo until 2:15 p.m. for their respective party conferences.)

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
10 a.m., Tuesday, July 20  

House Chamber  

Program for Tuesday: Consideration of measures under suspension of the Rules.  
Consideration of H.R. 2668—Consumer Protection and Recovery Act (Subject to a Rule).

Extensions of Remarks, as inserted in this issue

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