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# Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 117<sup>th</sup> CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 167

WASHINGTON, TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2021

No. 158

## House of Representatives

The House met at 11 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. SARBANES).

### DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,  
September 14, 2021.

I hereby appoint the Honorable JOHN P. SARBANES 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, deal with us according to Your love, and by Your grace transform all that we set forth to do this day. Reveal Your loving kindness to us. Direct our steps; give us evidence of Your mercy that we would be compelled to follow Your commands and live according to Your law.

It is clearly time, O Lord, for You to act. We are beholden to Your faithful promises to step in on our behalf. Your law is being broken. Your gracious design for peace in our land is being overwhelmed by acts of terrorism. And Your desire for unity is being undermined by seeds of spite and doubt.

When all around us threatens to subvert even our most noble efforts, may we appreciate that as Your servants we must yield our whole selves to the way You would have us go.

When our own eyes fail and we long for Your salvation, may we have faith enough in Your mercy to know that You will give us Your vision.

And when we are depleted of energy and ideas, may we trust that You will grant us discernment and embolden our efforts.

We commit this day, and all it throws in our way, to the redemption of Your hands. And we pray this prayer trusting in Your sovereign name.  
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. The Chair will lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The SPEAKER pro tempore led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

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

### COMMUNICATION FROM CHAIR OF COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the chair of the Committee on Ethics:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
COMMITTEE ON ETHICS,  
Washington, DC, September 7, 2021.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,  
*Speaker, Washington, DC.*

DEAR SPEAKER PELOSI: On August 2, 2021, the Committee on Ethics (Committee) received notice of a fine imposed upon Representative Marjorie Taylor Greene by the Sergeant at Arms pursuant to House Resolution 38 and House Rule II, clause 3(g). Representative Greene did not file an appeal with the Committee prior to the expiration of the time period specified in clause 3(g)(3)(B) of House Rule II.

Sincerely,

THEODORE E. DEUTCH,  
*Chairman.*  
JACKIE WALORSKI,  
*Ranking Member.*

### COMMUNICATION FROM CHAIR OF COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the chair of the Committee on Ethics:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
COMMITTEE ON ETHICS,  
Washington, DC, September 7, 2021.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,  
*Speaker, Washington, DC.*

DEAR SPEAKER PELOSI: On August 2, 2021, the Committee on Ethics (Committee) received notice of a fine imposed upon Representative Chip Roy by the Sergeant at Arms pursuant to House Resolution 38 and House Rule II, clause 3(g). Representative Roy did not file an appeal with the Committee prior to the expiration of the time period specified in clause 3(g)(3)(B) of House Rule II.

Sincerely,

THEODORE E. DEUTCH,  
*Chairman.*  
JACKIE WALORSKI,  
*Ranking Member.*

### ADJOURNMENT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 11(b) of House Resolution 188, the House stands adjourned until 10 a.m. on Friday, September 17, 2021.

Thereupon (at 11 o'clock and 4 minutes a.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until Friday, September 17, 2021, at 10 a.m.

### EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

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

EC-2119. A letter from the Acting Assistant General Counsel for Legislation, Regulation and Energy Efficiency, Department of Energy, transmitting the Department's final rule — Energy Conservation Program: Energy Conservation Standards and Test Procedures for Ceiling Fans [EERE-2013-BT-TP-

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

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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H4521

0050] (RIN: 1904-AD88) received August 20, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-2120. A letter from the Chief, Revenue and Receivables, Financial Operations, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Department's final rule — Assessment and Collection of Regulatory Fees for Fiscal Year 2021 [MB Docket No.: 21-190] received September 10, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-2121. A letter from the Director, Office of Congressional Affairs, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting the Commission's issuance of regulatory guide — Related Steel Structures and Steel-Plate Composite (SC) Walls for other than Reactor Vessels and Containments [Regulatory Guide 1.243, Rev. 0] received August 27, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-2122. A letter from the Director, Office of Congressional Affairs, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting the Commission's NUREG — Final Safety Evaluation of Technical Specifications Task Force Traveler TSTF-554, "Revise Reactor Coolant Leakage Requirements" [NUREG-1430, NUREG-1431, NUREG-1432, NUREG-1433, NUREG-1434, NUREG-2194] received August 27, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-2123. A letter from the Director, Office of Congressional Affairs, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting the Commission's issuance of regulatory guide — Implementation of Aging Management Requirements for Spent Fuel Storage Renewals [Regulatory Guide 3.796, Rev. 0] received August 27, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-2124. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting DC Act 24-169, "Protecting Consumers from Unjust Debt Collection Practices Temporary Amendment Act of 2021"; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

EC-2125. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting DC Act 24-170, "Targeted Historic Preservation Assistance Temporary Amendment Act of 2021"; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

EC-2126. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting DC Act 24-171, "Recess Reprogramming Temporary Amendment Act of 2021"; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

EC-2127. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting DC Act 24-168, "Public Emergency Extension and Eviction and Utility Moratorium Phasing Temporary Amendment Act of 2021"; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

EC-2128. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting DC Act 24-162, "Green Finance Authority Board Quorum Temporary Amendment Act of 2021"; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

EC-2129. A letter from the Director, Office of Acquisition Policy, Office of Government-wide Policy, General Services Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Federal Acquisition Regulation; Technical Amendments [FAC 2021-07; Item V; Docket No.: FAR-2021-0052; Sequence No. 3]

received August 20, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

EC-2130. A letter from the Director, Office of Acquisition Policy, Office of Government-wide Policy, General Services Administration, transmitting the Administration's small entity compliance guide — Federal Acquisition Regulation; Federal Acquisition Circular 2021-07 [Docket No.: FAR-2021-0051, Sequence No. 4] received August 20, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

EC-2131. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Amendment of Class E Airspace; Scott City, KS [Docket No.: FAA-2021-0159; Airspace Docket No.: 21-ACE-6] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received September 10, 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-2132. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Revocation of Class E Airspace; Standish, MI [Docket No.: FAA-2021-0277; Airspace Docket No.: 21-AGL-19] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received September 10, 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-2133. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Amendment of Class E Airspace; Tuscaloosa, AL [Docket No.: FAA-2021-0171; Airspace Docket No.: 21-ASO-4] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received September 10, 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-2134. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Amendment of Area Navigation (RNAV) Route Q-29; Northeastern United States [Docket No.: FAA-2020-1147; Airspace Docket No.: 20-ASO-30] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received September 10, 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-2135. A letter from the Associate Administrator for Policy, FMCSA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Certification for Conducting Driver or Vehicle Inspections, Safety Audits, or Investigations [Docket No.: FMCSA-2019-0081] (RIN: 2126-AA64) received September 10, 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-2136. A letter from the Regulations Writer-Federal Register Liaison, Office of Regulations and Reports Clearance, Social Security Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Removing the Waiting Period for Entitlement to Social Security Disability Insurance Benefits for Individuals With Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis [Docket No.: SSA-2021-0017] (RIN: 0960-A159) received September 10, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

EC-2137. A letter from the Regulations Coordinator, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid

Services, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's final rule — Medicare Program; Hospital Inpatient Prospective Payment Systems for Acute Care Hospitals and the Long-Term Care Hospital Prospective Payment System and Policy Changes and Fiscal Year 2022 Rates; Quality Programs and Medicare Promoting Interoperability Program Requirements for Eligible Hospitals and Critical Access Hospitals; Changes to Medicaid Provider Enrollment; and Changes to the Medicare Shared Savings Program [CMS-1752-F and CMS-1762-F] (RIN: 0938-AU44 and 0938-AU56) received August 20, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); jointly to the Committees on Energy and Commerce and Ways and Means.

## REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi: Committee on Homeland Security. H.R. 4089. A bill to direct the Secretary of Homeland Security to develop and disseminate best practices for rental companies and dealers to report suspicious behavior to law enforcement agencies at the point of sale of a covered rental vehicle to prevent and mitigate acts of terrorism using motor vehicles, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 117-119). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state the Union.

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi: Committee on Homeland Security. H.R. 4611. A bill to direct the Secretary of Homeland Security to issue guidance with respect to certain information and communications technology or services contracts, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 117-120). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi: Committee on Homeland Security. H.R. 4363. A bill to establish a daily reporting requirement for covered contract awards of the Department of Homeland Security, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 117-121). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi: Committee on Homeland Security. H.R. 4691. A bill to establish a K-12 education cybersecurity initiative, and for other purposes; (Rept. 117-122). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

## PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. AMODEI:

H.R. 5243. A bill to modernize the Fallon Range Training Complex in Churchill County, Nevada, through the withdrawal and reservation of additional public lands for military use, to provide for transfer of ownership of certain Federal lands in northern Nevada, to authorize the disposal of certain Federal lands in northern Nevada for economic development, to promote conservation in

northern Nevada, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committees on Armed Services, and Agriculture, 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. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania (for himself and Ms. MACE):

H.R. 5244. A bill to amend the Animal Welfare Act to allow for the adoption or non-laboratory placement of certain animals used in Federal research, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Mr. CASTEN (for himself, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, and Mr. DEUTCH):

H.R. 5245. A bill to require lost or stolen firearms to be reported to law enforcement authorities within 48 hours, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. CHENEY (for herself and Mrs. MILLER of West Virginia):

H.R. 5246. A bill to amend the Federal Meat Inspection Act to allow the interstate sale of State-inspected meat, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Mr. COHEN:

H.R. 5247. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to promote healthy eating and physical activity among children; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. CROW (for himself and Mr. WALTZ):

H.R. 5248. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to authorize the Provider Bridge Program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. DELGADO (for himself and Mr. HUIZENGA):

H.R. 5249. A bill to amend the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act to establish a pilot program to provide selected States with an increased reimbursement for school lunches that are comprised of locally-grown foods, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Ms. GARCIA of Texas:

H.R. 5250. A bill to extend the commitment of the United States to the International Space Station, to develop advanced space suits, and to authorize a stepping stone approach to exploration, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology.

By Mr. GREEN of Texas:

H.R. 5251. A bill to require the Director of the Federal Housing Finance Agency to require each enterprise to include a military service question on the form known as the Uniform Residential Loan Application above the signature line of such application, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. HARDER of California:

H.R. 5252. A bill to amend the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act to award competitive grants for the purpose of developing, offering, improving, and providing educational or career pathway programs for workers, to direct the Secretary of Education to establish a program that awards grants to State coalitions that build or expand career pathways programs in schools within the State, and to establish a program that awards grants to eligible agencies to carry out career pathways programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. JONES (for himself, Ms. PRESSLEY, Ms. TLAIB, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Ms. NEWMAN, Mr. TORRES of New York, Mr. GARCIA of Illinois, Mr. HUFFMAN, Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. BOWMAN, Ms. BUSH, Mr. NADLER, Mr. TAKANO, Ms. MENG, and Ms. JAYAPAL):

H.R. 5253. A bill to amend the Bank Holding Company Act of 1956 and the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act to require disclosure of certain financed emissions, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. LAMB (for himself, Mr. REED, Mr. PANETTA, and Mrs. WALORSKI):

H.R. 5254. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow early childhood educators to take the educator expense deduction, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. LEVIN of California (for himself and Mr. YOUNG):

H.R. 5255. A bill to amend section 7014 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to advance toward full Federal funding for impact aid, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mrs. LURIA (for herself, Mr. GARBARINO, and Ms. DEAN):

H.R. 5256. A bill to provide for the disclosure and sharing of certain policy and claims information under the National Flood Insurance Program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. MCEACHIN:

H.R. 5257. A bill to direct the Federal Communications Commission to establish a program through which eligible individuals may obtain vouchers for the purchase of connected devices, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. PASCRELL:

H.R. 5258. A bill to amend the Trade Act of 1974 to modify the group eligibility requirements under trade adjustment assistance for workers program; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. PETERS (for himself, Ms. JACOBS of California, Mr. CARBAJAL, Mr. VARGAS, Mr. LEVIN of California, and Mr. ISSA):

H.R. 5259. A bill to prohibit the use of Federal funds to close or relocate the Marine Corps Recruit Depot in San Diego, California; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. PETERS (for himself, Mr. SCHRADER, Miss RICE of New York, Mrs. MURPHY of Florida, and Mr. CORREA):

H.R. 5260. A bill to amend titles XI, XVIII, and XIX of the Social Security Act to lower prescription drug prices in the Medicare and Medicaid programs, to improve transparency related to pharmaceutical prices and transactions, to lower patients' out-of-pocket costs, and to ensure accountability to taxpayers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Ways and Means, and the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. SCHWEIKERT (for himself, Mr. WALTZ, Mr. STANTON, and Mr. GRIJALVA):

H.R. 5261. A bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to deem foods containing xylitol as misbranded unless the label or labeling of such foods contains a warning specifying the toxic effects of xylitol for dogs if ingested, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. SCOTT of Virginia (for himself, Mr. WITTMAN, Mr. SARBANES, Mr. BROWN, Mrs. LURIA, and Ms. MACE):

H.R. 5262. A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to establish a Department of Defense program to carry out stormwater management projects on or related to military installations to improve the resilience of military installations and defense access

roads and protect waterways and stormwater-stressed ecosystems; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Ms. SPANBERGER (for herself, Mr. MEEKS, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. WALTZ, Mr. KATKO, Mr. KIM of New Jersey, Ms. SLOTKIN, and Mr. GONZALEZ of Ohio):

H.R. 5263. A bill to designate an Anomalous Health Incidents Interagency Coordinator to coordinate the interagency investigation of, and response to, suspected attacks presenting as anomalous health incidents, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services, and in addition to the Committees on Foreign Affairs, Oversight and Reform, and Energy and Commerce, 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. TENNEY:

H.R. 5264. A bill to expand eligibility for certain burial benefits under the laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. WALTZ (for himself and Mr. LUCAS):

H.R. 5265. A bill to prohibit malign foreign talent recruitment programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology.

By Mr. WALTZ (for himself and Mr. LUCAS):

H.R. 5266. A bill to establish a research security training requirement for Federal research grant personnel, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology.

By Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia (for herself, Ms. JOHNSON of Texas, and Mr. JEFFRIES):

H.R. 5267. A bill to direct the Administrator of the Federal Highway Administration to establish a program to provide grants for reconnecting neighborhoods, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mrs. WAGNER (for herself, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Ms. STEFANIK, Mrs. BUSTOS, and Mr. GUEST):

H.J. Res. 58. A joint resolution to provide for the appointment of Ulysses S. Grant to the grade of General of the Armies of the United States; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mrs. HINSON (for herself, Mr. NEWHOUSE, Mr. FEENSTRA, Mr. GARCIA of California, Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana, Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS, Mr. BACON, Mr. CALVERT, Mrs. BICE of Oklahoma, Mr. ADERHOLT, Mr. CRAWFORD, Mr. MCKINLEY, Ms. STEFANIK, and Mr. TIMMONS):

H. Con. Res. 50. Concurrent resolution expressing the sense of the Congress that the withdrawal of American Forces from the country of Afghanistan does not undermine or diminish the sacrifice, efforts, and accomplishments of our members of the Armed Forces, diplomats, humanitarians, allies, and partners; to the Committee on Armed Services, and in addition to the Committees on Foreign Affairs, and Veterans' Affairs, 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. GOSAR:

H. Res. 636. A resolution directing the Committee on Ethics of the House of Representatives to carry out a pilot program under which the leadership of the House shall utilize body-worn cameras and ensure that the cameras are activated while carrying out official leadership business; to the Committee on House Administration.

By Mr. KELLER:

H. Res. 637. A resolution expressing the sense of Congress that financial institutions

provided copious and necessary assistance as an intermediary between the Small Business Administration and affected businesses during the COVID-19 pandemic; to the Committee on Small Business.

By Mr. LUETKEMEYER (for himself, Mrs. WAGNER, Mrs. HARTZLER, Mr. LONG, Mr. SMITH of Missouri, and Mr. GRAVES of Missouri):

H. Res. 638. A resolution honoring Missourians who made the ultimate sacrifice in Afghanistan; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Ms. MATSUI (for herself, Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, Mrs. DINGELL, Mr. CARSON, Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, and Ms. NORTON):

H. Res. 639. A resolution recognizing September 11, 2021, as a "National Day of Service and Remembrance"; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

By Mr. MOOLENAAR:

H. Res. 640. A resolution expressing support for the designation of the week of September 11 through September 17, 2021, as "Patriot Week"; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

By Mr. NEWHOUSE (for himself, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Mr. BACON, Mr. WESTERMAN, Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS, Mr. STAUBER, Ms. CHENEY, Mr. LAMALFA, Mr. STEWART, Mr. CURTIS, Mr. PANNETTA, Mr. LAMBORN, Mr. VALADAO, Mr. O'HALLERAN, Mr. KILMER, Mr. LUCAS, Mr. CRAWFORD, Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN, Mr. COSTA, Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. JOYCE of Ohio, Mr. SIMPSON, Mr. HILL, Mrs. BUSTOS, Ms. KUSTER, Mr. SMITH of Nebraska, Mr. BENTZ, Mr. OBERNOLTE, Mr. GARAMENDI, Ms. SPANBERGER, and Mr. CASE):

H. Res. 641. A resolution recognizing and celebrating the 75th anniversary of the National Association of Conservation Districts and their commitment to our lands; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Ms. NEWMAN (for herself, Ms. SALAZAR, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Ms. NORTON, Mr. CORREA, Mr. CUELLAR, Mr. NEGUSE, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. COSTA, Mrs. TORRES of California, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, and Mr. ESPAILLAT):

H. Res. 642. A resolution expressing support for recognition of September 14, 2021, as the "National Latino Small Business Day"; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

By Ms. NORTON:

H. Res. 643. A resolution expressing support for dance as a form of valuable exercise and of artistic expression, and for the designation of September 18, 2021, as "National Dance Day"; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. ROY (for himself, Mr. GIBBS, Mr. BABIN, Mr. CARTER of Georgia, Mr. BIGGS, Mr. PERRY, Mr. POSEY, Mr. GOOD of Virginia, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mrs. LESKO, Mrs. BOEBERT, and Mr. BUDD):

H. Res. 644. A resolution of inquiry requesting the President to provide certain documents relating to the operations of U.S. Customs and Border Protection; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. WALTZ:

H. Res. 645. A resolution expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that the Secretary of State should designate the Afghan Taliban as a foreign terrorist organization, freeze all assets of the Government of Afghanistan held in the United States, and use all authority and influence of the United States Government to prohibit the distribution of funds to the Afghan Taliban by other countries and international institutions and organizations; to the Committee on Foreign

Affairs, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. YARMUTH (for himself and Mr. WILSON of South Carolina):

H. Res. 646. A resolution expressing support for designation of the week of September 19 through 25, 2021, as National Adult Education and Family Literacy Week; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

### 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 Mr. AMODEI:

H.R. 5243.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The constitutional authority on which this bill rests is the power of Congress to make rules for the government and regulation of land and naval forces, as enumerated in Article I, Section 8, Clause 14 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania:

H.R. 5244.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution under the General Welfare Clause.

By Mr. CASTEN:

H.R. 5245.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3

By Ms. CHENEY:

H.R. 5246.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Clause 18 of Section 8 of Article I of the Constitution: [The Congress shall have Power] To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

By Mr. COHEN:

H.R. 5247.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

By Mr. CROW:

H.R. 5248.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

to regulate commerce with foreign nations, and among the several states, and with the Indian tribes.

By Mr. DELGADO:

H.R. 5249.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1

By Ms. GARCIA of Texas:

H.R. 5250.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8: "To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof."

By Mr. GREEN of Texas:

H.R. 5251.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Necessary and Proper Clause (Art. 1, Sec. 8, Cl. 18)

By Mr. HARDER of California:

H.R. 5252.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, section 8 of the Constitution of the United States

By Mr. JONES:

H.R. 5253.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, of the United States Constitution

By Mr. LAMB:

H.R. 5254.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution

By Mr. LEVIN of California:

H.R. 5255.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1 Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution

By Mrs. LURIA:

H.R. 5256.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

"U.S. Constitution, Article 9, Necessary and Proper Clause"

By Mr. MCEACHIN:

H.R. 5257.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

By Mr. PASCRELL:

H.R. 5258.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

By Mr. PETERS:

H.R. 5259.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

By Mr. PETERS:

H.R. 5260.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3

By Mr. SCHWEIKERT:

H.R. 5261.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18 of the U.S. Constitution: The Congress shall have the Power to make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

By Mr. SCOTT of Virginia:

H.R. 5262.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Clause 1 of section 8 of article I of the Constitution

By Ms. SPANBERGER:

H.R. 5263.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

By Ms. TENNEY:

H.R. 5264.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article One, Section Eight of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. WALTZ:

H.R. 5265.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18

By Mr. WALTZ:

H.R. 5266.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18

By Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia:

H.R. 5267.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 of the United States Constitution.

By Mrs. WAGNER:

H.J. Res. 58.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 14

#### ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

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

H.R. 3: Mr. LAWSON of Florida.  
 H.R. 55: Mr. HUFFMAN.  
 H.R. 79: Mrs. HAYES.  
 H.R. 82: Mr. MALINOWSKI, Mr. BEYER, Mr. JEFFRIES, Ms. STRICKLAND, Mrs. LAWRENCE, Mr. SOTO, Mr. FOSTER, and Ms. UNDERWOOD.  
 H.R. 259: Ms. DELBENE.  
 H.R. 260: Mrs. TRAHAN and Mr. BOWMAN.  
 H.R. 304: Mr. DESAULNIER.  
 H.R. 560: Mr. VARGAS.  
 H.R. 622: Mr. SWALWELL.  
 H.R. 748: Mrs. FLETCHER.  
 H.R. 792: Mr. YARMUTH, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. RYAN, and Ms. LEE of California.  
 H.R. 804: Mr. GOTTHEIMER.  
 H.R. 897: Mr. AGUILAR.  
 H.R. 909: Mr. AGUILAR.  
 H.R. 944: Ms. ROSS.  
 H.R. 1012: Mr. FOSTER.  
 H.R. 1255: Mr. TONY GONZALES of Texas, Mr. AGUILAR, Mr. TRONE, Mr. RUSH, Mr. O'HALLERAN, Mr. KIM of New Jersey, Mr. RASKIN, Mr. NEGUSE, Mrs. BEATTY, Ms. CHENEY, and Mr. DELGADO.  
 H.R. 1305: Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. PRESSLEY, Mr. QUIGLEY, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mrs. BEATTY, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Mr. AUCHINCLOSS, and Mr. MALINOWSKI.  
 H.R. 1384: Mr. BACON, Mr. COOPER, Mr. CUELLAR, and Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois.  
 H.R. 1466: Mr. GOTTHEIMER.  
 H.R. 1522: Mr. MOULTON.  
 H.R. 1547: Mr. LAWSON of Florida.  
 H.R. 1667: Mr. COSTA and Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER.  
 H.R. 1693: Mr. COOPER.  
 H.R. 1727: Mr. NEGUSE.  
 H.R. 1861: Mr. GOOD of Virginia and Ms. LETTLOW.  
 H.R. 2051: Mrs. HARSHBARGER.  
 H.R. 2102: Mr. CARSON, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, and Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN.  
 H.R. 2119: Ms. SPEIER, Mr. GOTTHEIMER, Mrs. BUSTOS, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. PAPPAS, Mr. COHEN, Mr. RUSH, and Mr. VEASEY.  
 H.R. 2238: Ms. STANSBURY.  
 H.R. 2307: Ms. JAYAPAL.  
 H.R. 2424: Ms. KUSTER.  
 H.R. 2440: Ms. BOURDEAUX.  
 H.R. 2483: Mr. MOORE of Utah.  
 H.R. 2549: Mrs. HAYES and Ms. MENG.  
 H.R. 2613: Mr. NEGUSE.  
 H.R. 2629: Mr. WELCH.  
 H.R. 2731: Mr. PHILLIPS.  
 H.R. 2773: Mr. GALLEGGO.  
 H.R. 2811: Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida and Ms. BASS.  
 H.R. 2827: Mr. NEGUSE.  
 H.R. 2900: Mr. COHEN and Mr. CROW.  
 H.R. 2920: Mr. MCGOVERN.  
 H.R. 3053: Mr. PETERS and Ms. BARRAGÁN.  
 H.R. 3079: Mr. ZELDIN.  
 H.R. 3088: Mr. LEVIN of California.  
 H.R. 3114: Mr. LYNCH.  
 H.R. 3160: Mr. PAPPAS.  
 H.R. 3164: Mr. CARSON.  
 H.R. 3320: Mr. TONKO.  
 H.R. 3321: Ms. GARCIA of Texas, Ms. SPANBERGER, Mr. PANETTA, Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER, and Mr. EVANS.  
 H.R. 3355: Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Ms. BOURDEAUX, Ms. SPANBERGER, Mr. SUOZZI, Ms. PORTER, Mr. POCAN, and Mr. NEGUSE.  
 H.R. 3382: Mr. WOMACK.  
 H.R. 3455: Mr. SOTO and Mr. WALTZ.  
 H.R. 3456: Mr. AGUILAR.  
 H.R. 3472: Mr. LANGEVIN.  
 H.R. 3512: Ms. SPANBERGER.  
 H.R. 3517: Mr. BACON.  
 H.R. 3519: Mr. PETERS.  
 H.R. 3537: Mrs. TORRES of California and Mr. PAPPAS.  
 H.R. 3541: Mr. HUFFMAN.  
 H.R. 3548: Mr. MEEKS.  
 H.R. 3577: Mr. SWALWELL and Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania.  
 H.R. 3580: Mr. KHANNA, Mr. DESAULNIER, and Mr. CASE.  
 H.R. 3592: Mr. NEGUSE.  
 H.R. 3671: Mr. AGUILAR and Mr. WELCH.  
 H.R. 3755: Mr. BISHOP of Georgia and Mr. CLYBURN.  
 H.R. 3771: Mr. KATKO and Ms. MENG.  
 H.R. 3780: Mr. PERLMUTTER and Mr. MCNERNEY.  
 H.R. 3855: Mrs. DEMINGS and Mr. BAIRD.  
 H.R. 3857: Ms. JOHNSON of Texas, Ms. JACOBS of California, Mr. CARSON, and Mr. AGUILAR.  
 H.R. 3860: Mr. ROSENDALE.  
 H.R. 3897: Mrs. LURIA.  
 H.R. 3933: Mr. BROWN.  
 H.R. 3940: Mr. STAUBER.  
 H.R. 3992: Mr. YOUNG.  
 H.R. 4017: Mr. MOORE of Utah.  
 H.R. 4064: Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ.  
 H.R. 4118: Mr. HIGGINS of New York, Mr. COOPER, and Mr. CASTEN.  
 H.R. 4131: Mr. COHEN, Mr. FOSTER, and Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ.  
 H.R. 4134: Mr. SCHIFF and Mr. LAWSON of Florida.  
 H.R. 4179: Mr. NEGUSE.  
 H.R. 4182: Mr. CARSON.  
 H.R. 4202: Mr. COOPER, Ms. UNDERWOOD, and Ms. NORTON.  
 H.R. 4239: Mr. GARBARINO.  
 H.R. 4274: Mr. HARDER of California.  
 H.R. 4310: Ms. DEAN.

H.R. 4390: Mr. CONNOLLY.  
 H.R. 4407: Mr. LYNCH.  
 H.R. 4429: Ms. ADAMS and Mr. AGUILAR.  
 H.R. 4479: Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY.  
 H.R. 4571: Mr. KATKO.  
 H.R. 4603: Mrs. AXNE, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, and Mr. COOPER.  
 H.R. 4612: Mr. RASKIN.  
 H.R. 4627: Ms. NORTON.  
 H.R. 4645: Mr. YOUNG.  
 H.R. 4728: Ms. OMAR, Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, and Mr. GRIJALVA.  
 H.R. 4735: Mr. CARSON and Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER.  
 H.R. 4738: Mr. PFLUGER.  
 H.R. 4820: Mr. PERRY.  
 H.R. 4844: Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois.  
 H.R. 4859: Mr. CRIST.  
 H.R. 4870: Mrs. AXNE.  
 H.R. 4878: Mr. BLUMENAUER and Mr. SARBANES.  
 H.R. 4903: Ms. MATSUI and Ms. LEE of California.  
 H.R. 4914: Mrs. WAGNER.  
 H.R. 4943: Mr. PETERS.  
 H.R. 4944: Mr. PETERS.  
 H.R. 4951: Mrs. NAPOLITANO and Ms. BONAMICI.  
 H.R. 4961: Mr. KILMER.  
 H.R. 4965: Mr. LYNCH, Mr. CICILLINE, and Ms. SHERRILL.  
 H.R. 4967: Mr. CAWTHORN.  
 H.R. 5026: Mr. FITZPATRICK and Mr. LAWSON of Florida.  
 H.R. 5081: Mr. CARSON.  
 H.R. 5096: Mr. POCAN, Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ, and Mr. TRONE.  
 H.R. 5127: Mr. WENSTRUP and Mr. HUDSON.  
 H.R. 5136: Mr. BROOKS and Mr. KELLER.  
 H.R. 5142: Mr. MRVAN, Mr. HERN, and Mrs. HAYES.  
 H.R. 5170: Mr. POCAN and Mr. EVANS.  
 H.R. 5174: Mr. TURNER.  
 H.R. 5226: Mr. CARSON, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida, Ms. LEE of California, and Ms. MENG.  
 H.R. 5227: Ms. OMAR.  
 H.R. 5230: Mr. VAN DREW.  
 H.J. Res. 50: Mr. DESJARLAIS and Mrs. HARSHBARGER.  
 H. Con. Res. 42: Mr. HILL and Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY.  
 H. Res. 114: Mr. SHERMAN and Mr. STANTON.  
 H. Res. 119: Mr. RASKIN, Mr. SHERMAN, Mr. STANTON, Mr. DEFAZIO, and Miss RICE of New York.  
 H. Res. 131: Mr. PALLONE.  
 H. Res. 259: Mr. GOTTHEIMER.  
 H. Res. 290: Mr. SMITH of Washington.  
 H. Res. 336: Mr. LANGEVIN.  
 H. Res. 415: Mr. FORTENBERRY.  
 H. Res. 438: Mr. BLUMENAUER.  
 H. Res. 461: Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York.  
 H. Res. 565: Mr. NEGUSE.  
 H. Res. 589: Ms. ROSS.  
 H. Res. 608: Mr. CRAWFORD.  
 H. Res. 620: Mr. BUCSHON.  
 H. Res. 631: Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Ms. OMAR, Mr. AGUILAR, and Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia.



United States  
of America

# Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 117<sup>th</sup> CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 167

WASHINGTON, TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2021

No. 158

## Senate

The Senate met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable RAPHAEL G. WARNOCK, a Senator from the State of Georgia.

### PRAYER

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

Let us pray.

O God, who, by Your glorious power, brought hope into our lives, fill our lawmakers with Your peace. In the intricate challenges they face, provide them with the ability to persevere. Through life's storms, Lord, may they experience a peace because of their palpable connection with Your divine presence. In Your boundless compassion, be for them a shade by day and a defense by night. Give them the wisdom to please You by striving to live blameless lives.

We pray in Your merciful Name. Amen.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

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

### APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,  
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,  
Washington, DC, September 14, 2021.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable RAPHAEL G. WARNOCK,

a Senator from the State of Georgia, to perform the duties of the Chair.

PATRICK J. LEAHY,  
President pro tempore.

Mr. WARNOCK 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.

### RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

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

### BUSINESS BEFORE THE SENATE

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, we have a busy day in store for the Senate as we aim to hold a number of important votes before the start of Yom Kippur.

Today, we will vote to advance four Presidential nominations. First, we will confirm James Kvaal to be Under Secretary of Education, and we will also confirm both David Estudillo and Angel Kelley to serve as district judges in Washington and Massachusetts, respectively.

This afternoon, we will also advance the nomination of Ms. Veronica Rossman of Colorado, who has been nominated by President Biden to sit on the Tenth Circuit Court of Appeals. Ms. Rossman has spent practically her entire legal career in public service as a Federal defender, giving a voice in the courtroom to those who often cannot afford legal representation.

She is also an immigrant, who fled Russia with her parents as a child after her family endured anti-Semitic persecution in their home country. She understands personally the damage faced by those who endure discrimination.

If confirmed, Ms. Rossman would be the only Federal defender to sit on the Tenth Circuit, and one of the few in the entire country. I am proud to have nominated Eunice Lee to the Second Circuit Court of New York. She, too, has been a Federal defender.

We also have plenty of prosecutors and corporate lawyers wearing black robes.

Like so many other of President Biden's judicial nominees, Ms. Rossman is going to bring a sorely needed perspective to our courts. The more we work to make our courts reflective of the diversity of this country, both demographic and professionally, the more we will strengthen the public's trust in our judicial system.

Now, secondly, today, the Senate Democrats will also continue work to turn President Biden's Build Back Better agenda into law. It bears repeating: This is a historic effort. This is not just another simple piece of legislation. We are laying a foundation for another century of American prosperity. Just like the Great Society and the New Deal before it, our legislation will bring transformational change to help build ladders so that those can climb up into the middle class, while making it easier for those already in the middle class to enjoy that middle class life and stay there. Too many in the middle class worry they are going to slip out with all the changes occurring in our society. We strengthen their ability to stay.

And too many who are trying to climb those ladders find the ladders steep and unavailable. We are providing those ladders so they can get there, too. It is strong, bold, important legislation, and it is really a privilege to be here in the Senate and consider something as strong and bold as this.

Later today, our caucus will discuss the latest elements of the reconciliation bill. Working with our colleagues in the House, we will have met the target date of September 15 set in the

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



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budget resolution for producing text to review.

I expect our committee chairs will provide an overview of all the work that each of their committees have done over the last 4 weeks in drafting legislative text, and the entire caucus will have the chance to offer feedback so we can continue to move this process forward.

This will continue to be a collaborative process. Everyone—everyone—is going to have input into this legislation. But, of course, our unity is our strength, and if we are not unified with 50 votes, we can't get anything done. So we all must come together.

Now, I am pleased to say, after working for weeks over the summer on our reconciliation bill, we are making great progress toward bringing the bill to the floor.

Now, while Democrats are fighting to strengthen the middle class, our Republican colleagues, unfortunately, are resorting to the same, tired, predictable objections they raise about practically any Democratic proposal. Rather than explain why they oppose supporting families or expanding healthcare or taking action on climate change, they spent the last several months recycling old accusations about "liberal wish lists." And rather than engage our policies on the merits and have a real debate, too often they raised unwarranted and incorrect points about how these programs will impact inflation.

I remind my colleagues of a report released not long ago by the chief economist at Moody's Analytics, Mr. Mark Zandi. When Mr. Zandi examined the Democrats' two main legislative proposals, our infrastructure bill and our Build Back Better legislation, he concluded these packages would provide a massive boost to our economy. Specifically, he said our program would "lift the economy's longer-term growth potential" and would "lift productivity and labor force growth"; that is, our proposal will do exactly what we said it would do, according to this impartial arbiter, Mark Zandi.

And as for the Republicans' overheated rhetoric on inflation, Mr. Zandi dismisses such concerns as "overdone" and said our two infrastructure bills are designed to "ease"—his words—inflation pressures.

Let me repeat that. According to Moody's top economist—hardly a fervent liberal—the Democratic proposals would actually ease inflation pressures, not raise them.

When you strengthen worker productivity, when you increase supply chains, the push to inflation decreases—decreases. And he also said that, in the long term, it would help grow our economy so that more Americans can get to and stay in the middle class.

Compare that to the signature accomplishments that Senate Republicans forced when they were in charge: a massive tax break for corporations

and the wealthy that did little to help everyday Americans.

That is the difference between a Democratic majority and a Republican one. We are fighting to strengthen American workers and American families. Republicans seem only worried about protecting those at the very top.

And, in addition, to those with inflationary concerns, we are going to pay for our proposal. The Trump tax cuts, which every Republican voted for, created a \$2 trillion deficit.

So let's be realistic here. Let's be honest here. The charges of runaway inflation are just wrong, especially when you consider we are paying for it, when Republicans were so willing to give tax cuts to the rich without paying for them at all.

#### VOTING RIGHTS

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, now, on another subject—one that the Presiding Officer cares about a great deal, among the many other things you care about a great deal—voting rights. All year long, Senate Democrats have committed to passing legislation to protect the most sacrosanct right in our democracy, the right to vote. On two occasions, Senate Democrats voted unanimously to begin debate in the Senate on this critical issue, and both times Republicans formed a wall of total opposition against any progress on voting rights in the U.S. Senate.

But Republicans' refusal to work with us is no excuse for not getting something done. So later today, my colleague, Senator KLOBUCHAR, along with Senators KAIN, KING, MANCHIN, MERKLEY, PADILLA, TESTER, and WARNOCK, will be introducing the Freedom to Vote Act, a compromise voting rights bill that I intend to schedule a vote on in the very near future.

To piece this bill together, I am proud to have convened and worked with eight Members of my caucus—four progressives and four moderates—in bringing this bill to fruition. The compromise proposal contains many of the important provisions of previous voting rights bills championed by Senate Democrats, particularly by my colleague Senator MERKLEY. It will protect the right to vote and put a stop to partisan gerrymandering and the scourge of dark money in our politics. Critically, the legislation also incorporates important feedback from election officials and includes new measures to promote greater voter confidence in our elections while stopping partisan election subversion. This is a good proposal, one that nobody in this Chamber should oppose.

My colleague Senator MANCHIN is working with Republicans to secure support for the bill, and we look forward to hearing what changes they might make on legislation. I applaud Senator MANCHIN for his work here. He has always said that he wants to try and bring Republicans on, and now with the support of Democrats and this

compromise bill that Senator MANCHIN had great input into, he can go forward in that regard.

The fact of the matter is that this legislation is critical for stopping some of the most egregious assaults against voting rights happening at the State level. A few weeks ago, the Governor of Texas signed one of the most sweeping voter suppression bills in the entire country. It comes on the heels of other restrictions sprouting across the country—from ending election day registration in Montana, limiting after-hour drop boxes in Florida, and even making it a crime to give food and water to voters at the polls in Georgia.

No one can look at these restrictions with a straight face and say they have a legitimate purpose. They have only one goal. It is a despicable goal. It is a nasty goal, making it harder for younger, poorer, non-White, and typically Democratic voters to access the ballot.

Republicans lost the election. Biden is President. I am majority leader. Instead of doing what you are supposed to do in a democracy—win over the people you didn't win before—they are trying to stop the people who didn't vote for them from voting. That is autocratic, anti-democratic—small "D"—and not what America is all about. It is a new phase of what used to be called "Jim Crow."

The Freedom to Vote Act is a necessary step to put an end to these assaults on the franchise. As majority leader, it is my intention to hold a vote on this bill as soon as next week, as I mentioned.

#### DEBT CEILING

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, now, finally, on debt ceiling. In the long history of our country—the long, long history—the United States has never defaulted on its obligations to pay its debt. The full faith and credit of the United States has been the bedrock of our country's economic prosperity—a spotless record that both parties have, for years, worked together to preserve.

No matter who was President, Democrat or Republican, in the past, the other party always stepped up to the plate and said: We can't let the country default.

Until most recently, when President Trump was in office, Democrats stepped up on three separate occasions to work with Republicans to suspend the debt ceiling and continue to ensure that the U.S. was able to pay its bills, even when there was a Democratic majority in the House. We did not resort to hostage-taking or proclaim that it was the other side's responsibility. We simply knew that when it came to the debt ceiling, it was important to put aside political differences and act responsibly, no matter who sits in the Oval Office.

We know that failing to raise the debt ceiling would be—as the Republican leader has said in the past when

Trump was President and he was arguing that Democrats should join him, would be a disaster. Well, if anything, that is an understatement.

Just yesterday, one top forecaster said that “a failure to raise the debt limit will have serious negative consequences.” So in the immediate future, we need to raise the debt ceiling again. As in previous instances, it must, must, be a bipartisan endeavor, and the reason is simple: We have to get this done.

But much of the recent debt we need to pay for was incurred during the Trump administration. In fact, President Trump added nearly \$8 trillion to the national debt, \$5½ trillion of which was since the last time the debt limit was suspended until Trump’s final day in office.

So, in other words, \$5½ trillion of this debt is totally under Republican management, in a sense, because Trump was the President and Leader MCCONNELL was the majority leader. Democrats think that we got that. That is when the debt was created, with Republican votes—lots of Republican votes. Both sides, led by a Republican Senate, as I said, incurred much of this debt. Senators from both parties overwhelmingly voted in support of the many laws that contributed to this obligation. So neither party can wash its hands of responsibility to pay the bills.

Leader MCCONNELL keeps talking about the new spending the Democrats have done. That is not this debt. This debt, \$5½ trillion, was all under Trump and when McConnell was the majority leader. Leader MCCONNELL was the majority leader.

Some Republicans recklessly, irresponsibly, so overwhelmingly politically seem eager to push our economy to the brink of total catastrophe by suggesting they will oppose any effort to raise the debt ceiling. And rather than urging their colleagues to immediately drop this reckless idea, the Republican leader—shame on him—seems to be giving it his blessing, if not promoting it.

If the United States defaults on its debt, it will harm every single American in this country, including potentially those who rely on Social Security and the members of our military. The consequences will reverberate around the world and will cause irreparable harm to the global economy at a time when we are all working to lift ourselves out of a once-in-a-century pandemic.

So any efforts to play nasty, political games with the full faith and credit of the United States is reckless, irresponsible, and despicable. It could pose permanent damage to the U.S. economy and is a complete nonstarter.

In America, when it is time to pay the bills, we do it without exception.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

#### RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

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

#### DEBT CEILING

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, here is a quote to start the day:

I do think we’re in very serious danger of repeating almost all the mistakes of the 1960s and early 1970s.

That is Larry Summers, the senior advisor to two Democratic Presidents, about the risk of inflation we face today.

As one report explained:

The former Treasury secretary has been warning since February that President Joe Biden’s big-spending agenda was creating the risk of an inflation spike this year, potentially cutting into the economic recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic.

Oh, but Washington Democrats have spent trillions—trillions—of dollars on pet liberal projects. They have been printing and wasting money like there is no tomorrow, and American families are hurting as a result.

Inflation has more than overtaken the average worker’s wage growth since last year. Employers are raising wages higher and higher, but their workers’ paychecks go less and less far. Families’ incomes and savings are eroding right before their eyes.

Democrats have done this proudly—proudly—on a party-line basis. Back in 2020, during the teeth of the COVID emergency, Congress worked across party lines to pass massive rescue packages that Republicans and Democrats had written together. Virtually every serious expert agreed that after the last relief bill that we passed in December, the economy was primed and ready to go.

But our Democratic colleagues wanted more. Like they admitted from the start of the pandemic, they wanted to use the crisis to “restructure things to fit [their] vision” [from a temporary emergency to permanent socialism].

They bragged the bipartisan bill they passed in March was the most leftwing legislation in American history. Now they want to dwarf that bill with a reckless taxing-and-spending spree that would cost trillions more and bury the country in job-killing tax hikes.

When it comes to spending and the economy, President Biden, Speaker PELOSI, and the Democratic leader have made a conscious decision: They don’t want Republican-governing partners. They want to go it alone. Well, with one exception—just one exception.

No, Republicans won’t have any input into the massive, reckless tax-

ing-and-spending spree that will stick middle-class families with higher costs, lower wages, and a socialist country they didn’t vote for.

But Democrats do want Republicans’ help with just one thing. They want us to help raise the credit limit to make it happen. They want us to help clear the path for their partisan, job-killing agenda, which we oppose.

So let’s make this perfectly clear, in case anybody is in doubt. The debt suspension that just expired in August automatically covered the borrowing that had been accumulated before that date. This is the discussion about the future. This isn’t the last 4 years, when we were reaching bipartisan government funding agreements, bipartisan appropriations, and bipartisan COVID bills.

Democrats have made a different choice. They want to make policy all by themselves. So they can come up with the financing on their own as well. The Democratic leaders have every tool and procedure they need to handle the debt limit on a partisan basis, just like they are choosing to handle everything else.

#### AFGHANISTAN

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, now, on a completely different matter, providing for the common defense and protecting the American people is one of the fundamental responsibilities our Founders entrusted to the Federal Government. It is a core obligation of the Commander in Chief.

Yet, to a deadly degree, a parade of mistakes in Afghanistan tells us President Biden and his team have failed this most basic test of competence. For 20 years, the United States has successfully kept terrorists from staging another major attack on our homeland.

Over the years, we have reduced our own military presence in Afghanistan, secured greater assistance in foreign partners, and supported local Afghan forces who did the vast majority of the fighting. This strategy kept al-Qaida on the run. It kept the Taliban from taking control, and it kept Afghanistan from becoming a safe haven for terror.

In only a matter of months, President Biden and his team have squandered all of that—squandered it. The collapse we witnessed wasn’t inevitable. It didn’t happen on its own. It happened because President Biden pulled the plug on our Afghan partners and pulled the rug out from under our allies who were with us in this shared fight.

Everyone seemed to realize this is a historic disaster for the United States, except maybe the President and his loyal retainers.

Secretary Blinken points to the frantic evacuation of 100,000 desperate people as a huge success. Seriously? They initially didn’t envision having to evacuate anyone. The number of people evacuated is not a metric of success for



this administration; it is a measure of their failure.

Back in April, my colleague the Democratic leader heaped praise on what he called President Biden's "careful and thought-out plan with a real timetable and a firm end date." Does he stand by this lavish praise for a careful and thought-out plan? Crickets. Was it wise to conduct our retreat during the height of the fighting season? Was it sound strategy to preemptively abandon the strategic Bagram Air Base in the middle of the night without telling our partners? Was it careful and prudent to tie our departure to the 20th anniversary of September 11?

Our botched retreat from a so-called endless war cost more American lives than nearly the prior 2 years combined. And make no mistake, the war against terror hasn't ended—far, far from it. In a rare moment of candor, the Biden administration's own experts have admitted explicitly that we will face new terrorist threats from inside Afghanistan sooner rather than later. We will have to face a more entrenched and emboldened enemy with fewer resources, fewer friends, and more constraints.

So virtually every reason and advantage that President Biden said this policy would bring about has already proven absolutely false.

The administration said leaving Afghanistan would let us focus more resources on China, but its catastrophic retreat has tied up even more resources, including strategic naval assets from the Indo-Pacific. And while the administration's officials are consumed—consumed—with this catastrophe, China is cultivating deeper ties with the Taliban.

The administration told us our military and intelligence community could keep terrorists at bay with over-the-horizon capabilities, but longer distances, fewer assets, and less intelligence are already taking their toll, and innocent civilians appear to be paying the price.

Even still, the White House continues to peddle misleading comparisons with operations in other theaters, ignoring the unique challenges of keeping close eyes on a landlocked country with a hostile government thousands of miles from U.S. bases.

Administration officials like to say there is no imminent threat posed by al-Qaida emanating from Afghanistan. But their abandonment of Afghanistan has already allowed that threat to grow, and we will have fewer resources with which to confront the gathering threat. According to press reporting, just this very morning, the Deputy Director of the CIA has acknowledged they are seeing al-Qaida terrorists flowing back—back—into Afghanistan, and our intelligence capabilities are already diminished.

But there is a larger pattern of broken promises. The President said that everyone who wanted to get out would be able to do so, that we would leave no

one behind. Instead, we left Americans and vulnerable Afghans behind.

Secretary Blinken said the Taliban committed to allow Americans and vulnerable Afghans safe passage to the airport. Instead, we know Americans and Afghans were prevented from getting to the airport. Many still cannot leave.

The administration said that we would have tremendous leverage over the Taliban, that they would need international recognition and funding. Yet the Taliban doesn't seem to be terribly concerned with global PR.

The administration said they would hold the Taliban accountable. They haven't.

The administration seems to believe the Taliban would establish an inclusive and representational government. Look, we are talking about a government of medieval theocrats—medieval theocrats—the same killers, kidnapers, and hostage-takers who aided and abetted the terrorist architects of 9/11.

Well, their government is, however, inclusive in one way. It is inclusive in one way. Listen to this. It includes four—four—of the Guantanamo Bay terrorists released by President Obama in exchange for Bowe Bergdahl; four people who were at GTMO, exchanged for Bowe Bergdahl. And that is only part of the government. It also includes a senior Haqqani terrorist with a \$5 million bounty on his head and American blood on his hands—another top official in the government. This is not a government that cares about staying in the good graces of the so-called international community.

Enough fluff. Enough spin. It is time for hard truths and accountability. The Biden administration's conduct over the past several months demands thorough instigation by the Senate. That will begin with Secretary Blinken's hearing at the Foreign Relations Committee today. I hope the Secretary and the administration he represents are prepared to answer some tough questions about past decisions, as well as future plans. The American people and the vulnerable partners we have left behind deserve nothing less.

#### CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Morning business is closed.

#### EXECUTIVE SESSION

#### EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of James Richard Kvaal, of Massachusetts, to be Under Secretary of Education.

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

#### BUSINESS BEFORE THE SENATE

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, in just a moment, I want to talk a little bit about the situation in Afghanistan. But before I do that, I just wanted to speak to something that the majority leader said earlier regarding some of the upcoming business that we have to deal with this fall.

We have a whole series of deadlines in front of us. The fiscal year ends on September 30, meaning that we have to at some point fund the government, which presumably would be in the form of a continuing resolution. We are told that the House of Representatives, when they move that and send it over here, will include a debt-limit increase.

The debt limit does run out, and we will hit that at some point. There are varying estimates of when exactly that would be—some say as early as mid-October; some say perhaps mid-November—but inevitably that will be upon us. There has been a discussion here about how that ought to be lifted and who ought to deliver the votes to get that done.

I just want to make the point that the majority leader, as he was down here making his remarks earlier, indicated that this was all debt that was accumulated during the previous administration. Certainly there was some debt because, obviously, during the coronavirus pandemic, all of us responded in a very bipartisan way. Most of the debt was at that point in time. It was the votes that we made in March of 2020 and subsequently to that.

Of course, there was another \$2 trillion earlier this year in February, which no Republican voted for—that was all Democratic votes—most of which had nothing to do with the virus; most of which had to do with other elements of their agenda, including expanding the government.

But, nevertheless, when the debt limit hit its expiration at the end of July, it reset, and it covered everything up until that point. What we are talking about now is raising the debt limit to accommodate trillions and trillions of new spending proposed by the Democrats here in Washington and by the President and his administration.

It strikes me, at least, that that being the case, if the Democrats on their own, without a single Republican vote—and there won't be any Republican votes for the \$3½ trillion bill they are talking about, which the Committee for a Responsible Federal Budget says really isn't \$3½ trillion; it is \$5½ trillion—\$5½ trillion of new spending, massive expansion of the government, financed some with tax increases but inevitably some with adding to the debt—that it would make sense, since the Democrats are going to do that through reconciliation, which is a purely partisan exercise, with only their votes, that it could accommodate

an increase in the debt limit to pay for all of that spending.

I think that is a fair—very fair way to look at this. It strikes me, at least, that since the Democrats have embarked upon this one-party-rule approach, that if they are going to spend another \$3½ to \$5½ trillion, that they ought to raise the debt limit to accommodate all that additional spending. I think that is a reasonable way to approach this, and I, frankly, think it is consistent if you look at what has happened in the past.

The last time we raised the debt limit was in the summer of 2019. That was a bipartisan deal, and it was a bipartisan deal that actually put caps on spending. We were limiting spending as we were raising the debt limit. Republicans and Democrats joined together at the time to do that.

The spending that I referenced in March of 2020, the \$4½ trillion or thereabouts that was spent on the response to the pandemic, was also bipartisan. In fact, it was so bipartisan, it passed in the Senate 96 to 0. Does anybody here ever remember anything around here passing 96 to 0, particularly of that consequence? Clearly—clearly—there was strong bipartisan support for doing something that needed to be done in response to the worst pandemic we have seen in this country in a century.

Those were things that were done in a bipartisan fashion. Now, this is an entirely different scenario. And I don't think anybody can dispute the fact that the Democrats, as they embark upon this \$3½ trillion reckless tax-and-spending spree, and, again, other estimates—the Committee for a Responsible Federal Budget says it is not \$3½ trillion; it is actually \$5½ trillion when you look at the spend out in the various budget windows and timelines.

But let's just say for the sake of argument that it is \$3½ trillion to \$5½ trillion. It is still a massive amount of spending, none of which is related to the coronavirus, all of which is part of a dramatic expansion of government, which I have referred to before here on the floor as the “free everything” bill—literally cradle to grave, the government, the Federal Government, will take care of you—in addition to a lot of other leftwing agenda priorities like green energy provisions and all sorts of things in this that are Democratic priorities with no buy-in from Republicans, no attempt to reach out to Republicans or to do anything in a bipartisan way.

This is a strictly, purely partisan exercise in which the Democrats are trying to include things that have absolutely no relationship to spending, debt, or revenues, which is what the reconciliation process is designed for.

They are talking about doing immigration—immigration—major, major policy that needs to be done on a bipartisan basis that affects this country in a profound way, as we can see from the crisis at the border. Already in the

month of July of this year, there was a 420-percent increase over the previous year in the number of illegal crossings. Two hundred and twelve thousand people came across the border illegally just in the month of July. It is a major, consequential crisis. The Democrats are going to try to do something to legalize people who are here illegally without addressing the other elements of the immigration debate on a strictly partisan basis as a part of the reconciliation bill. This is a purely, purely partisan exercise done without any input from Republicans.

I don't think there is a single Republican who ought to be pushed into or feel like they in any way need to support the massive expansion of government we are talking about here, the trillions and trillions and trillions of dollars in new spending.

That is what the debt limit is about. It is about raising the amount of debt, the amount that this country can borrow, to pay for a massive expansion—massive expansion, reckless expansion—of our government that moves us more in the direction of a Western European social democracy rather than the American country that I think we all know and love.

We have a heritage in this country. It is built around freedom. It is built around individual responsibility. It is built on the need to protect our country and maintain a strong national defense. I think that is one thing I hope that, as we look at spending, we can agree upon.

But this massive expansion of what they call social or human infrastructure is nothing more and nothing less than the biggest expansion of government that we have seen literally in decades, and it will be financed—some—with tax increases, which I could spend a lot of time talking about, which will harm the economy, but also with additional debt.

And that debt, the debt that is acquired for the huge runup in spending that will be supported purely by Democrats through reconciliation, a procedure that is a partisan procedure, that ought to be paid for—that ought to be done by Democrat votes. And it can be done. There is a way in which the reconciliation procedure can be used to raise the debt limit to pay for all of the new spending that the Democrats have in this bill.

So when they get down here and talk about how important it is to be bipartisan, well, it would be one thing if there was actually any kind of a bipartisan negotiation going on, but there isn't. And the last time the debt limit was raised, there was, in 2019, and at that time it was about caps. It was about reducing spending. There was a bipartisan agreement to reduce spending as the debt limit was being increased.

The other thing I would mention in response to what the majority leader said earlier is that the debt that was accumulated in the previous adminis-

tration, much of which was done on a bipartisan basis in response to the biggest pandemic that this country has seen in a hundred years, in March of 2020—\$4.5 trillion of that debt was put on the bill because of a bipartisan agreement that was reached, as I said earlier, 96 to 0. Ninety-six to 0 was the vote here in the U.S. Senate.

So Democrats want to go down this path. If they want to spend, spend, spend like there is no tomorrow and tax, tax, tax like there is no tomorrow and borrow, borrow, borrow like there is no tomorrow, then they ought to pay, pay, pay with their votes when it comes to raising the debt limit and, unfortunately, handing the bill for that to our kids and grandkids.

#### AFGHANISTAN

Mr. President, 20 years ago, on a clear September morning, the unthinkable happened: an attack on our Nation here at home on our own soil. Almost 3,000 Americans died that day, and our Nation reeled. But in the midst of grief and fear, there was also hope.

We saw evil on September 11, but in the days and weeks that followed, we saw good as well: the first responders who raced to the scene and spent the weeks after combing through the rubble, the heroic Americans who fought back against the terrorists on United Flight No. 93, the hours-long lines for blood donations as Americans scrambled to do anything they could to help.

And out of the ashes of the World Trade Center and the Pentagon and the field near Shanksville, PA, came a new birth of patriotism and resolve. America might be bloodied, but she would not break. Evil and terror would not win.

The 9/11 generation of warriors and intelligence personnel took the fight to the terrorists in the Middle East and around the world. Our men and women in uniform dismantled terrorist safe havens, disrupted terrorist groups, thwarted attacks, and hunted down and delivered justice to Osama bin Laden.

In Afghanistan, the downfall of the Taliban at the hands of our soldiers and our NATO allies allowed a generation of Afghans to grow up in freedom.

I was honored to get to spend part of September 11 with members of the South Dakota Air National Guard, many of whom served overseas in the fight against terrorism.

As we marked the 20th anniversary of September 11 on Saturday, our soldiers and our veterans should have been able to reflect on their successes in the fight against terrorism over the past two decades, but I know that today many of them are struggling with the recent events in Afghanistan.

The U.S. disastrous, hasty withdrawal is a stain on our Nation's history and a betrayal of the men and women who fought there. But I hope they know that their sacrifices and the sacrifices of their comrades were not in vain. As I said, their actions enabled a generation of Afghans to grow up free from the oppressive hand of the

Taliban and kept the country from being a haven for al-Qaida and other terrorists.

Despite the grim current situation in Afghanistan, I am convinced that the seeds of freedom sown by our military men and women will yet bear fruit on Afghan soil.

I and many others warned that a total troop withdrawal in Afghanistan that ignored conditions on the ground was going to be a strategic disaster, and it has been. The United States has historically maintained a limited military presence in foreign countries when it is in our national security interest to do so. And with the presence of just 2,500 to 3,000 troops, we were maintaining stability for a country that was fighting to find its way toward freedom and democracy and simultaneously protecting the interests of our own country.

All of that, of course, is now at an end. President Biden's disastrous decision to completely withdraw U.S. troops on a timeline he announced to our enemies allowed the Taliban to bide their time until our ultimate departure. American citizens are still trapped in Afghanistan, and thousands of Afghans who worked with U.S. troops and U.S. intelligence are in great danger.

And Afghanistan is well on its way to once again becoming a terrorist haven. In fact, the Taliban has already appointed terrorists to top posts in its new government. There is also every reason to fear that government oppression will once again become the norm in Afghanistan, particularly—particularly—for women and girls.

We heard over and over again that President Biden was going to restore America's standing in the world and repair our relationships with our allies, particularly our NATO allies. In fact, he has done the opposite. His Afghanistan disaster is a national embarrassment. He failed our troops; he failed the American people; he failed our allies; and he failed the Afghans who risked their lives with and for us.

The Parliament of a key U.S. ally, the United Kingdom, condemned President Biden in the strongest terms for his dishonorable withdrawal from Afghanistan. The fact that we have left behind thousands of Afghans who worked with our country and whom we promised to protect is unconscionable. It is a stain on our country's record that will not easily be wiped away.

I hope—I really hope—that the President does everything within his power to get Afghans who worked with us and any remaining U.S. citizens out of the country as soon as humanly possible.

In the coming weeks, the relevant committees in the House and Senate need to conduct thorough oversight and investigations to understand why this withdrawal was done in a manner that further empowered and strengthened the Taliban and their al-Qaida allies. We also need to discover why there was no effective plan to get our

citizens and our Afghan allies to safety.

The scenes of chaos at Hamid Karzai Airport should never have happened, and we need to find out why they did. Thirteen brave Americans died protecting our withdrawal: 11 marines, 1 soldier, and 1 sailor. It is hard not to wonder if their deaths could have been avoided had there been a better plan in place for evacuation. The families of these men and women and the American people deserve answers, and the Biden administration must provide it.

The weeks of August 2021 will live in infamy. The President's ill-considered, untimely withdrawal and complete lack of an effective plan to evacuate Americans and our Afghan allies created a humanitarian crisis and the conditions that allowed the Taliban to swiftly take over the country.

The President's actions have helped condemn women and girls and the entire Afghan people to once again live under pre-9/11 oppression, and he has emboldened terrorists and increased the security risk facing our Nation.

It is tragic that all the good we have done in Afghanistan has come to this. I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. PADILLA). The Senator from Alabama.

HISTORICALLY BLACK COLLEGES AND  
UNIVERSITIES

Mr. TUBERVILLE. Mr. President, sometimes we don't all agree on things here in this Chamber, but I think we can all agree that a quality education has the power to uplift and transform someone's life. It is the key to freedom and the key to opportunity.

I know this because I have seen it firsthand. I have coached and mentored hundreds of student athletes over my 40-year career. I witnessed the difference an education can make in the outcome of someone's life, how it truly creates a pathway to success.

In fact, that is one of the reasons I was inspired to be an advocate for better educational opportunities for all Americans—because investing in our children's education is investing in our country. It is like putting a downpayment on our country's future success by creating opportunity.

I have recruited hundreds and hundreds of students from across our country. I have been in their homes. I have seen how they live, and I have seen how they have grown up. Unfortunately, for many children from difficult backgrounds, a large percent coming from one- or no-parent homes, real opportunities can be hard to come by—very hard.

Regardless of what town that they lived in or what their family was like, I wanted my athletes to know that education can open many, many doors. Most of them understood and appreciated. As I have said many times before, the only thing that this country owes you as a citizen is an opportunity, and I still believe that is true.

There is a lot that goes into making the decision to go to college. Students

often think first about the cost, or they could be the first in their families to attend college. My parents didn't attend college. One worked in manufacturing. The other worked on a line. They were very supportive of my decision, but I still had to figure out a lot on my own, and it is a huge decision.

But there is always the question: Is this the right place for me? Will this school provide me with a path forward for success and a productive future?

Many students across the country have turned to historically Black colleges and universities, better known as HBCUs, to answer these questions because of the pathway HBCUs provide. While they are respected for their strong traditions, HBCUs are the ultimate opportunity creators for students all across this country. Serving nearly 300,000 students annually in 21 States and territories, HBCUs have made tuition costs more affordable, costing 30 percent less, on average, than other higher education institutions. And because of that, 60 percent of the HBCU attendees are low-income, first-generation college students. HBCUs not only knock down barriers, but they build upon the inherent potential of their attendees.

I am proud that the great State of Alabama is home to 13 HBCUs, the most of any State in the Nation. These colleges are major contributors to communities across our State, producing more than 15,000 jobs annually for our local economies. And they also prepare students for the 21st-century job market.

Let me tell you a bit about some of the great things that HBCUs in my State have accomplished. Among their many contributions, Alabama HBCUs have helped to fill the continuing need for more African Americans in STEM—or science, technology, engineering, and math—professions. For companies desperate to recruit top talent for entry-level STEM roles, HBCUs offer thousands of highly qualified candidates.

As part of this effort, Alabama State University offers the Minority Science and Engineering Improvement Program. This program focuses on giving undergrad STEM students a chance at hands-on research and professional development opportunities. In fact, Alabama State University just announced a new partnership with Apple where it will become a center for coding and creativity.

In Montgomery, Trenholm State offers free STEM courses for dual enrollment students to allow high school students to get a jump start on their college careers.

But it is also important to recognize that HBCUs support low-income, first-generation college students in meeting and exceeding their postsecondary educational goals.

Alabama A&M University recently announced its new master's apprenticeship program for social work—the first of its kind by any HBCU in the country. This investment in our students

and communities will help to ensure that we will have more social workers to meet the needs of the underserved that are in our population.

Tuskegee University, home of the renowned scientist George Washington Carver and the Tuskegee Airmen, leads the country in African-American aerospace science engineer graduates—leads the country.

Oakwood University in Huntsville is one of the top universities sending minority undergraduate students to medical schools.

And, just this year, the achievements of two Stillman College students and two Talladega College students were recognized by the White House as part of the prestigious HBCU Scholars Program.

Traditional 4-year degrees aren't suited for everyone. I noticed that in my years of coaching. Everybody does not need to go to a 4-year university. And Alabama HBCUs have a strong tradition of empowering students through the vocational and technical programs that they offer.

In as little as 6 months, a student at Lawson State Community College in Birmingham can launch a career—just in 6 months. Their vocational programming provides low-cost and fast-tracked avenues for students to gain subject-matter expertise in industries like HVAC work and building construction.

Meanwhile, Gadsden State Community College is working to make a new Advanced Manufacturing Center part of its future to help prepare students for the roles that the manufacturing industry will be filling in the coming years.

Finally, we have repeatedly seen that when Alabama HBCUs collaborate with local businesses and government agencies, communities thrive, innovation occurs, and progress is made.

Shelton State's Fire College is responsible for training paid and volunteer firefighters and EMTs.

Bishop State Community College just partnered with Alabama Power to offer a 9-week electric line worker training program—only 9 weeks. The graduates of this new program will be the power restoration experts that people rely on in times of need, such as a hurricane, which we have just gone through several in the last few months in the South.

Drake State created a satellite tracking station in partnership with NASA and an amateur radio station that serves as FEMA's relay station during local weather watch activities.

And throughout its history, Miles College has had a strong relationship with the surrounding community, promoting racial equality for African Americans. During the civil rights era, President Lucius Pitts helped to negotiate race relations and supported his students' desires to participate in non-violent protests.

Overcoming decades of adversity and opposition, HBCUs continue to be com-

petitive educational institutions with programs for students who want higher education, career-tech training, or to position themselves for better employment opportunities. We need to honor accomplishments by the HBCUs and celebrate their significant contributions to our society.

Over the last decade, my colleague Senator TIM SCOTT from South Carolina has been focused on doing just that. I am thankful to have joined him the last month to introduce a resolution to formally designate the week of September 6 as National HBCU Week. Because of their work and the work of their leaders, these institutions are deserving of national recognition.

Last week, during National HBCU Week, there were many tributes about the work of these great colleges and universities, about the impact they have made in the lives of so many people across this country and the impact they have made on many, many lives.

While this week was a chance to recognize the many ways HBCUs contribute to our society, our recognition shouldn't stop at one week. We should honor their work by continuing the conversation for how we can support these institutions for years and years to come.

HBCUs have given a gift—a gift of education and an opportunity—to so many in Alabama and across our Nation. I hope my colleagues join me and Senator SCOTT in recognizing their tremendous, tremendous impact on a lot of young lives of people all across our country.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Missouri.

Mr. HAWLEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that I, along with Senator MORAN and Senator MURRAY, be permitted to complete our remarks before the scheduled rollcall vote.

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

#### AFGHANISTAN

Mr. HAWLEY. Mr. President, I am here today to talk about the crisis in Afghanistan and to honor the distinguished service of those who gave the last full measure of their devotion protecting Americans there.

For the last month, Americans have watched, horrified, at the scenes of chaos and terror and bloodshed: Americans trapped at the Kabul Airport, terrified as the enemy closed in; innocent civilians fleeing for their lives, abandoned by their government; a young man desperately clinging to a departing plane's landing gear, he was so desperate to escape, only to fall then to his tragic death; 13 marines, the pride of our Nation, cut down by terrorists, never to see home again; and, then, as American planes finally departed, hundreds of American civilians left behind to the enemy.

Let me say that again: hundreds of American civilians left behind to the enemy.

And after all of that, who can forget the image of the President of the

United States, declaring this mission that he planned, that he executed, that he oversaw—this mission that left 13 marines dead, that left hundreds of American civilians behind enemy lines; this mission that resulted in chaos and terror and bloodshed—who can forget this President saying that this mission was, and I quote, “extraordinarily successful”?

An extraordinary success—really? Has a Commander in Chief in American history ever before uttered words like that? Has a Commander in Chief ever celebrated as “successful”—“successful”—the abandonment of American civilians to an enemy, the death of American soldiers, terrorizing of American citizens and American allies?

I hope I will not live to ever hear again in my lifetime such shameful and disgraceful words from a President of the United States.

And make no mistake, this President is a disgrace. His behavior is disgraceful. He has dishonored this country with his shameful leadership in this crisis, and it is time for him to resign. And if he had the responsibility of leadership, he would resign for the crisis that he has himself led this Nation into and the responsibility he bears for the lives that have been lost and for the American citizens who are, even now as I speak, trapped in Afghanistan, left to the enemy because of his failures and his shameful, disgraceful leadership.

Even the shameful performance of America's leaders cannot disguise or cover over the heroism of America's soldiers, and I want to talk about one of those soldiers now. He was Marine Corps LCpl Jared Schmitz. He was from Missouri.

He was from Wentzville, in St. Charles County, to be exact, and he had wanted to be a marine since he was a teenager. Lance Corporal Schmitz was only 6 months old when terrorists attacked this country on September 11, 2001. He wasn't old enough to remember the beginnings of this long war in which he would go on to so valiantly serve. He had only graduated from high school, from Fort Zumwalt South High School, in 2019.

Jared signed up to join the Marines shortly before his 18th birthday. He had dreamed of it since before his sophomore year. He began training with recruits even before he enlisted. He wanted to serve this Nation because he was a man who served others. His father said Jared was always smiling nonstop. He brought light and hope to every place he went, and he wanted to bring those gifts and service to his country—and he did.

He was a fine marine. He was sent on his first deployment to Jordan earlier this year and then received orders to Afghanistan. Jared Schmitz, Lance Corporal Schmitz, was there on August 26—there at the Kabul airport, doing his duty, serving his country, smiling nonstop when the enemy attacked. And it was there that Lance Corporal Schmitz, age 20, gave his life for the

people he loved and for the Nation he served. He died so that others might live.

I had the privilege of speaking to Lance Corporal Schmitz's family just hours after we learned of Jared's death. I said this to them, and I promised that I would say it for the whole Nation: that Jared Schmitz lived a life of honor, he lived a life worth living, and his sacrifice was not in vain.

Jared didn't have to serve. He didn't have to deploy halfway around the world. He didn't have to stand protecting Americans and other innocent people as disaster unfolded. He didn't have to do any of it. He chose to do it. He chose to serve. He chose to give his life for others. That is a hero. That is an American.

Lance Corporal Schmitz deserves this honor. He deserves this recognition. Frankly, it is the least of what he deserves. And so, today, I am introducing in this body a resolution to honor Lance Corporal Schmitz and all the Missourians who made the ultimate sacrifice during the war in Afghanistan. They will not be forgotten.

Over the last 20 years, we have often heard numbers used to describe the costs of this long war: \$2 trillion spent, over 20,000 soldiers wounded in action and thousands more who came home with invisible wounds, and 2,461 American personnel who gave their very lives. But each of these numbers was a son, a daughter, a husband, or wife, or father, or friend. They have names. They have lives. And they deserve to be honored.

As this chapter of American history concludes, I want to recognize in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD each of my fellow Missourians who, during the war in Afghanistan, made the ultimate sacrifice serving this Nation. I ask that each of us reflect together and pray together for each one of the fallen, and also their families who have sacrificed so much, who have sacrificed all they have to sacrifice. These men and women will live in our hearts and in the memory of this Nation.

They are Christopher Michael Allgaier; Michael Chad Bailey; Michael Joe Beckerman; Brian J. Bradbury; Paul Douglas Carron; Jacob Russell Carver; Joseph Brian Cemper; Robert Keith Charlton; Richard Michael Crane; Robert Wade Crow, Jr.; Justin Eric Culbreth; Robert G. Davis; Edward Fred Dixon III; Jason David Fingar; James Matthew Finley; Zachary Michael Fisher; Jacob Rudeloff Fleischer; Blake Wade Hall; Nicholas Joel Hand; James Warren Harrison, Jr.; Jonathon Michael Dean Hostetter; James Roger Ide V; Issac Brandon Jackson; Christopher M. Katzenberger; Jeremy Andrew Katzenberger; William Jo Kerwood; Daniel Leon Kisling, Jr.; Donald Matthew Marler; Matthew David Mason; Richard Lewis McNulty III; Bradley Louis Melton; James Douglas Mowris; Michael Robert Patton; Joseph Michael Peters; Robert Wayne Pharris; Ricky Linn Richardson, Jr.;

Charles Montague Sadell; Charles Ray Sanders, Jr.; Ronald Wayne Sawyer; Patrick Wayne Schimmel; Jared Marcus Schmitz; Roslyn Littman Schulte; Billy Joe Siercks; Adam Olin Smith; Tyler James Smith; Christopher Glenn Stark; Sean Patrick Sullivan; Philip James Svitak; Phillip David Vinnedge; Matthew Herbert Walker; Jeffrey Lee White, Jr.; Matthew Willard Wilson; Vincent Cortez Winston, Jr.; Sterling William Wyatt; and Gunnar William Zwilling.

Mr. President, the sacrifices of so many brave men and women demand that we in Congress bring all the facts of this long war to light. These sacrifices demand that we in Congress prioritize transparency and full accountability. And these sacrifices demand that we hold responsible those who bear the blame for the failure of the last month and of all the months that preceded it.

For 20 years, our soldiers who fought in Afghanistan did what we sent them there to do. They went after al-Qaida, killed Osama bin Laden, and prevented terrorists from using Afghanistan as a base for attacking our homeland. They did their duty, and they did it honorably.

But by now it is abundantly clear President Biden has not done his. President Biden turned an orderly evacuation into a disaster; that much is painfully clear.

First, Joe Biden pulled our troops out; then he sent thousands back in. He failed to protect Americans still in the country. He failed to account for lethal American military equipment he left behind. He failed to anticipate worsening conditions on the ground. He failed in his judgment that the Afghan security forces would hold their own when our own intelligence estimates said that they wouldn't. He failed to anticipate a new offensive by the Taliban. He failed again and again and again until American blood at the Kabul airport paid the price for that failure. Then he celebrated it as an "extraordinary success."

Joe Biden's team is responsible too. Men like Secretary Austin; Secretary Blinken; Jake Sullivan, the National Security Adviser, they overestimated the Afghan security forces' willingness to hold the line; and instead of planning for the worst, they planned for the best. Because of them, we have Americans stranded behind enemy lines and over 100,000 Afghan refugees arriving now to this country at this eleventh hour without vetting or precautions.

This was never necessary. It did not have to be this way and it shouldn't have been. Joe Biden is responsible for today's failure and now there must be accountability. Instead, the President's team is even now coming to Capitol Hill and blaming others, shirking responsibility. That is cowardly.

I, for one, am not willing to look the other way. Let me be clear. I will not consent to the nomination of any nominee for the Department of Defense

or for the Department of State until Secretary Austin and Secretary Blinken and Jake Sullivan resign. Leaders take responsibility for their failures. And the failure of these individuals, the failure of this administration has cost Americans their lives and has left American civilians to the enemy. There must be accountability and there must be a new start.

I believe that a century from now, when the history of this long war is written by our children's children, they will note the heroism and the honor of our soldiers and veterans who, in the aftermath of the worst attacks on our Nation's soil in a century, stood steadfast and resolute in unity; and who, despite the grave mistakes of their leaders over many years, served their country with bravery and distinction and defense of our freedom.

The great Winston Churchill, who was himself the veteran of one war and leader of another, said this almost 70 years ago:

We have surmounted all the perils and endured all the agonies of the past. We shall provide against and thus prevail over the dangers and the problems of the future, withhold no sacrifice, grudge no toil, seek no sordid gain, fear no foe. All will be well. We have, I believe, within us the life-strength and guiding light by which the tormented world around us may find the harbour of safety, after a storm-beaten voyage.

Mr. President, I believe, as Americans, we have that life-strength. I believe we have in us the light and the hope to survive this troubled time and to provide the world around us the harbor of safety after a storm-beaten voyage.

God bless our troops.

I yield floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Kansas.

Mr. MORAN. Mr. President, I join the Senator from Missouri and his colleague, Senator BLUNT, expressing my condolences and concern for the family of Lance Corporal Jared Schmitz from the great State of Missouri and others who died at the Kabul airport in the effort to free Americans and Afghans who helped Americans from their country and from their deaths.

It takes us back to this weekend, Saturday, September 11. Our Nation remembered the horrific attacks that occurred 20 years previous and reflected upon the fight against terrorism, which was set in motion on that very fateful day.

The events that unfolded in Afghanistan these past few weeks have made the 20th anniversary of September 11 that much more painful; painful especially for the men and women who served our Nation in Afghanistan.

The chaos and collapse of that country cost American lives, opened old wounds, and left many Americans questioning how all this could happen in this manner.

The American people require answers from the administration on how our withdrawal from Afghanistan went so horribly—so horribly, horribly wrong.

Officials should be, must be, held accountable for their weak leadership and mismanaged withdrawal.

During my tenure in the U.S. House of Representatives and here in the U.S. Senate, following the attack of 9/11, I visited Afghanistan four times. Over the course of those visits, I saw progress being made by our troops and by civilians, by our NATO allies, and by Afghan partners.

My last visit was about 4 years ago just to the day about a week ago. At that time, the U.S. had less than 15,000 servicemembers in Afghanistan and our men and women were operating as advisers to the Afghan military. For the most part, the war seemed to be being fought by the Afghan military. Certainly, several terrorist groups had a presence in the region, but our military was preventing them from gaining the ability to strike our homeland.

President Biden's withdrawal plan, if it could be called that, led to the deadliest day for American servicemembers in Afghanistan since 2011. Thirteen of our servicemembers returned home in flag-draped caskets. Most of them were too young to remember 9/11, yet they laid down our lives to help Americans and Afghans flee the Taliban and find safety.

Americans remain in Afghanistan and thousands of our Afghan partners who are likely to face persecution or death at the hands of the Taliban have little hope of escaping the country. Our own office continues the effort to try to find and help those individuals remove themselves from a country where death seems certain.

I thank my staff, and I pray for those people, and I thank the Kansans who brought them to our attention.

People at home worried about Christians being persecuted for being Christians in Afghanistan. Those who serve in Afghanistan worried about someone who saved their life—an Afghan who saved their life or who was their interpreter or who was there side by side with them—now being left to the fate of the Taliban.

I am a member of the Senate Appropriations Subcommittees that fund the Departments of Defense and State. We must hold hearings to examine the President's decision-making process and his consideration of the advice provided by his military and intelligence community leaders. We need to determine what steps, if any, were taken to plan for the withdrawal of Americans, with Special Immigrant Visas holders from Afghanistan.

We also need to hear directly from the administration how costly the lethal American weapons ended up in the hands of Taliban. The high-ranking officials who were responsible for this failure must answer to the American people why this operation failed so spectacularly and why their taxpayer dollars were left behind for the Taliban in the form of helicopters, combat vehicles, and weapons.

How is it that we came to rely upon the Taliban to help those we are re-

sponsible for, we owe a debt to, to be able to escape from the Taliban?

The administration must also be held accountable for its mismanagement and for the precarious security situation that this incompetent withdrawal created. Hastily withdrawing thousands of troops, apparently in the interest of a symbolic departure before the 20th anniversary of 9/11, made this world a more dangerous place. It created an environment that will allow radical terrorists to find refuge under the Taliban rule, and produced one that was the most pressing humanitarian crisis in history.

We deserve answers on how we will remedy this complex security situation, how we will help Afghan women and girls who are already being persecuted, and how we will learn from mistakes that were made to make certain it cannot happen again.

Finally, our veterans who served honorably in Afghanistan need to know that their service—and when I say “finally,” this is not the least important point. It is made at the end to make the point so clear. Our veterans who served honorably in Afghanistan need to know that their service was not—was not—in vain. More than 775,000 servicemembers were deployed to Afghanistan over the two decades since 9/11.

To those servicemembers: Make no mistake, your service has left a lasting and unparalleled impact upon the world.

Our country has been safe from a terrorist attack from the region of Afghanistan since their arrival in Afghanistan. Their work and efforts, their sacrifice and service made a difference for the safety of their fellow Americans. Those who served significantly reduced the threat from al-Qaida and brought Osama bin Laden to justice.

You deserve to know that the collapse of Afghanistan does not fall on your shoulders but on the failure of leadership here in the Nation's Capital City. Our sudden, disastrous, and poorly executed withdrawal opened old wounds and created new ones.

I commit as the ranking Republican on the Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs to work side by side with our chairman, the Senator from Montana, to make certain that our veterans receive the care and attention they deserve and are entitled to, the respect and honor from their fellow American citizens, and the benefits that we promised to be available, available.

We have made the world a more dangerous place by our failing departure, and we have left Americans and our Afghan partners behind.

I served in the House of Representatives on 9/11, 20 years ago. I remember the day and the attack. I was one of the first Members of Congress to visit Ground Zero, where I saw the remains of the two Twin Towers—still smoke coming from the ground, steam—a bit like a construction site as they were

trying to remove the rubble that were the remains of those towers.

First, family members were brought in to see the site where their loved ones died, which captured my heart as I watched them see where their loved ones died. After paying my respects to those family members and as I was leaving, I found a makeshift memorial that New Yorkers had placed there. It was a series of long tables at which people had brought flowers and cards, stuffed animals—teddy bears—and notes to pay tribute to those who had died just a few weeks before at that location.

I picked up one thing from that table of remembrance and honor and respect. It was a piece of notebook paper with a jagged edge along the side, torn out of a spiral notebook, with a child's handwriting:

Dear Daddy, how much I love you, how I hope Heaven is a wonderful place, and I hope, Daddy, that I live a life good enough to join you there someday.

Amanda, aged 12.

That moment has stuck with me for 20-plus years now—the point being that we have a responsibility to make sure that there are no more Amandas who suffer the fate that this young girl suffered that day with the death of her father. It occurred because of a terrorist attack occurring on the lands of Afghanistan, held by the Taliban, that allowed ISIS to attack the United States of America.

I have tried to change my conduct as a Member of Congress, since that day, to be a more responsible Member, to do the things necessary to be more worldly and understand what is going on, to make sure that I make the decisions that help make the world a safer place.

What we have seen in the last few weeks discourages me in making the world a safer place, but I rise to the call again to say we have responsibilities left in Afghanistan; we have responsibilities to the people we left behind to allow and to help them escape near certain death; and we also have responsibilities to those men and women who served in Afghanistan, who answered the call because they saw what happened to our Nation on 9/11 and said: I have something to give. I have something—perhaps my life—to give to see that this doesn't happen again.

I hope that we, despite the circumstances that we have seen in the last days, now have the ability as a U.S. Congress, as a Member of the U.S. Senate, to rise to the occasion in which we are still needed in this world to protect American lives, to save lives in Afghanistan, and to make certain—to make certain—that there are no more Amandas asking for the opportunity to see their fathers someday in Heaven.

The burdens are great for us. The responsibilities are real. Those who have failed us to date need to be held accountable, and the rest of us need to rise to the occasion to protect this country we love, the United States of America.



I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. LUJAN). The Senator from Washington. Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, we are about to take two votes, and I will speak on both of them for just a few minutes.

#### NOMINATION OF JAMES RICHARD KVAAL

Mr. President, right now, many students in higher education across the country are back on campus for the start of a new school year, and although I know many of them are excited to finally be able to return to their classrooms and their friends, there are still many challenges in higher education we need to tackle immediately, including keeping our students safe and healthy as the COVID-19 crisis continues.

We also cannot lose sight of the fact that student debt is at a historic high as borrowers across our country are drowning in student debt. The cost of higher education continues to rise, forcing students to give up on higher education dreams simply because they can't afford it. Predatory for-profit colleges continue to target first-generation students, students of color, and our veterans. Across the country, campus sexual assault, harassment, and discrimination, and systemic racism leave too many students feeling unsafe in their own school communities.

Students across our country deserve leaders who are committed to addressing these urgent problems and who will work to always put students and borrowers first. I believe James Kvaal is exactly that kind of leader, and I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting his nomination to serve as Under Secretary of Education. Mr. Kvaal's background reflects a deep commitment to our Nation's students and the experience needed to hit the ground running on day one.

As president of the Institute for College Access and Success, Mr. Kvaal fought to improve student outcomes and quality, reform Federal and State financial aid, support student loan borrowers, and increase State and Federal investments in higher education. He also has a long record in public service, including as Deputy Under Secretary of Education and as Deputy Director of the Domestic Policy Council in the Obama administration, where he helped strengthen college accountability, expand investments in Pell grants, and worked to ensure students had critical information about the outcomes of the colleges and universities they might attend.

To me, it is a clear vote to confirm Mr. Kvaal. It is a vote to support our students and borrowers and to help build a stronger, more equitable higher education system.

#### NOMINATION OF DAVID G. ESTUDILLO

Mr. President, the second vote we will take is on Judge Estudillo's confirmation, and I rise today in support of the nomination of Judge David Estudillo to serve as U.S. District Court judge for the Western District of Washington in the Tacoma courthouse.

I had the honor of recommending that President Biden nominate Judge Estudillo for this position, and I am so glad he did. Judge Estudillo is tremendously qualified for this job, currently serving in his third term as a Grant County Superior Court judge, and he is someone who will bring a powerful and important perspective to the Federal bench.

Let me tell you a little bit about him and the kind of person he is. He was born and raised in the Yakima Valley of Washington State. Judge Estudillo is the son of immigrants—the 9th child of 10—his parents coming here from Mexico through the Bracero Program. His mother and father were farmworkers until they were able to open up a small grocery store, where Judge Estudillo worked while growing up and through college.

He is someone who worked hard to give back to his community in working as an immigration lawyer. He represented clients in tough removal proceedings, successfully presenting and trying claims for asylum, cancellations of removal, and other forms of relief from deportation. He also consistently provided pro bono services at immigration legal clinics to help immigrants applying for citizenship and often presented information in Spanish about immigration policy and procedure all around the community.

That work as an immigration attorney is important to me because it means, when Judge Estudillo is in the Tacoma courthouse and Washington State families look up to the judge's bench—who maybe don't speak English or just aren't familiar with our court system—Judge Estudillo is someone who will make sure that every person who walks into his courtroom feels heard and that every person who walks out believes equal justice under the law is real in America.

Don't just take my word for it. The judge is endorsed by both the Republican and Democratic Parties of Grant County, where he first ran for his current post, and he was recommended to me by my Judicial Merit Selection Committee, which has both Republican and Democratic members. He has earned an outstanding reputation for leading a courtroom where everyone is treated with respect and dignity.

If we want people in this country to have faith in our Federal courts—an absolutely vital part of our democracy's checks and balance system—then we need to appoint judges who will serve with integrity and independence and who will reflect the communities they serve. I know Judge Estudillo will do exactly that. He will be an exceptional Federal district court judge for the Western District of Washington, and I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting his nomination.

I yield the floor.

#### VOTE ON KVAAL NOMINATION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the question is, Will

the Senate advise and consent to the Kvaal nomination?

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, 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 bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. SCHATZ) is necessarily absent.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BRAUN), the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI), the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. ROUNDS), and the Senator from Indiana (Mr. YOUNG).

Further, if present and voting, the Senator from Indiana (Mr. YOUNG) would have voted "nay."

The result was announced—yeas 58, nays 37, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 360 Ex.]

#### YEAS—58

Baldwin	Graham	Peters
Bennet	Hassan	Reed
Blumenthal	Heinrich	Romney
Blunt	Hickenlooper	Rosen
Booker	Hirono	Sanders
Brown	Kaine	Schumer
Burr	Kelly	Scott (SC)
Cantwell	King	Shaheen
Capito	Klobuchar	Sinema
Cardin	Leahy	Smith
Carper	Lujan	Stabenow
Casey	Manchin	Tester
Cassidy	Markley	Van Hollen
Collins	Marshall	Warner
Coons	Menendez	Warnock
Cortez Masto	Merkley	Warren
Duckworth	Murphy	Whitehouse
Durbin	Murray	Wyden
Feinstein	Ossoff	
Gillibrand	Padilla	

#### NAYS—37

Barrasso	Hawley	Risch
Blackburn	Hoeven	Rubio
Boozman	Hyde-Smith	Sasse
Cornyn	Inhofe	Scott (FL)
Cotton	Johnson	Shelby
Cramer	Kennedy	Sullivan
Crapo	Lankford	Thune
Cruz	Lee	Tillis
Daines	Lummis	Toomey
Ernst	McConnell	Tuberville
Fischer	Moran	Wicker
Grassley	Paul	
Hagerty	Portman	

#### NOT VOTING—5

Braun	Rounds	Young
Murkowski	Schatz	

The nomination was confirmed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the motion to reconsider is considered made and laid upon the table. The President will be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

#### CLOTURE MOTION

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

#### CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the

Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 252, David G. Estudillo, of Washington, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Washington.

Charles E. Schumer, Tim Kaine, Sherrod Brown, Tammy Duckworth, Robert Menendez, Christopher A. Coons, Benjamin L. Cardin, Chris Van Hollen, Ben Ray Lujan, Margaret Wood Hassan, Alex Padilla, Edward J. Markey, Maria Cantwell, Patty Murray, Jacky Rosen, Tammy Baldwin, Tina Smith.

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

The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that debate on the nomination of David G. Estudillo, of Washington, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Washington, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Virginia (Mr. KAINE) and the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. SCHATZ) are necessarily absent.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BRAUN), the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI), the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. ROUNDS), and the Senator from Indiana (Mr. YOUNG).

Further, if present and voting, the Senator from Indiana (Mr. YOUNG) would have voted "nay".

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 52, nays 42, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 361 Ex.]

#### YEAS—52

Baldwin	Grassley	Peters
Bennet	Hassan	Reed
Blumenthal	Heinrich	Rosen
Booker	Hickenlooper	Sanders
Brown	Hirono	Schumer
Cantwell	Kelly	Shaheen
Cardin	King	Sinema
Carper	Klobuchar	Smith
Casey	Leahy	Stabenow
Collins	Lujan	Tester
Coons	Manchin	Van Hollen
Cortez Masto	Markey	Warner
Duckworth	Menendez	Warnock
Durbin	Merkley	Warren
Ernst	Murphy	Whitehouse
Feinstein	Murray	Wyden
Gillibrand	Ossoff	
Graham	Padilla	

#### NAYS—42

Barrasso	Hagerty	Portman
Blackburn	Hawley	Risch
Blunt	Hoeven	Romney
Boozman	Hyde-Smith	Rubio
Burr	Inhofe	Sasse
Capito	Johnson	Scott (FL)
Cassidy	Kennedy	Scott (SC)
Cornyn	Lankford	Shelby
Cotton	Lee	Sullivan
Cramer	Lummis	Thune
Crapo	Marshall	Tillis
Cruz	McConnell	Toomey
Daines	Moran	Tuberville
Fischer	Paul	Wicker

#### NOT VOTING—6

Braun	Murkowski	Schatz
Kaine	Rounds	Young

The PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote, the yeas are 52, the nays 42.

The motion was agreed to.

#### EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of David G. Estudillo, of Washington, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Washington.

#### RECESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate stands in recess until 2:15 p.m.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 1:09 p.m., recessed until 2:15 p.m. and reassembled when called to order by the Presiding Officer (Ms. SINEMA).

#### EXECUTIVE CALENDAR—Continued

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Washington.

#### NOMINATION OF DAVID G. ESTUDILLO

Ms. CANTWELL. Madam President, I come to the floor this afternoon to support the nomination of David Estudillo to serve as district court judge for the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Washington.

I am pleased to join my colleague Senator MURRAY in supporting Judge Estudillo, who was voted out of the Senate Judiciary Committee on a bipartisan basis, and I certainly appreciate the support of both the chairman and the ranking member on this nomination.

Mr. Estudillo is the son of Mexican immigrants who came to the Yakima Valley as part of the Bracero Program in the 1960s.

Growing up, he learned and embraced both the culture of his parents and that of the United States. Judge Estudillo is a great example of the successes and contributions many immigrant families make to our great Nation.

Judge Estudillo earned an associate of arts degree from Columbia Basin Community College and his bachelor of arts degree and juris doctorate from the University of Washington.

After graduating from law school, Judge Estudillo practiced general and civil litigation and immigration law in Moses Lake and Seattle and tried cases in both Seattle and Tacoma immigration courts. He is well experienced in many issues of the law.

He was appointed to the Grant County Superior Court in 2015 and was the only Latino judge in any Eastern Washington State court. Judge Estudillo received bipartisan support, with endorsements from both Democratic and Republican local officials and support from all nine of Washington State Supreme Court justices.

He has earned the respect and the support of his community. To quote a letter that was sent to the Judiciary Committee from Mayor David Curnel of Moses Lake, WA, he said Judge Estudillo "is a respected member of our community. He is involved in our community. He is committed to our

community. This is what I understand about Judge Estudillo and why I can recommend him highly for a Federal judge position."

In short, Judge Estudillo is a well-qualified jurist, and he has dedicated his entire legal career to practicing and supporting his community. I am pleased to have recommended him along with my colleague Senator MURRAY to the President. I know his strong character and respect for the rule of law, a sense of justice, fairness, humility, empathy, and capacity for compassion and understanding would be a benefit to the court and all the parties concerned.

I urge my colleagues to support Judge Estudillo's nomination.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

#### VOTE ON ESTUDILLO NOMINATION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Estudillo nomination?

Ms. CANTWELL. Madam President, 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 bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. SCHATZ) is necessarily absent.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BRAUN), the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI), the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. ROUNDS), and the Senator from Indiana (Mr. YOUNG).

Further, if present and voting, the Senator from Indiana (Mr. YOUNG) would have voted "nay".

The result was announced—yeas 54, nays 41, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 362 Ex.]

#### YEAS—54

Baldwin	Graham	Ossoff
Bennet	Grassley	Padilla
Blumenthal	Hassan	Peters
Booker	Heinrich	Reed
Brown	Hickenlooper	Rosen
Cantwell	Hirono	Sanders
Cardin	Kaine	Schumer
Carper	Kelly	Shaheen
Casey	King	Sinema
Collins	Klobuchar	Smith
Coons	Leahy	Stabenow
Cornyn	Lujan	Tester
Cortez Masto	Manchin	Van Hollen
Duckworth	Markey	Warner
Durbin	Menendez	Warnock
Ernst	Merkley	Warren
Feinstein	Murphy	Whitehouse
Gillibrand	Murray	Wyden

## NAYS—41

Barrasso	Hawley	Risch
Blackburn	Hoeven	Romney
Blunt	Hyde-Smith	Rubio
Boozman	Inhofe	Sasse
Burr	Johnson	Scott (FL)
Capito	Kennedy	Scott (SC)
Cassidy	Lankford	Shelby
Cotton	Lee	Sullivan
Cramer	Lummis	Thune
Crapo	Marshall	Tillis
Cruz	McConnell	Toomey
Daines	Moran	Tuberville
Fischer	Paul	Wicker
Hagerty	Portman	

## NOT VOTING—5

Braun	Rounds	Young
Murkowski	Schatz	

The nomination was confirmed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the motion to reconsider is considered made and laid upon the table, and the President will be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

## CLOTURE MOTION

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

## CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 260 Angel Kelley, of Massachusetts, to be United States District Judge for the District of Massachusetts.

Charles E. Schumer, Richard J. Durbin, Elizabeth Warren, Edward J. Markey, Christopher Coons, Cory A. Booker, Alex Padilla, Richard Blumenthal, Mazie Hirono, Chris Van Hollen, Michael F. Bennet, Sheldon Whitehouse, Amy Klobuchar, Patrick J. Leahy, Debbie Stabenow, Martin Heinrich, Kirsten E. Gillibrand.

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

The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that debate on the nomination of Angel Kelley, of Massachusetts, to be United States District Judge for the District of Massachusetts, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. SCHATZ) is necessarily absent.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BRAUN), the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI), the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. ROUNDS), and the Senator from Indiana (Mr. YOUNG).

Further, if present and voting, the Senator from Indiana (Mr. YOUNG) would have voted "nay."

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 52, nays 43, as follows:

## [Rollcall Vote No. 363 Ex.]

## YEAS—52

Baldwin	Hassan	Peters
Bennet	Heinrich	Reed
Blumenthal	Hickenlooper	Rosen
Booker	Hirono	Sanders
Brown	Kaine	Schumer
Cantwell	Kelly	Shaheen
Cardin	King	Sinema
Casey	Klobuchar	Smith
Carper	Leahy	Stabenow
Collins	Lujan	Tester
Coons	Manchin	Van Hollen
Cortez Masto	Markey	Warner
Duckworth	Menendez	Warnock
Durbin	Merkley	Warren
Feinstein	Murphy	Whitehouse
Gillibrand	Murray	Wyden
Graham	Ossoff	
Grassley	Padilla	

## NAYS—43

Barrasso	Hagerty	Risch
Blackburn	Hawley	Romney
Blunt	Hoeven	Rubio
Boozman	Hyde-Smith	Sasse
Burr	Inhofe	Scott (FL)
Capito	Johnson	Scott (SC)
Cassidy	Kennedy	Shelby
Cornyn	Lankford	Sullivan
Cotton	Lee	Thune
Cramer	Lummis	Tillis
Crapo	Marshall	Toomey
Cruz	McConnell	Tuberville
Daines	Moran	Wicker
Ernst	Paul	
Fischer	Portman	

## NOT VOTING—5

Braun	Rounds	Young
Murkowski	Schatz	

The PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote, the yeas are 52, the nays are 43.

The motion is agreed to.

## EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The legislative clerk read the nomination of Angel Kelley, of Massachusetts, to be United States District Judge for the District of Massachusetts.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Utah.

HONORING STAFF SERGEANT DARIN TAYLOR  
HOOVER, JR.

Mr. LEE. Madam President, the United States lost 13 servicemembers in Afghanistan on August 26, 2021. The heroic service and the ultimate sacrifice of these men and women will never be forgotten. They are Marine LCpl David L. Espinoza from Texas, Marine Sgt Nicole L. Gee from California, Marine SSgt Darin Taylor Hoover from Utah, Army SSG Ryan C. Knauss from Tennessee, Marine Cpl Hunter Lopez from California, Marine LCpl Rylee J. McCollum from Wyoming, Marine LCpl Dylan R. Merola from California, Marine LCpl Kareem M. Nikoui from California, Marine Sgt Johnny Rosario Pichardo from Massachusetts, Marine Cpl Humberto A. Sanchez from Indiana, Marine LCpl Jared M. Schmitz from Missouri, Navy Hospital Corpsman Maxton W. Soviak from Ohio, and Marine Cpl Daegan W. Page from Nebraska. Over the next hour, Senators representing many of these fallen servicemembers and the States from which they hail will honor their service and their memory.

Utah's SSgt Darin Taylor Hoover was only 11 years old on September 11, 2001. From that moment on, he knew that he wanted to serve his country. Nearly 21 years later, he was killed in Kabul, Afghanistan, performing his duty valiantly, as always, as a U.S. marine.

Staff Sergeant Hoover and his fellow marines were on the frontlines of the operation, securing an entrance to the Hamid Karzai International Airport and screening vulnerable Afghans on their escape to safety as the extremist Taliban took hold of their country.

Staff Sergeant Hoover was killed by an ISIS-K suicide attack that targeted him, his teammates, and the surrounding innocent civilians.

Staff Sergeant Hoover, like all marines, learned the Marine Corps' values at boot camp. Those values are honor, courage, and commitment. He was told that being a marine and living these values does not begin or end with training or service as an Active-Duty marine; these values forever guide marines' decisions, their service, and, in fact, their entire lives.

Staff Sergeant Hoover lived these values throughout his entire life. You see, Staff Sergeant Hoover did, always, what he said he would do. He was honest, respectful, caring, and compassionate. He dedicated his life to the service of others, in and out of uniform. He wanted to be the best and to provide the very best for others, and he was always willing to work hard to make that happen.

His friends and his family knew him as a loving, thoughtful, hard-working man. He loved and was dedicated to serving those around him, his family, and his country. As a young man, he made a lasting impression on those who knew him. They described him as—and these are their words, not mine—"the best friend," "selfless," "always levelheaded," "hard-working," "a teammate you could count on," "a born leader," and as "a good, kind person." By being the type of man he was, he honored those who knew him. He honored the uniform he wore. And in his service and sacrifice, he honored the United States by representing and being the best of us.

Staff Sergeant Hoover certainly knew the risks of his duty. He understood the risks of this deployment in particular. In particular, he knew what was at stake and on the line on this particular day.

American civilians had been warned not to travel to the airport due to specific credible threats of an attack. The marines at the gate did not, of course, have the option of standing down or shirking their duty; they had a mission to complete. Despite knowing the very real threat to their lives that day, Staff Sergeant Hoover and his marines followed orders and did their duty. They stood in close physical proximity with hundreds as they checked identification and shuffled people through the gate one after the other. They didn't know if or ultimately when an

attack might come; they just knew of the threat. Nonetheless, those marines carried on, guiding countless innocent civilians to safety.

His father Darin put it best. He said:

That's just the type of man that he was, doing what he needed to do and getting the job done for those that couldn't do it for themselves, and he was standing out front leading his men.

You see, Staff Sergeant Hoover demonstrated uncommon courage in fulfilling his duty that day, as with all other days in which he valiantly served.

This was not Mr. Hoover's first deployment to Afghanistan. In fact, he served three tours of duty there in his 11 years in the Marine Corps. He knew what war and Afghanistan were like. He decided to carry on and continue serving because that is what he had committed to do. Since high school, he knew he wanted to be a marine specifically. His father said that "he was dead set on it."

When the news in Afghanistan developed, Staff Sergeant Hoover told his family he wanted to be in the action to help with the evacuation mission. He died doing what he loved: serving his country and leading his men.

Staff Sergeant Hoover was the oldest of the 13 servicemembers killed in this attack. His life had been defined by his love of family and of country. He was committed to serving, and he lived and gave his life, showing the last full measure of devotion, demonstrating exactly what it means to be a U.S. marine.

Staff Sergeant Hoover leaves a legacy with his family, the State of Utah, and our Nation. He represents the best among us and the commitment of a servicemember and a marine. His dedication to the values of the Marine Corps and full-fledged devotion to what is right will remain with us forever. He will never be forgotten.

As the preparations are made to inter him along with other American heroes at Arlington National Cemetery, he can behold what the Marine Corps hymn promises and millions of good marines before him have seen: On Heaven's scenes, you will find the streets are guarded by United States marines.

Staff Sergeant Taylor Hoover joined the ranks of American heroes before him, always faithful. May God rest his soul, may God comfort his family, and may God bless us with the honor, courage, and commitment that Taylor Hoover truly lived.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Nebraska.

HONORING CORPORAL DAEGAN WILLIAM-TYELER  
PAGE

Mrs. FISCHER. Madam President, last Friday, I joined Nebraskans to honor the dignified return of Cpl Daegan William-Tyler Page of the U.S. Marine Corps, one of 13 servicemembers killed in the terrorist attack at the Kabul airport. It was heart-breaking, but to see the thousands of

people who lined the streets of Omaha between Eppley Airfield and Braman Mortuary was truly amazing. The outpouring of honor by the community during the procession was a solemn display of Nebraskans' love for one another and for this country. Nebraskans showed their gratitude for Corporal Page's service and offered support to his grieving family.

Corporal Page was only 23 years old when his life was needlessly cut short in Kabul. He was born in Iowa, but his family moved to Nebraska when he was 5.

He was a proud U.S. marine. He enlisted shortly after graduating from Millard South High School in Omaha. He was stationed in Pendleton, CA, but multiple deployments took him all around the world, to Japan, South Korea, Australia, Jordan, and Afghanistan.

After he finished his service, he planned to attend trade school in Nebraska, hoping to eventually become a lineman.

Corporal Page was also a beloved son, brother, grandson, and friend. He was especially adored by his younger siblings. To them, his family said, he was not just a hero in the Marines; he was their real-life hero, too.

And he had a soft spot in his heart for animals, most of all his three dogs.

He loved hockey. He played on a State champion club team in high school, Omaha Westside. And he was a diehard fan of the Chicago Blackhawks.

He was a member of Boy Scout Troop 331, where he gained an appreciation for the outdoors and of St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Millard.

Hunting and being outside with his dad were among his favorite ways to spend his time, but he was also an avid skateboarder, amateur photographer, and an excellent sketch artist.

His family has asked Americans to remember him for his "fun-loving spirit, tough outer shell, and [his] giant heart."

Corporal Page's dignified return to Omaha came just 1 day before the 20th anniversary of the 9/11 attacks, which brought us to Afghanistan in the first place. He was just 3 years old on September 11, 2001, and his death came at the very end of a war that had lasted nearly his entire lifetime.

We are also going to hear this afternoon about the other servicemembers who lost their lives in Kabul on August 26. Like Corporal Page, most of these men and women had their whole lives ahead of them. Like Corporal Page, most of them were probably too young to have any memory of the event that took us to the country where they gave their lives. His sacrifice and that of these 12 other servicemembers must not be in vain. It is now up to us, both here in Congress and in our daily lives across this country, to live up to the lofty example that is set by their selflessness.

I ask that we remember him and his family in our prayers and that he rest in peace.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Utah.

HONORING STAFF SERGEANT TAYLOR HOOVER

Mr. ROMNEY. Madam President, this past weekend, we gathered to reflect on the anniversary of a national tragedy. The visible and invisible wounds incurred on that day continue to impact the lives of all of us.

In the last two decades since 9/11, our Nation has demonstrated enormous resilience, imponderable sacrifice, and pursued justice in dangerous lands, often under perilous conditions. We have asked our servicemembers to do so very much to keep us safe, and they have responded with uncommon courage. Last month, 13 of our Nation's finest upheld their sacred oath at the cost of their lives.

They were struck down by the cowardice of terrorists while, at the same time, they were helping innocent Afghan civilians reach a better life. Over 100 Afghan civilians were also killed on August 26 in that terrorist attack at the Kabul airport, and many more were grievously wounded. We also hold in our hearts the American servicemembers who suffered those terrible injuries that day.

On September 11, 2001, Taylor Hoover, from Sandy, UT, was just 11 years old. Nine years later, he was a staff sergeant in the Marine Corps. He would go on to serve three tours of duty in Afghanistan and earned both the respect of his fellow soldiers abroad and the admiration of those who knew him well and loved him here at home.

As we recently gathered in Salt Lake City to mourn the life of Staff Sergeant Hoover, it was clear that this deep admiration was shared by thousands of the people of Utah. While our hearts were heavy with grief as his family shared their memories of Staff Sergeant Hoover, they were embraced by the crowd one by one as the ceremony concluded, and our communal bonds emerged ever stronger.

TRIBUTE TO CORPORAL WYATT WILSON

Madam President, another brave Utahn also risked his life and sustained life-threatening injury while supporting the evacuation operations at the Kabul airport that day. Our Nation thanks you, Cpl Wyatt Wilson, and we pray for your complete and speedy recovery. You and your brothers and sisters in arms have answered the call to serve with valor and devotion, and your service rendered continues to protect us to this day.

Let us carry forward these shared values and reflections on sacrifice in our daily lives and endeavor to strengthen our national bonds of unity.

May God bless our Nation's fallen and our wounded, and may He bless also their families and all the servicemembers who are today in harm's way. We are indebted to those known for their bravery, sacrifice, and heroism.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Ohio.

HONORING HOSPITAL CORPSMAN THIRD CLASS  
MAXTON SOVIAK

Mr. PORTMAN. Madam President, I am here today on the floor to remember the life of Navy Fleet Marine Force Hospital Corpsman Third Class Maxton Soviak. Max was a 22-year-old native of Berlin Heights, OH, a young patriot who died far too soon in service to all of us.

Max was one of 13 brave American service men and women who were tragically killed when an ISIS-K suicide bomber in Kabul on August 26 exploded a bomb that wounded dozens of others and killed many Afghans. He was there working to evacuate Americans and Afghan allies from a city that was suddenly overrun by the Taliban.

Max was a special guy. They say he was quick to make friends and quick to earn the respect of those he interacted with. As a student at Edison High School, Max was a member of the wrestling team that won the 2016 State championship and a football team that made it to the semifinals 2 years in a row. He was an athlete and a leader. He achieved the rank of Life Scout, the second highest rank a scout can reach. He was a lover of the outdoors, spending his free time doing rock climbing, skiing, scuba diving, and other extreme sports.

And he was one of those rare individuals who, at a young age, had that drive to defend his Nation as a member of the U.S. Armed Forces. He joined the Navy and was signed as a Fleet Marine Force hospital corpsman, serving side by side with the infantry marines of the Second Battalion, First Marine Regiment.

Affectionately known as a “devil doc,” a takeoff on the Marines’ “devil dog” nickname, Max was a member of a select group of medical specialists trained to operate side by side with the men and women of the U.S. Marine Corps on the frontlines, just as he was doing in Kabul the day he died, helping evacuate Americans and our allies who were fleeing the tyranny of the Taliban.

In his far too short time with us, Max did his duty, and he did it with distinction and valor. He took care of his marines and, while in Kabul, cared for innocent Afghans who were fleeing the Taliban.

Kathleen, Max’s sister, said it well: “In Maxton’s final days, he spent his time helping others stay alive, as he had developed a passion for saving the lives of others, so much so, that he was willing to risk his own life and made the ultimate sacrifice.” So true.

Before the attack in Kabul, Max was able to FaceTime his mom, Rachel. As they said their good-byes, his mom told him to be safe.

Max replied:

Don’t worry, mom, my guys got me. They won’t let anything happen to me.

That was the last time she spoke to him before Max and his fellow marines and soldiers gave their lives in service of keeping so many others—moms,

dads, kids, and fellow servicemembers—safe. He didn’t want anything to happen to us.

For his bravery and sacrifice, Max was awarded the Purple Heart and a Combat Action Ribbon. When he came home to Berlin Heights, OH, he was greeted with a hero’s welcome that he richly deserved. Families lined the streets as his casket, draped in the American flag, was brought home to his family.

When I visited his hometown over the weekend to deliver an American flag flown over the U.S. Capitol in honor of his service, there were flags in every yard and posters and flowers; you could sense the love and support for Max and for his family from his grateful neighbors. Yesterday, hundreds came to the Edison High School football stadium, where Max had helped lead the Chargers to victory time and time again; they came to pay their last respects to an honorable American life taken too soon in service of all of us.

Max’s sacrifice, along with that of the other marines and soldiers who died or were grievously wounded that day, reminds us of how blessed we are to have such courageous and selfless fellow citizens willing to stand guard for us. We must be grateful for the sacrifices our troops make every day to keep America safe. My thoughts and prayers are with Max’s parents, Kip and Rachel Soviak, and his entire family, as well as those he knew and who loved him. May God comfort them in the days and weeks ahead.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Wyoming.

HONORING LANCE CORPORAL RYLEE MCCOLLUM

Ms. LUMMIS. Madam President, Wyoming’s heart is heavy with grief today. I rise to honor the life, sacrifice, and memory of Wyoming native LCpl Rylee McCollum. He, along with 12 of his fellow servicemembers, lost their lives while defending the airport in Kabul as American citizens and allies escaped the clutches of the Taliban. Their selfless service and sacrifice will be honored and remembered, and they will be forever cherished by a grateful nation.

Rylee was a Wyoming guy through and through. His life’s goal of serving in the U.S. Marine Corps began seemingly while he was still in diapers, before he could even comprehend what that entailed. He was born with the heart of a soldier.

He joined the military right out of high school. He heard the call to defend our Nation, and he didn’t hesitate to answer that call. He had plans to become a history teacher and coach once he finished his commitment to the Marines. He was about to become a father.

I had the opportunity to meet with some of Rylee’s family this past weekend. I had the great honor of expressing my deepest appreciation of Rylee’s sacrifice to them in person on behalf of a very grateful Wyoming. Wyoming’s very special way of honoring its beloved Rylee was on full display last Friday.

People waving American flags lined the streets of Jackson to give Rylee a hero’s welcome as his remains were returned home. The people of Wyoming are heartbroken but infinitely proud of his bravery and sacrifice.

Just yesterday, September 13, 2021, Rylee’s family welcomed into the world his daughter, Levi Rylee Rose—8 pounds, 10 ounces. Although she will never meet her father, who was killed before she was born, she will be surrounded by love from mother Gigi, proud grandfather Jim McCollum, Rylee’s sisters, and many other relatives who will share with Levi what a wonderful and heroic father she had.

Our hearts, our love, our prayers, and our embrace are with Rylee’s wife, child, friends, and family as they grieve his loss and remember his bravery.

Madam President, Wyoming will never ever forget.

I yield back.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. MURPHY). The Senator from Nebraska.

HONORING CORPORAL DAEGAN WILLIAM TYELER  
PAGE

Mr. SASSE. Mr. President, I rise today to speak in memory and in honor of Corporal Page, a 23-year-old marine from Nebraska. He gave his life defending Americans and our allies in the chaos of the Kabul airport as many tried to escape the capture of Afghanistan by a band of blood-thirsty terrorists.

Corporal Page is 1 of 13 heroes who gave his life that day defending the Kabul airport in the midst of that chaotic evacuation. The American people owe these men and women a debt of gratitude that we will never be able to repay.

Corporal Page lost his life while honoring our Nation’s promise that we would leave no one behind. He and his fellow marines never wavered. They didn’t fail in executing their duty. They were given an impossible mission, and these men and women fought to the end. It is now our duty to stand with these families, the families of each of these 13, and to honor their sacrifices.

Last Friday, in Omaha, thousands and thousands and thousands of Nebraskans lined the streets to give Corporal Page a hero’s welcome as his body was returned home. As his family said, “Our hearts are still broken, but we are the lucky few who know what it is” to have the entire city of Omaha give you a hug.

We are called to gather around one another. We are called to join with the grieving and to mourn the loss of these brave men and women.

Corporal Page was a Nebraskan who made his family and his State and his entire Nation proud. He left for boot camp shortly after graduating from Millard South High School, and he was proud to serve in the 2nd Battalion, 1st Marine Regiment with his fellow marines.

He enjoyed playing hockey. One of my kids played hockey against him. He

went to Millard South High School, but he played hockey for Westside and the Fremont team my kids played on. They got to compete against him and know him as a competitor.

He enjoyed hunting, being in the outdoors. He especially enjoyed the water. He was a Boy Scout in Troop 331. He loved spending time with his family and friends. He was a member of his local church, the Lutheran church of Millard, St. Paul's Lutheran Church of Millard.

Like so many Nebraskans, he was a die-hard sports fan, his favorite team being the Chicago Blackhawks.

Corporal Page gave the last full measure of devotion to his country. His mission was clear. In the chaos of Kabul, Corporal Page was there to protect and save lives, and that is exactly what he did. Marines held the line and pulled both Americans and our Afghan allies to safety. Marines pulled children out of hell, gave them water, and got them to safety.

Corporal Page gave his life so that others would live. Nebraskans will never forget him. Heroes like Corporal Page didn't fail us, and we can't forget them. We must keep our promise to honor his family, to teach our families about their sacrifice, and to strive to live lives of gratitude. It is times like this where we rediscover the heart of our country. Communities that pull together—as happened last Friday and will happen this Friday at his funeral at St. Paul's Lutheran—we pray together, make meals for each other, and we are reminded of the sacrifice so many families have made.

Today, and in the days to come, we in Nebraska will honor Corporal Page, and we across this country will honor the 13 who fell that day. Your sacrifice is a debt we can never repay.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Texas.

HONORING LANCE CORPORAL DAVID LEE ESPINOZA

Mr. CRUZ. Mr. President, I rise today to honor the life of David Lee Espinoza, who died in defense of our Nation on August 26.

David was a marine who was helping with the evacuation of the Kabul airport when he was murdered by a suicide bomber, along with 12 other service men and women who so senselessly had their lives taken from them that day. His mother got the call that every parent of every servicemember fears when she was told at 2:30 in the morning that her son had lost his life in Afghanistan.

David was just 20 years old. David was a lifelong Texan. He was born in Laredo and raised nearby in Rio Bravo, where he was the eldest of four children.

David always wanted to be a marine. And as a child, he loved to consider different military strategies as he played with toy soldiers. David joined the Marines the summer after he graduated from LBJ High School in Laredo in

2019, and he spent time serving in Jordan before being sent to Kabul the week before he died. It has been said that other service branches wanted David to join their ranks, but David always knew he was meant to be a marine.

David was a beloved son, a brother, a friend, and a fellow marine. He was a patriot who had a passion for service, and our Nation can never repay the debt that we owe to David and to his family for giving what President Lincoln hailed as "the last full measure of devotion."

Yesterday, at David's funeral mass, Father Francisco Stodola said:

As tragic as this loss is, and as deep as the wounds of sorrow have pierced the hearts of his loved ones, and particularly his mother—because a mother would rather lose an arm or a leg than to have to lose a child—we can console ourselves with the fact that David died doing what he wanted to do with the people he wanted to do it with.

We will remember David and the incredible sacrifice he gave for our country. He will also be remembered by his community. The Laredo City Council has already voted to name the road in front of LBJ High School, David's alma mater, as the "Lance Corporal David Lee Espinoza Memorial Boulevard."

To David's parents, Elizabeth Holguin and Victor Manuel Dominguez, and to his siblings, Angel Martin Espinoza, Victor Manuel Dominguez, Jr., and Delilah Alyssa Dominguez, I want to say that your son and your brother was a brave patriot who will never be forgotten. Heidi and I are lifting you up in prayer as you mourn the loss of your beloved David.

The 91st Psalm is sometimes called the soldier's or the warrior's psalm because it asks the Lord for protection against many foes, and it assures us that the Lord will be with us in times of trouble:

Because he loves me, says the Lord, I will rescue him;

I will protect him, for he acknowledges my name.

He will call on me, and I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble.

I will deliver him and honor him.

David's sacrifice was not in vain. He died as he lived, giving of himself in the service of others. David now rests from his labors, having been a good and faithful servant.

And to the families of all of those whose lives were lost in Afghanistan this year and in the 20 years that preceded it, know that your sacrifice, know that your loss was not in vain. America is better. America is safer. American lives are more secure because your sons and daughters answered the call. America is better and safer and more secure because David Espinoza answered the call. Texas and America are better for having known him, and we are in his debt.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Missouri.

HONORING LANCE CORPORAL JARED SCHMITZ

Mr. BLUNT. Mr. President, I rise today to join my colleagues in hon-

oring the 13 servicemembers who were killed in action in Afghanistan last month doing what only the bravest and the most extraordinary Americans do: risking their lives to save others.

Every name has been mentioned on the floor today, but no matter how often we mention those names, we can't restore those individuals to their families. We can't restore them to their communities. We can't restore them to the people they served side by side with in the military.

But we can remember what they did—what they did collectively, and what they did individually.

One of the marines we tragically lost in the attack at Kabul airport was Lance Corporal Jared Schmitz of Wentzville, MO. He was just 6 months old on 9/11. In fact, we have seen that discussion many times of people who now give their life who were babies or not yet born on 9/11, 20 years ago.

Even though he was 6 months old on 9/11, he knew what he wanted to be, and he knew he wanted to be a marine by the time he was a sophomore in high school. He started training as a teenager, years before he enlisted. After graduating from Fort Zumwalt South High School in St. Peters, MO, he realized his dream. He joined the Marines and served as an infantryman.

Jared's father Mark Schmitz says his son—this is his father's quote and it is a great thing to be able to say about your son. Mark Schmitz said his son "looked out for everybody. Anyone who needed help, he was there. He was selfless. He never put himself first."

Of course, we see another moment when he and the others whose lives were lost and others who were injured—some dramatically injured—didn't put themselves first; they put others first.

Friends remember Jared as energetic, as happy, as a faithful fan of the St. Louis Blues. Others will remember him as 1 of 56 Missourians who made the ultimate sacrifice as part of the either Operation Enduring Freedom or Operation Freedom's Sentinel.

We remember and honor each and every one of these heroes from our State and heroes from every State who have given their lives for freedom in this post-9/11 world, where we don't know exactly where the borders are or who—where the enemy might be at any given time, whether they are going to strike at home, where we live, or whether they are going to strike far away, where others are representing us and defending us. We remember and honor each of them.

We pray for their families and all who will feel the loss for the rest of their lives. We need to now do our part every day to live lives worthy of their sacrifice, never taking for granted the freedom and security we have because they were called to serve and support it and guarantee it for another generation.

I know I join all my colleagues on both sides of the aisle as we think of



those who are serving today, those who are willing to pay the ultimate cost and, particularly today, as we focus on these 13 individuals who did pay that price.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Massachusetts.

#### NOMINATION OF ANGEL KELLEY

Mr. MARKEY. Mr. President, I rise to speak in support of the confirmation of Judge Angel Kelley to serve as a judge on the U.S. District Court for the District of Massachusetts.

In a legal career that has already spanned almost 30 years, Judge Kelley has excelled in everything she has done, and she has done a lot. She has been a trial attorney, a legal instructor, and a State court judge in my home State of Massachusetts.

She has devoted her entire professional career to serving the public. She began her practice of law representing children in delinquency and protective care cases in New York. She went on to serve as a senior trial attorney and assistant chief for litigation in the fast-paced and demanding Port Authority of New York and New Jersey. She served as an assistant U.S. attorney.

She has taught litigation skills to students at Harvard University Law School and supervised them representing indigent clients appearing in probate and family court.

As a judge sitting in the Massachusetts District and Superior Courts, she has presided over hundreds of trials. She has issued opinions in civil and criminal proceedings, addressing topics including employment discrimination, judicial immunity for testifying witnesses, grand jury integrity, the right against self-incrimination, and public records access. Her opinions suggest a thoughtful, balanced, and evenhanded approach.

Judge Kelley has throughout her career demonstrated one thing above all else, and that is an abiding commitment to our Nation's promise of equal justice under the law. She has been a leader in the Massachusetts judiciary on fulfilling this promise, especially to litigants of color. She has been a friend and mentor to many members of the legal community and their affinity groups, with her nomination receiving strong support from the Massachusetts Black Lawyers Association, the Massachusetts Hispanic Lawyers Association, and the Asian American Lawyers Association of Massachusetts, among others.

At a time when our Federal bench needs both diversity of experience and diversity of background more than ever, Judge Kelley meets the moment with qualifications that are, unfortunately, too rare for Federal judges. It is my sincere hope to see more nominees like Judge Kelley in the near future as we help reshape America's judiciary to better suit the people it serves.

In light of her qualifications, experience, and service, including a unani-

mous "well qualified" rating from the American Bar Association, Judge Kelley received bipartisan support in the Judiciary Committee to advance her nomination. I urge my colleagues to support her nomination here on the floor and vote yes to confirm her so that we can fill a long vacancy on the Massachusetts Federal court with a true, outstandingly qualified jurist who represents the best of our judicial system and our Nation.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Colorado.

#### NOMINATION OF VERONICA S. ROSSMAN

Mr. BENNET. Mr. President, I rise to speak about Veronica Rossman, President Biden's nominee for the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit.

Ms. Rossman comes to this floor with broad legal experience and a sterling reputation in Colorado. Veronica cares deeply about justice and the rule of law because she knows what it means to live without it.

Veronica was born in Russia, where her family faced anti-Semitism at every turn. Her grandparents couldn't openly practice their faith because they feared retaliation at work. Her father was a brilliant career scientist who was routinely denied promotions. Her mother, a talented pianist and music teacher, never openly shared her faith until the family fled Russia.

In the end, Veronica's parents knew that anti-Semitism would stand in the way of her enormous potential, and they wanted her to grow up with a freedom that they never enjoyed. And like so many others in our country's history, Veronica and her family came to America as political refugees.

And from virtually nothing, Veronica built a distinguished legal career. She worked hard and earned a BA from Columbia University, and then a JD from the University of California at Hastings.

She clerked for Justice William Maupin of the Nevada Supreme Court, who could say not enough about her brilliant legal mind. Veronica then practiced appellate litigation at Morrison & Foerster, where she worked on one of the largest international patent cases in history.

Later, she served as a staff attorney for the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit, and taught for 3 years at the University of Denver as a visiting professor of law.

In private practice, Veronica specialized in complex civil litigation and handled cases about everything from antitrust law to intellectual property law.

At this point, Veronica could have pursued any number of high-paying legal jobs, but, instead, she became a Federal public defender for the districts of Colorado and Wyoming.

And over the past 12 years, Ms. Rossman developed rare expertise as an appellate specialist, handling direct criminal appeals from every judicial district in the Tenth Circuit.

In her time as a public defender, she has handled or supervised over 100 appellate matters before the Tenth Circuit. She has represented more than 250 indigent clients—from controversial defendants to people sentenced to long terms for a nonviolent offense, even though they had no criminal history.

She fought for every one of those Americans, often against long odds. But more than that, she fought for the American ideal that everyone deserves equal justice under the law.

If confirmed, Veronica would be the only judge on the Tenth Circuit with experience as a public defender. We need more judges like Veronica, who are not only highly qualified, but who know what it means to be on the wrong end of the legal system that too often fails the most vulnerable in our society.

I know some of my Republican colleagues worry about confirming public defenders because they don't know that much about civil procedure. I don't share that view. But in Veronica's case, it doesn't apply anyway. When she was in private practice, as I mentioned, she worked exclusively on civil matters. She taught civil procedure at the University of Denver.

And some others have suggested that public defenders bring in an ideological agenda to the bench. In Veronica's case, that couldn't be further from the truth. Her family's story has proven her profound appreciation for how, at its best, the rule of law is an antidote to the arbitrary administration of law based on prejudice.

And you don't have to take my word for it. Here is what she told the Judiciary Committee under oath. She said:

[If confirmed. . . . In every case, I will treat all litigants respectfully and impartially. . . . I will carefully review the record on appeal; I will put aside any personal views; I will faithfully adhere to the rule of law.

Ms. Rossman's qualifications are obvious. She has been a first-rate lawyer, and she would make a first-rate judge. That is why the Judiciary Committee sent her to the floor with a bipartisan vote. Now I hope all of us can come together and confirm this outstanding nominee.

#### JUDICIAL NOMINATIONS

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, this week, the Senate will continue the important work of confirming President Biden's judicial nominees.

From the moment President Biden entered office, Senate Democrats have worked closely with his administration to identify nominees with impeccable credentials and extensive experience. Together, we have worked to restore balance to our Nation's Federal courts by confirming nominees with diverse professional and demographic backgrounds.

Today, I would like to speak in support of three such nominees: David Estudillo, nominated to the Western

District of Washington; Angel Kelley, nominated to the District of Massachusetts; and Veronica Rossman, nominated to the Tenth Circuit Court of Appeals.

Judge David Estudillo is a native son of Washington State who has devoted his entire legal career to serving his community. He was born in Sunnyside, WA, where his parents run a small grocery store bearing the family's name. His mom and dad first arrived in the United States in the 1960s as agricultural workers through the Bracero program. Inspired by his family's determination and tenacious work ethic, Judge Estudillo decided to pursue a career in law. He received his undergraduate and law degrees from the University of Washington and has since practiced law in the State where he is now nominated to serve.

Since 2015, Judge Estudillo has served as a Grant County Superior judge. When he ran for reelection in 2016, his record as a litigator and a judge earned him broad support within Grant County and throughout the State. He received endorsements from the Grant County Democratic and Republican Parties, as well as all nine State supreme court justices.

Before his appointment to the bench, Judge Estudillo served as a litigator for 16 years. He spent much of that time as an immigration attorney, a role in which he assisted his neighbors with asylum applications and helped explain the complexities of immigration law at a host of community forums.

Over the course of his judicial career, Judge Estudillo has presided over nearly 50 jury and bench trials that have gone to final verdict or judgment. He will be more than prepared to take on the demanding work of the district court from day one. Judge Estudillo has the strong support of his home State Senators, Senators MURRAY and CANTWELL, and received a "Qualified" rating from the American Bar Association. He also received a strong, 15-7 bipartisan vote in the Judiciary Committee.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting his nomination to the Western District of Washington.

Today, the Senate will also vote on Judge Angel Kelley's nomination to the Federal District Court of Massachusetts. A graduate of Georgetown University Law Center, Judge Kelley has the credentials, experience, and temperament needed to effectively serve the people of Massachusetts.

Prior to her appointment to the Massachusetts State court in 2009, Judge Kelley was a prolific litigator who devoted her practice to public service. She worked as a Federal prosecutor, an attorney for indigent juvenile defendants, and as a senior litigator for the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey, where she helped represent the families of the 87 Port Authority employees who tragically lost their lives on 9/11.

With 13 years of judicial experience, Judge Kelley has handled both civil and criminal cases and presided over more than 100 trials. At every turn, Judge Kelley has demonstrated the qualities we expect from the best of jurists: thoughtfulness, evenhandedness, and impartiality.

Judge Kelley has the strong support of her home State Senators, Senators WARREN and MARKEY, and received a unanimous "Well Qualified" rating from the American Bar Association. Like Judge Estudillo, Judge Kelley received a bipartisan 15-7 vote in committee, a testament to her qualifications and commitment to the rule of law.

I urge all of my colleagues to join me in supporting Judge Kelley's nomination.

Finally, the Senate will also consider today the nomination of Veronica Rossman to a Colorado seat on the Tenth Circuit Court of Appeals. With her extensive appellate experience in both private practice and as a Federal public defender, Ms. Rossman will be an outstanding addition to the Tenth Circuit.

She has spent the majority of her career at the Office of the Federal Public Defender for the Districts of Colorado and Wyoming, where she has handled and supervised over 100 criminal appellate matters arising out of every judicial district in the Tenth Circuit.

As I have said many times, former public defenders, like Ms. Rossman, offer a crucial perspective that is often underrepresented within our Federal judiciary. And I applaud President Biden and Senators BENNET and HICKENLOOPER for supporting her nomination.

In private practice, Ms. Rossman specialized in complex civil litigation, including appellate cases and matters involving antitrust law and intellectual property law. She has received a "Qualified" rating from the American Bar Association and earned bipartisan support in the Judiciary Committee.

Ms. Rossman is a seasoned practitioner in Federal courts, and she is well prepared to serve on the Tenth Circuit. I look forward to supporting her nomination, and I encourage my colleagues to join me.

During the first 8 months of the Biden administration, this Senate has made tremendous progress in confirming to the bench individuals who have dedicated their careers to defending the rule of law.

With the three nominees before the Senate today, we can continue building on that progress and bring our Federal judiciary closer to reflecting the full diversity of the American experience.

#### VOTE ON KELLEY NOMINATION

Mr. BENNET. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the rollcall vote scheduled for 5:30 be called now.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Kelley nomination?

Mr. BENNET. I ask for the nays and yeas.

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. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. SCHATZ) is necessarily absent.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BRAUN), the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI), and the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. ROUNDS).

The result was announced—yeas 52, nays 44, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 364 Ex.]

#### YEAS—52

Baldwin	Hassan	Peters
Bennet	Heinrich	Reed
Blumenthal	Hickenlooper	Rosen
Booker	Hirono	Sanders
Brown	Kaine	Schumer
Cantwell	Kelly	Shaheen
Cardin	King	Sinema
Carper	Klobuchar	Smith
Casey	Leahy	Stabenow
Collins	Lujan	Tester
Coons	Manchin	Van Hollen
Cortez Masto	Markey	Warner
Duckworth	Menendez	Warnock
Durbin	Merkley	Warren
Feinstein	Murphy	Whitehouse
Gillibrand	Murray	Wyden
Graham	Ossoff	
Grassley	Padilla	

#### NAYS—44

Barrasso	Hagerty	Risch
Blackburn	Hawley	Romney
Blunt	Hoeben	Rubio
Boozman	Hyde-Smith	Sasse
Burr	Inhofe	Scott (FL)
Capito	Johnson	Scott (SC)
Cassidy	Kennedy	Shelby
Cornyn	Lankford	Sullivan
Cotton	Lee	Thune
Cramer	Lummis	Tillis
Crapo	Marshall	Toomey
Cruz	McConnell	Tuberville
Daines	Moran	Wicker
Ernst	Paul	Young
Fischer	Portman	

#### NOT VOTING—4

Braun	Rounds
Murkowski	Schatz

The nomination was confirmed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. MARKEY). Under the previous order, the motion to reconsider is considered made and laid upon the table, and the President will be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

#### CLOTURE MOTION

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

#### CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 251, Veronica S. Rossman, of Colorado, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Tenth Circuit.

Charles E. Schumer, Richard J. Durbin, Michael F. Bennet, John Hickenlooper, Christopher A. Coons, Cory A. Booker, Edward J. Markey, Elizabeth Warren, Alex Padilla, Richard Blumenthal, Mazie Hirono, Chris Van Hollen, Sheldon Whitehouse, Amy Klobuchar, Patrick J. Leahy, Debbie Stabenow, Martin Heinrich.

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

The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that debate on the nomination of Veronica S. Rossman, of Colorado, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Tenth Circuit, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. SCHATZ) is necessarily absent.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BRAUN), the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CRAMER), the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI), and the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. ROUNDS).

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 51, nays 44, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 365 Ex.]

#### YEAS—51

Baldwin	Hassan	Padilla
Bennet	Heinrich	Peters
Blumenthal	Hickenlooper	Reed
Booker	Hirono	Rosen
Brown	Kaine	Sanders
Cantwell	Kelly	Schumer
Cardin	King	Shaheen
Carper	Klobuchar	Sinema
Casey	Leahy	Smith
Collins	Lujan	Stabenow
Coons	Manchin	Tester
Cortez Masto	Markey	Van Hollen
Duckworth	Menendez	Warner
Durbin	Merkley	Warnock
Feinstein	Murphy	Warren
Gillibrand	Murray	Whitehouse
Graham	Ossoff	Wyden

#### NAYS—44

Barrasso	Hagerty	Risch
Blackburn	Hawley	Romney
Blunt	Hoeven	Rubio
Boozman	Hyde-Smith	Sasse
Burr	Inhofe	Scott (FL)
Capito	Johnson	Scott (SC)
Cassidy	Kennedy	Shelby
Cornyn	Lankford	Sullivan
Cotton	Lee	Thune
Crapo	Lummis	Tillis
Cruz	Marshall	Toomey
Daines	McConnell	Tuberville
Ernst	Moran	Wicker
Fischer	Paul	Young
Grassley	Portman	

#### NOT VOTING—5

Braun	Murkowski	Schatz
Cramer	Rounds	

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. PETERS). On this vote the yeas are 51, the nays are 44, and the motion is agreed to.

#### EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The legislative clerk read the nomination of Veronica S. Rossman, of Colorado, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Tenth Circuit.

Thereupon, the Senate proceeded to consider the nomination.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

#### ORDER OF BUSINESS

Mr. SCHUMER. I ask unanimous consent that the postcloture time on the Rossman nomination be considered expired, and at 5:30 p.m., Monday, September 20, the Senate vote on the confirmation of the nomination.

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

#### LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. 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. I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 231.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The legislative clerk read the nomination of Margaret Irene Strickland, of New Mexico, to be United States District Judge for the District of New Mexico.

#### CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. SCHUMER. 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. 231, Margaret Irene Strickland, of New Mexico, to be United States District Judge for the District of New Mexico.

Charles E. Schumer, Martin Heinrich, Alex Padilla, Margaret Wood Hassan, Raphael Warnock, Ben Ray Lujan, Gary C. Peters, Elizabeth Warren, Christopher Murphy, Tammy Duckworth, Patrick J. Leahy, Sheldon Whitehouse, Michael F. Bennet, Tim Kaine, Tammy Baldwin, Cory A. Booker, Sherrod Brown.

Mr. SCHUMER. Finally, I ask unanimous consent that the mandatory quorum call for the cloture motion filed today, September 14, be waived, and that the cloture motion ripen at 11:30 a.m. on Tuesday, September 21.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. SCHUMER. I move to proceed to legislative session.

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

#### MEASURE READ THE FIRST TIME—S. 2747

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I understand that there is a bill at the desk, and I ask for its first reading.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will read the bill by title for the first time.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 2747) to expand Americans' access to the ballot box and reduce the influence of big money in politics, and for other purposes.

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, 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 receive its second reading on the next legislative day.

#### DRIFTNET MODERNIZATION AND BYCATCH REDUCTION ACT

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation be discharged from further consideration of S. 273, and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 273) to improve the management of driftnet fishing.

There being no objection, the committee was discharged and the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. SCHUMER. I ask unanimous consent that the Feinstein amendment be considered and agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

The amendment (No. 3827) was agreed to as follows:

(Purpose: To amend the fees provision)

In section 6(b), strike “, without appropriation or fiscal year limitation.”.

At the end of section 6, add the following:

(c) LIMITATION ON COLLECTION AND AVAILABILITY.—Fees shall be collected and available pursuant to this section only to the extent and in such amounts as provided in advance in appropriations Acts, subject to subsection (d).

(d) FEE COLLECTED DURING START-UP PERIOD.—Notwithstanding subsection (c), fees may be collected through the date of enactment of an Act making appropriations for the activities authorized under this Act through September 30, 2022, and shall be available for obligation and remain available until expended.

Mr. SCHUMER. I ask unanimous consent that the bill be considered read a third time.

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

The bill, as amended, was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading and was read the third time.

Mr. SCHUMER. I know of no further debate on the bill, as amended.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there any further debate?

If not, and the bill having been read the third time, the question is, Shall the bill pass?

The bill (S. 273), as amended, was passed, as follows:

S. 273

*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 “Driftnet Modernization and Bycatch Reduction Act”.

#### SEC. 2. DEFINITION.

Section 3(25) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (16 U.S.C. 1802(25)) is amended by inserting “, or with a mesh size of 14 inches or greater,” after “more”.

#### SEC. 3. FINDINGS AND POLICY.

(a) FINDINGS.—Section 206(b) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (16 U.S.C. 1826(b)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (6), by striking “and” at the end;

(2) in paragraph (7), by striking the period and inserting “; and”; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

“(8) within the exclusive economic zone, large-scale driftnet fishing that deploys nets with large mesh sizes causes significant entanglement and mortality of living marine resources, including myriad protected species, despite limitations on the lengths of such nets.”.

(b) POLICY.—Section 206(c) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (16 U.S.C. 1826(c)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (2), by striking “and” at the end;

(2) in paragraph (3), by striking the period and inserting “; and”; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

“(4) prioritize the phase out of large-scale driftnet fishing in the exclusive economic zone and promote the development and adoption of alternative fishing methods and gear types that minimize the incidental catch of living marine resources.”.

#### SEC. 4. TRANSITION PROGRAM.

Section 206 of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (16 U.S.C. 1826) is amended by adding at the end the following—

“(i) FISHING GEAR TRANSITION PROGRAM.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—During the 5-year period beginning on the date of enactment of the Driftnet Modernization and Bycatch Reduction Act, the Secretary shall conduct a transition program to facilitate the phase-out of large-scale driftnet fishing and adoption of alternative fishing practices that minimize the incidental catch of living marine resources, and shall award grants to eligible permit holders who participate in the program.

“(2) PERMISSIBLE USES.—Any permit holder receiving a grant under paragraph (1) may use such funds only for the purpose of covering—

“(A) any fee originally associated with a permit authorizing participation in a large-scale driftnet fishery, if such permit is surrendered for permanent revocation, and such permit holder relinquishes any claim associated with the permit;

“(B) a forfeiture of fishing gear associated with a permit described in subparagraph (A); or

“(C) the purchase of alternative gear with minimal incidental catch of living marine resources, if the fishery participant is au-

thorized to continue fishing using such alternative gears.

“(3) CERTIFICATION.—The Secretary shall certify that, with respect to each participant in the program under this subsection, any permit authorizing participation in a large-scale driftnet fishery has been permanently revoked and that no new permits will be issued to authorize such fishing.”.

#### SEC. 5. EXCEPTION.

Section 307(1)(M) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (16 U.S.C. 1857(1)(M)) is amended by inserting before the semicolon the following: “, unless such large-scale driftnet fishing—

“(i) deploys, within the exclusive economic zone, a net with a total length of less than two and one-half kilometers and a mesh size of 14 inches or greater; and

“(ii) is conducted within 5 years of the date of enactment of the Driftnet Modernization and Bycatch Reduction Act”.

#### SEC. 6. FEES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The North Pacific Fishery Management Council may recommend, and the Secretary of Commerce may approve, regulations necessary for the collection of fees from charter vessel operators who guide recreational anglers who harvest Pacific halibut in International Pacific Halibut Commission regulatory areas 2C and 3A as those terms are defined in part 300 of title 50, Code of Federal Regulations (or any successor regulations).

(b) USE OF FEES.—Any fees collected under this section shall be available for the purposes of—

(1) financing administrative costs of the Recreational Quota Entity program;

(2) the purchase of halibut quota shares in International Pacific Halibut Commission regulatory areas 2C and 3A by the recreational quota entity authorized in part 679 of title 50, Code of Federal Regulations (or any successor regulations);

(3) halibut conservation and research; and

(4) promotion of the halibut resource by the recreational quota entity authorized in part 679 of title 50, Code of Federal Regulations (or any successor regulations).

(c) LIMITATION ON COLLECTION AND AVAILABILITY.—Fees shall be collected and available pursuant to this section only to the extent and in such amounts as provided in advance in appropriations Acts, subject to subsection (d).

(d) FEE COLLECTED DURING START-UP PERIOD.—Notwithstanding subsection (c), fees may be collected through the date of enactment of an Act making appropriations for the activities authorized under this Act through September 30, 2022, and shall be available for obligation and remain available until expended.

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I further ask unanimous consent that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

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

#### REINFORCING AMERICAN-MADE PRODUCTS ACT

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation be discharged from further consideration of S. 297 and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 297) to make exclusive the authority of the Federal Government to regulate the labeling of products made in the United States and introduced in interstate or foreign commerce, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the committee was discharged and the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. SCHUMER. I ask unanimous consent that the bill be considered read a third time and passed and that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

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

The bill (S. 297) was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed as follows:

S. 297

*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 “Reinforcing American-Made Products Act”.

#### SEC. 2. EXCLUSIVITY OF FEDERAL AUTHORITY TO REGULATE LABELING OF PRODUCTS MADE IN THE UNITED STATES AND INTRODUCED IN INTERSTATE OR FOREIGN COMMERCE.

Section 320933 of the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994 (15 U.S.C. 45a) is amended—

(1) in the first sentence, by striking “To the extent” and inserting the following:

“(a) IN GENERAL.—To the extent”;

(2) by adding at the end the following:

“(b) EFFECT ON STATE LAW.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), the provisions of this section shall supersede any provisions of the law of any State expressly relating to the extent to which a product is introduced, delivered for introduction, sold, advertised, or offered for sale in interstate or foreign commerce with a ‘Made in the U.S.A.’ or ‘Made in America’ label, or the equivalent thereof, in order to represent that such product was in whole or substantial part of domestic origin.

“(2) ENFORCEMENT.—Nothing in this section shall preclude the application of the law of any State to the use of a label not in compliance with subsection (a).”; and

(3) in the third sentence of subsection (a), as so designated by paragraph (1), by striking “Nothing in this section” and inserting “Except as provided in subsection (b), nothing in this section”.

#### COMMENDING THE SERVICE OF HAMILTON-CLASS COAST GUARD CUTTERS AND THE OFFICERS AND CREW

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation be discharged from further consideration and the Senate now proceed to S. Res. 315.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 315) commending the service of Hamilton-class Coast Guard cutters and the officers and crew who served on them.

There being no objection, the committee was discharged and the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 315) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in the RECORD of July 22, 2021, under "Submitted Resolutions.")

#### RECOGNIZING THE SERIOUSNESS OF POLYCYSTIC OVARY SYNDROME (PCOS) AND EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE DESIGNATION OF SEPTEMBER 2021 AS "PCOS AWARENESS MONTH"

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions be discharged from further consideration and the Senate now proceed to S. Res. 325.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 325) recognizing the seriousness of polycystic ovary syndrome (PCOS) and expressing support for the designation of September 2021 as "PCOS Awareness Month".

There being no objection, the committee was discharged and the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. SCHUMER. I ask unanimous that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 325) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in the RECORD of July 28, 2021, under "Submitted Resolutions.")

#### EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE DESIGNATION OF SEPTEMBER 25, 2021, AS "NATIONAL ATAXIA AWARENESS DAY", AND RAISING AWARENESS OF ATAXIA, ATAXIA RESEARCH, AND THE SEARCH FOR A CURE

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions be discharged from further consideration and the Senate now proceed to S. Res. 339.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 339) expressing support for the designation of September 25, 2021, as "National Ataxia Awareness Day", and raising awareness of ataxia, ataxia research, and the search for a cure.

There being no objection, the committee was discharged, and the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. SCHUMER. I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed; the Murphy amendment at the desk to the preamble be considered and agreed to; the preamble, as amended, be agreed to; and that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 339) was agreed to.

The amendment (No. 3828) was agreed to as follows:

(Purpose: To amend the preamble)

In the fifth whereas clause of the preamble, insert "in the United States" after "individuals".

The preamble, as amended, was agreed to.

The resolution with its preamble, as amended, reads as follows:

S. Res. 339

Whereas ataxia is a clinical manifestation indicating degeneration or dysfunction of the brain that negatively affects the coordination, precision, and accurate timing of physical movements;

Whereas ataxia can strike individuals of all ages, including children;

Whereas the term "ataxia" is used to classify a group of rare, inherited neurodegenerative diseases including—

- (1) ataxia telangiectasia;
- (2) episodic ataxia;
- (3) Friedreich's ataxia; and
- (4) spinocerebellar ataxia;

Whereas there are many known types of genetic ataxia, but the genetic basis for ataxia in some patients is still unknown;

Whereas all inherited ataxias affect fewer than 200,000 individuals in the United States and, therefore, are recognized as rare diseases under the Orphan Drug Act (Public Law 97-414; 96 Stat. 2049);

Whereas some genetic ataxias are inherited in an autosomal dominant manner, while others are inherited in an autosomal recessive manner;

Whereas ataxia symptoms can also be caused by noninherited health conditions and other factors, including stroke, tumor, cerebral palsy, head trauma, multiple sclerosis, alcohol abuse, and certain medications;

Whereas ataxia can present physical, psychological, and financial challenges for patients and their families;

Whereas symptoms and outcomes of ataxia progress at different rates and include—

- (1) lack of coordination;
- (2) slurred speech;
- (3) cardiomyopathy;
- (4) scoliosis;
- (5) eye movement abnormalities;
- (6) difficulty walking;
- (7) tremors;
- (8) trouble eating and swallowing;
- (9) difficulties with other activities that require fine motor skills; and
- (10) death;

Whereas most patients with ataxia require the use of assistive devices, such as wheelchairs and walkers, to aid in their mobility, and many individuals may need physical and occupational therapy;

Whereas there is no treatment or cure approved by the Food and Drug Administration for ataxia; and

Whereas clinical research to develop safe and effective treatments for ataxia is ongoing; Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the need for greater public awareness of ataxia;

(2) expresses support for the designation of September 25, 2021, as "National Ataxia Awareness Day";

(3) supports the goals of National Ataxia Awareness Day, which are—

(A) to raise awareness of the causes and symptoms of ataxia among the general public and health care professionals;

(B) to improve diagnosis of ataxia and access to care for patients affected by ataxia; and

(C) to accelerate ataxia research, including on safe and effective treatment options and, ultimately, a cure;

(4) acknowledges the challenges facing individuals in the United States who have ataxia and the families of those individuals; and

(5) encourages States, territories, and localities to support the goals of National Ataxia Awareness Day.

#### EXPRESSING THE SUPPORT OF THE SENATE FOR THE CONTRIBUTIONS AND ACHIEVEMENTS OF STUDENT PARENTS AND RECOGNIZING SEPTEMBER 2021 AS NATIONAL STUDENT PARENT MONTH

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 362, submitted earlier today.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 362) expressing the support of the Senate for the contributions and achievements of student parents and recognizing September 2021 as National Student Parent Month.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. SCHUMER. I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 362) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in today's RECORD under "Submitted Resolutions.")

#### SCHOOL BUS SAFETY MONTH

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 363, submitted earlier today.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 363) designating September 2021 as "School Bus Safety Month".

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. SCHUMER. I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 363) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in today's RECORD under "Submitted Resolutions.")

## MORNING BUSINESS

### TRIBUTE TO PAUL COSTELLO

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, few people have advocated for their home States as tirelessly and as effectively as Paul Costello has advocated for Vermont. After 21 years at the helm of the Vermont Council for Rural Development, Paul is retiring from his post, but I know he will never retire from his steadfast support for Vermont.

Paul has dedicated his entire career to fostering dialogue and embracing civic engagement to move our communities forward by bringing people together to inspire constructive change. His decades of service deserve special recognition. As I was as well, Paul was born and raised in Vermont. He grew up in Burlington and spent his undergraduate years at the University of Vermont. He later crossed the border to earn a Ph.D. in intellectual history from Montreal's McGill University. After completing his education, Paul lectured at his alma maters and at Saint Michael's College, and he served as an adviser at Sterling College in Craftsbury. He served for 5 years at Central Vermont Basic Adult Education, bringing literacy instruction to teens and adults in rural Vermont counties, before stepping into his long-time role as executive director at the Vermont Council on Rural Development—VCRD—in 2000.

The VCRD is truly a Vermont institution. The council does important work to help strengthen our rural communities. Known for their community visits, VCRD travels to towns throughout the State, where leaders from different sectors in Vermont listen to community members identify and acknowledge the challenges and opportunities they have before them. Sticking to Paul's dedication to a locally driven process, the visiting VCRD team reflects on the community discussion and offers guidance and potential resources to help the community meet their needs and goals. The VCRD has facilitated community visits in over 75 Vermont towns, and success from these events is seen in the form of new projects, grants, job creation, implementation of green energy, and so much more. These visits also have the effect of bringing our rural communities together and adding to the sense of unity that is already so strong in our small towns.

Through Paul's leadership, the VCRD has followed through with initiatives that have a lasting positive influence on our State as a whole. The council's

Working Lands Enterprise Initiative has created hundreds of new jobs and generated more than \$35 million for Vermont's economy. Under Paul's steady hand, the VCRD has also helped to improve and expand Vermont's digital economy, something which our State continues to expand to make ours a competitive economy, locally, regionally, and internationally.

Paul has lived by his mantra of "listening, learning and helping," and the benefits can be seen across rural Vermont. He is a Vermonter through and through, and I am proud to call him a dear friend.

In honor of Paul's retirement and 21 years of exceptional service to Vermont, I ask unanimous consent that the article "Moved the Needle," by Steve Pappas, published in the Barre Montpelier Times Argus, be printed in the RECORD.

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

[From the Barre Montpelier Times Argus, June 3, 2021]

#### MOVED THE NEEDLE

(By Steve Pappas)

Paul Costello is too humble to say it, so we will: As the 21-year director of the Vermont Council on Rural Development he has probably done more for Vermont than most lawmakers or governors.

It's a bold statement, we understand. But consider that Costello has worked for a non-partisan nonprofit agency that has influenced most of the major public policy initiatives in this state during these two decades. Only our three members in the congressional delegation—and they are definitely partisan—have had that much sway for any similar length of time. Less than a week after hosting the Summit for the Future of Vermont, which brought together hundreds of Vermonters to tackle head-on some of the most difficult challenges facing our state, the announcement that Costello is stepping down stunned the state.

Costello says he will step down Sept. 30.

Through his work, Costello has led efforts through VCRD's talented staff to facilitate some of the hardest conversations out there: economy, workforce, climate change, education, community development, broadband, digital economy, social equity . . . the list goes on.

From these conversations, whether they happened in town halls or large lecture halls or virtually, Costello, in his even-keeled, thoughtful manner, has facilitated strategies aimed at setting priorities, and charting paths toward progress. Many of those decisions frame our quality of life today.

According to the news release issued by VCRD this week, "Over these years Paul has engaged communities throughout the state to help them set priorities and connect to resources, led a dozen policy council efforts to advance local opportunities, developed a score of statewide summits to build unity and common purpose to answer key rural needs, and worked in myriad ways to bring people together for the common good of their communities and for Vermont."

Being the person who coordinates, directs and often moderates those methods of communication and openness is powerful. In the same release, Costello noted, "In so many ways this is the best job in Vermont. At VCRD we have a window into communities like no other. Our role of listening, learning,

and helping to move ideas toward action in communities and in policy circles is endlessly interesting and rewarding. I want to thank all the incredible people I've been able to work with in this role, from board members to state, federal and nonprofit leaders, experts in all aspects of rural issues and especially the local leaders who do the hard work of lifting up their communities and building progress. Working with you all has been the greatest honor."

Julie Moore, chair of the VCRD board of directors noted, "Paul Costello is a Vermont treasure. Our state has benefited beyond measure from his wise counsel to everyone from governors to select board members to community leaders. We look forward to celebrating all of his accomplishments."

But here's the thing about Paul Costello: He is committed to Vermont because he loves it. To him, the work is not a paycheck. It is about making our communities stronger. It is about making our policies supportive of those communities. It is about preservation and conversation when needed, but with an eye toward answers. It is about being a part of this magnificent state.

He knows every corner of the state. He has been at the select board meetings and talked to residents about what they want, and he has been hiking and experiencing Vermont. His love for the place is real. He grew up here, in a large family, with a great appreciation that goes back decades. He hears what others want for Vermont, and he knows what he wants for Vermont. And he's so flipping nice about it all. There have to be individuals out there who don't want Paul Costello coming around and getting people thinking about how to implement change. But even those people can't point to the man and say, "I didn't like that guy." They did.

Costello listens. Even in the most serious conversation, he can find humor and a laugh. He makes every person he speaks to feel as if they are the most important person, because in that moment, they are. He is mild-mannered and kind. He goes out of his way to ask how people's days are going, even when he knows they are strapped and swamped. He treats governors and citizens with the same respect. Opinions and solutions do not require titles and doctorates and years of service. They need common ground on which to build, and that was what Costello has practiced and mentored his staff to find for more than 20 years now.

Ted Brady, who used to work with Costello and now runs the Vermont League of Cities and Towns, posted online yesterday, "I can count on one hand the number of people I have met as selfless, thoughtful and kind as Paul Costello. He's given so much to Vermont . . . and deserves a chance to play in his favorite spots in the woods and mountains of the communities he has helped to strengthen and empower. Buy him a beer if you see him."

Costello may never have to buy his own beer again. Each one of us owes him a great debt of gratitude for the Vermont he has given everyone.

### VOTE EXPLANATION

Ms. CORTEZ MASTO. Mr. President, I was unable to attend the rollcall vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of James Richard Kvaal, of Massachusetts, to be Under Secretary of Education. I am supportive of his nomination and would have voted in support of cloture.

### ARMS SALES NOTIFICATION

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. President, section 36(b) of the Arms Export Control



Act requires that Congress receive prior notification of certain proposed arms sales as defined by that statute. Upon such notification, the Congress has 30 calendar days during which the sale may be reviewed. The provision stipulates that, in the Senate, the notification of proposed sales shall be sent to the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

In keeping with the committee's intention to see that relevant information is available to the full Senate, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD the notifications which have been received. If the cover letter references a classified annex, then such annex is available to all Senators in the office of the Foreign Relations Committee, room SD-423.

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

DEFENSE SECURITY  
COOPERATION AGENCY,  
Arlington, VA, August 2, 2021.

Hon. ROBERT MENENDEZ,  
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Relations,  
U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended, we are forwarding herewith Transmittal No. 21-37 concerning the Navy's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the Government of India for defense articles and services estimated to cost \$82 million. After this letter is delivered to your office, we plan to issue a news release to notify the public of this proposed sale.

Sincerely,

HEIDI H. GRANT,  
Director.

Enclosures.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 21-37

Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended

(i) Prospective Purchaser: Government of India.

(ii) Total Estimated Value:

Major Defense Equipment\* \$27 million.

Other \$55 million.

Total \$82 million.

Funding Source: National Funds.

(iii) Description and Quantity or Quantities of Articles or Services under Consideration for Purchase:

Major Defense Equipment (MDE):

One (1) Harpoon Joint Common Test Set (JCTS).

Non-MDE: Also included is one (1) Harpoon Intermediate Level maintenance station; spare and repair parts, support, and test equipment; publications and technical documentation; personnel training; U.S. Government and contractor technical, engineering, and logistics support services; and other related elements of logistics and program support.

(iv) Military Department: Navy (IN-P-LAX).

(v) Prior Related Cases, if any: IN-P-AAL, IN-P-AAP, IN-P-ABC.

(vi) Sales Commission, Fee, etc., Paid, Offered, or Agreed to be Paid: None.

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology Contained in the Defense Article or Defense Services Proposed to be Sold: See Attached Annex.

(viii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: August 2, 2021.

\*As defined in Section 47(6) of the Arms Export Control Act.

#### POLICY JUSTIFICATION

##### India—Harpoon Joint Common Test Set (JCTS)

The Government of India has requested to buy one (1) Harpoon Joint Common Test Set (JCTS). Also included is one (1) Harpoon Intermediate Level maintenance station; spare and repair parts, support, and test equipment; publications and technical documentation; personnel training; U.S. Government and contractor technical, engineering, and logistics support services; and other related elements of logistics and program support. The estimated total cost is \$82 million.

This proposed sale will support the foreign policy and national security of the United States by helping to strengthen the U.S.-Indian strategic relationship and to improve the security of a major defensive partner, which continues to be an important force for political stability, peace, and economic progress in the Indo-Pacific and South Asia region.

This proposed sale will improve India's capability to meet current and future threats by providing India with flexible and efficient Harpoon missile maintenance capabilities to ensure maximum force readiness. India will have no difficulty absorbing this equipment into its armed forces.

The proposed sale of this equipment and support will not alter the basic military balance in the region.

The principal contractor will be The Boeing Company, St. Louis, MO. There are no known offset agreements proposed in connection with this potential sale. Any offset agreement required by India will be defined in negotiations between the purchaser and the contractor(s).

Implementation of this proposed sale will require the assignment of one (1) U.S. contractor representative to India for a duration of one (1) year to support technical reviews, support, and oversight.

There will be no adverse impact on U.S. defense readiness as a result of this proposed sale.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 21-37

Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act

Annex Item No. vii

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology:

1. The Harpoon Joint Common Test Set (JCTS) is used to maintain all configurations of the Harpoon missile. India seeks to establish a Harpoon Intermediate Level Weapon Station via an acquisition of a JCTS that can test their current inventory, as well as up to a BLK IIU Harpoon Missile. The elements listed below being conveyed by the proposed sale are considered sensitive. These elements are used to test and verify the ability of the Harpoon missile to engage hostile targets under a wide range of operations, tactical, and environmental conditions:

- The Radar Seeker test capability.
- The Radar Altimeter test capability.
- The GPS/INS System test capability.
- Operational Flight Program Software.
- Missile operational characteristics and performance data.

2. The highest level of classification of defense articles, components, and services included in this potential sale is CONFIDENTIAL.

3. If a technologically advanced adversary were to obtain knowledge of the specific hardware and software elements, the information could be used to develop countermeasures that might reduce weapon system effectiveness or be used in the development of a system with similar or advanced capabilities.

4. A determination has been made that India can provide substantially the same de-

gree of protection for the sensitive technology being released as the U.S. Government. This sale is necessary in furtherance of the U.S. foreign policy and national security objectives outlined in the Policy Justification.

5. All defense articles and services listed in this transmittal have been authorized for release and export to the Government of India.

#### ARMS SALES NOTIFICATION

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. President, section 36(b) of the Arms Export Control Act requires that Congress receive prior notification of certain proposed arms sales as defined by that statute. Upon such notification, the Congress has 30 calendar days during which the sale may be reviewed. The provision stipulates that, in the Senate, the notification of proposed sales shall be sent to the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

In keeping with the committee's intention to see that relevant information is available to the full Senate, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD the notifications which have been received. If the cover letter references a classified annex, then such annex is available to all Senators in the office of the Foreign Relations Committee, room SD-423.

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

DEFENSE SECURITY  
COOPERATION AGENCY,  
Arlington, VA.

Hon. ROBERT MENENDEZ,  
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Relations,  
U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(5)(A) of the Arms Export Control Act (AECA), as amended, we are forwarding Transmittal No. 00-21. This notification relates to enhancements or upgrades from the level of sensitivity of technology or capability described in the Section 36(b)(1) AECA certification 16-17 of June 27, 2016.

Sincerely,

HEIDI H. GRANT,  
Director.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 00-21

Report of Enhancement or Upgrade of Sensitivity of Technology or Capability (Sec. 36(b)(5)(A), AECA)

(i) Prospective Purchaser: Government of Australia.

(ii) Sec. 36(b)(1), AECA Transmittal No.: 16-17; Date: June 27, 2016; Military Department: Navy.

(iii) Description: On June 27, 2016, Congress was notified by Congressional certification transmittal number 16-17, of the possible sale under Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act (AECA), of up to eighty (80) Standard Missile, SM-2 Block IIIB Vertical Launching Tactical All-Up Rounds, RIM-66M-09; and up to fifteen (15) MK 97 SM-2 Block IIIB Guidance Sections (GSs). This request also included the following Non-MDE: MK 13 MOD 0 Vertical Launching System Canisters, operator manuals and technical documentation, U.S. Government and contractor engineering, technical and logistics support services. The total estimated value was \$301 million. Major Defense Equipment (MDE) constituted \$216 million of this total.

This transmittal reports the inclusion of an additional thirteen (13) MK 45 MOD 14

Target Detection Device (TDD) shrouds (MDE). Also included are MK 13 MOD 0 Vertical Launching System (VLS) canisters; MK 104 Dual Thrust Rocket Motors (DTRM) with MK 750 DTRM shipping containers; MK 14 Fuze Test Coupler (FTC); SM-2 component parts, spares, and containers; and additional U.S. Government and contractor engineering and technical and logistical support services. The MDE value remains \$216 million. The total overall value will increase to \$320 million.

(iv) Significance: The TDD is a hardware component of a completely assembled SM-2 Block IIIB missile and thus not listed in the previous notification. This proposed sale will provide additional TDDs as spares. The Royal Australian Navy (RAN) intends to use the SM-2 sections, components, and spares to continue maintenance of their SM-2 Blk IIIB inventory.

(v) Justification: This proposed sale supports the foreign policy and national security objectives of the United States by improving the security of a Major Non-NATO Ally that is a key partner of the United States in ensuring peace and stability around the world.

(vi) Sensitivity of Technology: The MK 45 MOD 14 Target Detection Device (TDD) is a component of the SM-2 Block IIIB missile's warhead/ordnance section that detects targets and activates the fuze.

The highest level of classification of defense articles, components, and services included in this potential sale is CONFIDENTIAL.

(vii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: August 3, 2021.

#### ARMS SALES NOTIFICATION

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. President, section 36(b) of the Arms Export Control Act requires that Congress receive prior notification of certain proposed arms sales as defined by that statute. Upon such notification, the Congress has 30 calendar days during which the sale may be reviewed. The provision stipulates that, in the Senate, the notification of proposed sales shall be sent to the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

In keeping with the committee's intention to see that relevant information is available to the full Senate, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD the notifications which have been received. If the cover letter references a classified annex, then such annex is available to all Senators in the office of the Foreign Relations Committee, room SD-423.

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

DEFENSE SECURITY  
COOPERATION AGENCY,  
Arlington, VA.

Hon. ROBERT MENENDEZ,  
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Relations,  
U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended, we are forwarding herewith Transmittal No. 21-48 concerning the Army's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the Government of Georgia for defense articles and services estimated to cost \$30 million. After this letter is delivered to your office, we plan

to issue a news release to notify the public of this proposed sale.

Sincerely,

HEIDI H. GRANT,  
Director.

Enclosures.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 21-48

Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended

(i) Prospective Purchaser: Government of Georgia

(ii) Total Estimated Value:

Major Defense Equipment\* \$25 million.

Other \$5 million.

Total \$30 million.

Funding Source: National Funds.

(iii) Description and Quantity or Quantities of Articles or Services under Consideration for Purchase:

Major Defense Equipment (MDE):

Eighty-two (82) Javelin FGM-148 Missiles.

Forty-six (46) Javelin Command Launch Units (CLU).

Non-MDE: Also included are Enhanced Producibility Basic Skills Trainers; Missile Simulation Rounds; Security Assistance Management Directorate Technical Assistance; Tactical Aviation and Ground Munitions Project Office Technical Assistance; other associated equipment and services; and other related elements of logistical and program support.

(iv) Military Department: Army (GG-B-UDW).

(v) Prior Related Cases, if any: GG-B-ZZY.

(vi) Sales Commission, Fee, etc., Paid, Offered, or Agreed to be Paid: None.

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology Contained in the Defense Article or Defense Services Proposed to be Sold: See Attached Annex.

(viii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: August 3, 2021.

\*As defined in Section 47(6) of the Arms Export Control Act.

#### POLICY JUSTIFICATION

Georgia—Javelin Missiles

The Government of Georgia has requested to buy eighty-two (82) Javelin FGM-148 Missiles; and forty-six (46) Javelin Command Launch Units (CLU). Also included are Enhanced Producibility Basic Skills Trainers; Missile Simulation Rounds; Security Assistance Management Directorate Technical Assistance; Tactical Aviation and Ground Munitions Project Office Technical Assistance; other associated equipment and services; and other related elements of logistical and program support. The estimated total cost is \$30 million.

This proposed sale will support the foreign policy and national security of the United States by improving the security of Georgia which is a strategic partner and a key contributor to security and stability the region. The Javelin system will help Georgia build its long-term defense capacity to defend its sovereignty and territorial integrity in order to meet its national defense requirements.

The proposed sale will improve Georgia's capability to meet current and future threats by increasing its anti-armor capacity. Georgia will have no difficulty absorbing these weapons into its armed forces.

The proposed sale of this equipment and support will not alter the basic military balance in the region.

The prime contractors will be Raytheon/Lockheed Martin Javelin Joint Venture of Orlando, Florida, and Tucson, Arizona. However, these articles are being provided from U.S. Army stock. There are no known offset agreements proposed in conjunction with this potential sale.

Implementation of this proposed sale will not require the assignment of any U.S. Gov-

ernment or contractor representatives to Georgia.

There will be no adverse impact on U.S. defense readiness as a result of this proposed sale.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 21-48

Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act

Annex Item No. vii

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology:

1. The Javelin Weapon System is a medium-range, man portable, shoulder-launched, fire and forget, anti-tank system for infantry, scouts, and combat engineers. It may also be mounted on a variety of platforms including vehicles, aircraft and watercraft. The system weighs 49.5 pounds and has a maximum range in excess of 2,500 meters. The system is highly lethal against tanks and other systems with conventional and reactive armors. The system possesses a secondary capability against bunkers.

2. Javelin's key technical feature is the use of fire-and-forget technology, which allows the gunner to fire and immediately relocate or take cover. Additional special features are the top attack and/or direct fire modes, an advanced tandem warhead and imaging infrared seeker, target lock-on before launch, and soft launch from enclosures or covered fighting positions. The Javelin missile also has a minimum smoke motor, thus decreasing its detection on the battlefield.

3. The Javelin Weapon System is comprised of two major tactical components, which are a reusable Command Launch Unit (CLU) and a round contained in a disposable launch tube assembly. The CLU incorporates an integrated day-night sight that provides a target engagement capability in adverse weather and countermeasure environments. The CLU may also be used in a stand-alone mode for battlefield surveillance and target detection. The CLU's thermal sight is a second generation Forward Looking Infrared (FLIR) sensor. To facilitate initial loading and subsequent updating of software, all onboard missile software is uploaded via the CLU after mating and prior to launch.

4. The missile is autonomously guided to the target using an imaging infrared seeker and adaptive correlation tracking algorithms. This allows the gunner to take cover or reload and engage another target after firing a missile. The missile has an advanced tandem warhead and can be used in either the top attack or direct fire modes (for target undercover). An onboard flight computer guides the missile to the selected target.

5. The highest level of classification of defense articles, components, and services included in this potential sale is SECRET.

6. If a technologically advanced adversary obtains knowledge of the specific hardware and software elements, the information could be used to develop countermeasures or equivalent systems that might reduce weapon system effectiveness or be used in the development of a system with similar or advanced capabilities.

7. A determination has been made that Georgia can provide substantially the same degree of protection for the sensitive technology being released as the U.S. Government. This proposed sale is necessary in furtherance of the U.S. foreign policy and national security objectives outlined in the Policy Justification.

8. All defense articles and services listed in this transmittal have been authorized for release and export to the Government of Georgia.

#### ARMS SALES NOTIFICATION

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. President, section 36(b) of the Arms Export Control

Act requires that Congress receive prior notification of certain proposed arms sales as defined by that statute. Upon such notification, the Congress has 30 calendar days during which the sale may be reviewed. The provision stipulates that, in the Senate, the notification of proposed sales shall be sent to the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

In keeping with the committee's intention to see that relevant information is available to the full Senate, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD the notifications which have been received. If the cover letter references a classified annex, then such annex is available to all Senators in the office of the Foreign Relations Committee, room SD-423.

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

DEFENSE SECURITY,  
COOPERATION AGENCY,  
Arlington, VA.

Hon. ROBERT MENENDEZ,  
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Relations,  
U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(5)(C) of the Arms Export Control Act (AECA), as amended, we are forwarding Transmittal No. 21-01. This notification relates to enhancements or upgrades from the level of sensitivity of technology or capability described in the Section 36(b)(1) AECA certification 17-19 of April 27, 2017.

Sincerely,

HEIDI H. GRANT,  
Director.

Enclosures.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 21-01

Report of Enhancement or Upgrade of Sensitivity of Technology or Capability (Sec. 36(b)(5)(C), AECA)

(i) Purchaser: NATO Support and Procurement Agency (NSPA).

(ii) Sec. 36(b)(1), AECA Transmittal No.: 17-19, Date: April 27, 2017; Military Department: Air Force.

Funding Source: Participants' National Funds.

(iii) Description: On April 27, 2017, Congress was notified by Congressional certification transmittal number 17-19 of the possible sale, under Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, of follow-on support for three (3) C-17 aircraft to include participation in the Global Reach Improvement Program, contract labor for Class I modifications and kits, in-country contractor support, alternate mission equipment, major modification and retrofit, software support, aircraft maintenance and technical support, support equipment, personnel training and training equipment, additional spare and repair parts, technical orders and publications, airworthiness certification support, engine logistics support, inspections, and other U.S. Government and contractor engineering, logistics and program support. The total estimated cost was \$300 million. There was no Major Defense Equipment (MDE) associated with this sale.

This transmittal reports the addition of non-MDE follow-on support for the C-17 fleet to include aircraft and engine hardware and software modification and support; contractor logistics support, with further participation in the Globemaster III Integrated Sustainment Program (GISP), Globemaster III Sustainment Contract (G3SC), Material Improvement Program (MIP), and Over and Above (O&A).

The total value of new non-MDE follow-on support is \$170 million. This results in a revised total non-MDE value of \$470 million. The total case value will increase to \$470 million.

(iv) Significance: This notification is provided as the additional non-MDE follow-on support was not enumerated in the original notification. The proposed articles and services will support the NATO Support and Procurement Agency to create appropriate line items to capture, execute, and easily reconcile the anticipated price increase of the upcoming C-17 sustainment contract. This program flies missions in and around Europe, Afghanistan, Iraq, the Levant, and North Africa.

(v) Justification: This proposed sale will support the foreign policy and national security of the United States by helping to improve the security of NATO allies and partner nations that are an important force for ensuring peace and stability in Europe.

(vi) Date Report Delivered to Congress: August 3, 2021.

#### ARMS SALES NOTIFICATION

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. President, section 36(b) of the Arms Export Control Act requires that Congress receive prior notification of certain proposed arms sales as defined by that statute. Upon such notification, the Congress has 30 calendar days during which the sale may be reviewed. The provision stipulates that, in the Senate, the notification of proposed sales shall be sent to the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

In keeping with the committee's intention to see that relevant information is available to the full Senate, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD the notifications which have been received. If the cover letter references a classified annex, then such annex is available to all Senators in the office of the Foreign Relations Committee, room SD-423.

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

DEFENSE SECURITY  
COOPERATION AGENCY,  
Arlington, VA.

Hon. ROBERT MENENDEZ,  
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Relations,  
U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended, we are forwarding herewith Transmittal No. 21-49 concerning the Air Force's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the Government of Greece for defense articles and services estimated to cost \$270 million. After this letter is delivered to your office, we plan to issue a news release to notify the public of this proposed sale.

Sincerely,

HEIDI H. GRANT,  
Director.

Enclosures.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 21-49

Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended

(i) Prospective Purchaser: Government of Greece.

(ii) Total Estimated Value:  
Major Defense Equipment\* \$0 million.  
Other \$270 million.

Total \$270 million.

Funding Source: National Funds

(iii) Description and Quantity or Quantities of Articles or Services under Consideration for Purchase:

Major Defense Equipment (MDE):  
None.

Non-MDE: Included are U.S. Government and contractor engineering, technical, and logistics support services for F-16 Aircraft Structural Integrity Program (ASIP), F-16 Aircrew Training Device (ATD), Low Altitude Targeting and Infrared for Night (LANTIRN), and Reconnaissance (RECCE) Pods support programs; aircraft classified and unclassified aircraft software and software support; Multifunctional Information Distribution System (MIDS) software support; Joint Mission Planning Software (JMPS) support; participation in Electronic Combat International Security Assistance Program (ECISAP), International Engine Management Program (IEMP), and technical coordination groups; other aircraft and engine hardware and software modifications and support; spare and repair/return parts and equipment; personnel training and training equipment; publications, manuals, and technical documentation; and other related elements of aircraft maintenance and program support.

(iv) Military Department: Air Force (GR-D-QAG).

(v) Prior Related Cases, if any: GR-D-QCH, GR-D-SNX, GR-D-SNY.

(vi) Sales Commission, Fee, etc. Paid, Offered, or Agreed to be Paid: None.

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology Contained in Defense Article or Defense Services Proposed to be Sold: None.

(viii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: August 3, 2021.

\*As defined in Section 47(6) of the Arms Export Control Act.

#### POLICY JUSTIFICATION

Greece—F-16 Sustainment Materiel and Services

The Government of Greece has requested to buy U.S. Government and contractor engineering, technical, and logistics support services for F-16 Aircraft Structural Integrity Program (ASIP), F-16 Aircrew Training Device (ATD), Low Altitude Targeting and Infrared for Night (LANTIRN), and Reconnaissance (RECCE) Pods support programs; aircraft classified and unclassified aircraft software and software support; Multifunctional Information Distribution System (MIDS) software support; Joint Mission Planning Software (JMPS) support; participation in Electronic Combat International Security Assistance Program (ECISAP), International Engine Management Program (IEMP), and technical coordination groups; other aircraft and engine hardware and software modifications and support; spare and repair/return parts and equipment; personnel training and training equipment; publications, manuals, and technical documentation; and other related elements of aircraft maintenance and program support. The total estimated value is \$270 million.

This proposed sale will support the foreign policy and national security objectives of the United States by helping to improve the security of a NATO ally, which is an important partner for political stability and economic progress in Europe.

The proposed sale will improve Greece's capability to meet current and future threats by providing agile logistics support to its F-16 program, encompassing aspects of aircrew training and aircraft maintenance. The ability to provide this level of support to the F-16 program will increase its interoperability with NATO forces and enhance its ability to provide for security of its borders.

Greece has demonstrated a continued commitment to modernizing its military and will have no difficulty absorbing this additional sustainment support into its armed forces.

The proposed sale of these services will not alter the basic military balance in the region.

The principal contractors for this proposed sale are L3Harris International, Melbourne, Florida; Lockheed-Martin Aero Corporation, Fort Worth, Texas; Collins Aerospace, Charlotte, North Carolina; Northrop Grumman Corporation, Falls Church, Virginia; Raytheon Company, Waltham, Massachusetts; and Atec, Incorporated, Houston, Texas. The purchaser typically requests off-sets. Any offset agreement will be defined in negotiations between the purchaser and the contractor(s).

Implementation of this proposed sale will not require the assignment of any additional U.S. Government or contractor representatives outside the United States.

There will be no adverse impact on U.S. defense readiness as a result of this proposed sale.

#### CERTIFICATION PURSUANT TO §620C(d) OF THE FOREIGN ASSISTANCE ACT OF 1961, AS AMENDED

Pursuant to Section 620C(d) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, as amended (the Act), Executive Order 12163, State Department Delegation of Authority No. 293-2, and State Department Delegation of Authority 510; I hereby certify that the furnishing to Greece of aircraft parts and support is consistent with the principles contained in Section 620C(b) of the Act.

This certification will be made part of the notification to Congress under section 36(b) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended, regarding the proposed sale of the above-named articles and services and is based on the justification accompanying such notification, of which such justification constitutes a full explanation.

C.S. ELIOT KANG,  
Senior Official, Under  
Secretary for Arms  
Control and Inter-  
national Security.

#### ARMS SALES NOTIFICATION

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. President, section 36(b) of the Arms Export Control Act requires that Congress receive prior notification of certain proposed arms sales as defined by that statute. Upon such notification, the Congress has 30 calendar days during which the sale may be reviewed. The provision stipulates that, in the Senate, the notification of proposed sales shall be sent to the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

In keeping with the committee's intention to see that relevant information is available to the full Senate, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD the notifications which have been received. If the cover letter references a classified annex, then such annex is available to all Senators in the office of the Foreign Relations Committee, room SD-423.

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

DEFENSE SECURITY  
COOPERATION AGENCY,  
Arlington, VA.

Hon. ROBERT MENENDEZ,  
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Relations,  
U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(5)(A) of the Arms Export Control Act (AECA), as amended, we are forwarding Transmittal No. 0N-21. This notification relates to enhancements or upgrades from the level of sensitivity of technology or capability described in the Section 36(b)(1) AECA certification 18-32 of September 5, 2018.

Sincerely,

HEIDI H. GRANT,  
Director.

Enclosures.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 0N-21

Report of Enhancement or Upgrade of Sensitivity of Technology or Capability (Sec 36(B)(5)(A), AECA)

(i) Purchaser: Government of the Netherlands.

(ii) Sec 36(b)(1), AECA Transmittal No.: 18-32; Date: September 5, 2018; Implementing Agency: Army.

(iii) Description: On September 5, 2018, Congress was notified by Congressional certification transmittal number 18-32 of the possible sale under Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act of Recapitalization (RECAP) of four (4) Patriot Fire Units. RECAP included Radar Sets (RS), Radar Digital Processors (RDP), Engagement Control Stations (ECS), Information and Coordination Central (ICC), Modem Man Stations (MMS), Launching Stations, and Post Deployment Build (PDB)-8 upgrades along with parts, tools, technical and engineering assistance, support services, testing, and other related elements of logistics and program support, which produce fire units at the Configuration 3+ capability. The estimated total cost was \$105 million, comprised solely of non-Major Defense Equipment (non-MDE).

On October 30, 2019, Congress was notified by Congressional certification transmittal number 1F-19 of the additional cost for new RECAP services related to the Netherlands' request for a case amendment. No MDE was added and the estimated total case value increased to \$112.3 million.

This transmittal reports the additional cost for new RECAP services related to the Netherlands' request for a case amendment. No MDE will be added and the estimated total case value will increase to \$125 million.

(iv) Significance: This proposed increase in funds will ensure continued services related to the Patriot RECAP program.

(v) Justification: This proposed sale will support the foreign policy and national security of the United States by helping to improve the security of a NATO ally which is an important force for political stability and economic progress in Europe.

(vi) Sensitivity of Technology: The Sensitivity of Technology Statement contained in the original notification applies to items reported here.

(vii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: August 3, 2021.

#### ARMS SALES NOTIFICATION

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. President, section 36(b) of the Arms Export Control Act requires that Congress receive prior notification of certain proposed arms sales as defined by that statute. Upon such notification, the Congress has 30 calendar days during which the sale may be reviewed. The provision

stipulates that, in the Senate, the notification of proposed sales shall be sent to the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

In keeping with the committee's intention to see that relevant information is available to the full Senate, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD the notifications which have been received. If the cover letter references a classified annex, then such annex is available to all Senators in the office of the Foreign Relations Committee, room SD-423.

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

DEFENSE SECURITY  
COOPERATION AGENCY,  
Arlington, VA.

Hon. ROBERT MENENDEZ,  
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Relations,  
U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended, we are forwarding herewith Transmittal No. 21-50 concerning the Navy's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the Government of Japan for defense articles and services estimated to cost \$134 million. After this letter is delivered to your office, we plan to issue a news release to notify the public of this proposed sale.

Sincerely,

HEIDI H. GRANT,  
Director.

Enclosures

TRANSMITTAL NO. 21-50

Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended

(i) Prospective Purchaser: Government of Japan.

(ii) Total Estimated Value:  
Major Defense Equipment\* \$0 million.  
Other \$134 million.  
Total \$134 million.

(iii) Description and Quantity or Quantities of Articles or Services under Consideration for Purchase:

Major Defense Equipment (MDE):  
None

Non-MDE: Follow-On Technical Support (FOTS) of AEGIS Class Destroyers, to include sustainment support and services; AEGIS computer software updates, system integration and testing, in-country and on-site engineering support; familiarization, sustainment, and all necessary emergent support engineering and technical support services; operational support; system overhauls; system upgrades; on-the-job practical operations and maintenance; combat systems integration; development, testing, installation of program patches and adaptation data and annual service agreements; technical inquiries by the purchaser; operation; integration; maintenance; field service engineering; problem investigation; technical assistance; solutions to the technical problems arising from post production, testing capabilities and support, U.S. Government and contractor technical assistance, and other related elements of logistics and program support.

(iv) Military Department: Navy (JA-P-QHM).

(v) Prior Related Cases, if any: JA-P-QFA.

(vi) Sales Commission, Fee, etc., Paid, Offered, or Agreed to be Paid: None.

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology Contained in the Defense Article or Defense Services Proposed to be Sold: See Attached Annex.

(viii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: August 4, 2021.

\*As defined in Section 47(6) of the Arms Export Control Act.

#### POLICY JUSTIFICATION

##### Japan—AEGIS Class Destroyer Support

The Government of Japan has requested to buy Follow-On Technical Support (FOTS) of AEGIS Class Destroyers, to include sustainment support and services; AEGIS computer software updates, system integration and testing, in-country and on-site engineering support; familiarization, sustainment, and all necessary emergent support engineering and technical support services; operational support; system overhauls; system upgrades; on-the-job practical operations and maintenance; combat systems integration; development, testing, installation of program patches and adaptation data and annual service agreements; technical inquiries by the purchaser; operation; integration; maintenance; field service engineering; problem investigation; technical assistance; solutions to the technical problems arising from post production, testing capabilities and support, U.S. Government and contractor technical assistance, and other related elements of logistics and program support. The total estimated program cost is \$134 million.

This proposed sale will support the foreign policy goals and national security objectives of the United States by improving the security of a major ally that is a force for political stability and economic progress in the Asia-Pacific region. It is vital to U.S. national interest to assist Japan in developing and maintaining a strong and effective self-defense capability.

The proposed sale is critical to ensure Japan Maritime Self Defense Force's (JMSDF) Aegis Destroyer fleet and the Japanese Computer Program Test Sites (JCPTS) remain ready to provide capabilities in the defense of Japan. Specifically, the requested CPM services will provide JMSDF with software patches and adaptation data support that are vital to the effective and safe operations of the Aegis Combat Systems (ACS) suite. The in-country engineering and emergent support will assist JMSDF to address any malfunctions or faults that may arise with the ACS suite. Japan will have no difficulty absorbing these services and support into its armed forces.

The proposed sale of this equipment will not alter the basic military balance in the region.

The principal contractor will be Lockheed Martin Corporation, Moorestown, NJ. There are no known offset agreements proposed in connection with this potential sale.

Implementation of this proposed sale will require the temporary assignment of five (5) U.S. Government and two (2) contractor representatives to Japan.

There will be no adverse impact on U.S. defense readiness as a result of this proposed sale.

#### ARMS SALES NOTIFICATION

Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. President, section 36(b) of the Arms Export Control Act requires that Congress receive prior notification of certain proposed arms sales as defined by that statute. Upon such notification, the Congress has 30 calendar days during which the sale may be reviewed. The provision stipulates that, in the Senate, the notification of proposed sales shall be sent to the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

In keeping with the committee's intention to see that relevant informa-

tion is available to the full Senate, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD the notifications which have been received. If the cover letter references a classified annex, then such annex is available to all Senators in the office of the Foreign Relations Committee, room SD-423.

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

DEFENSE SECURITY  
COOPERATION AGENCY,  
Arlington, VA.

Hon. ROBERT MENENDEZ,  
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Relations,  
U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended, we are forwarding herewith Transmittal No. 21-44, concerning the Army's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office in the United States (TECRO) for defense articles and services estimated to cost \$750 million. After this letter is delivered to your office, we plan to issue a news release to notify the public of this proposed sale.

Sincerely,

HEIDI H. GRANT,  
Director.

Enclosures.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 21-44

Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended

Prospective Purchaser: Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office in the United States (TECRO).

(i) Total Estimated Value:

Major Defense Equipment \*\$635 million.

Other \$115 million.

Total \$750 million.

Funding Source: National Funds.

(iii) Description and Quantity or Quantities of Articles or Services under Consideration for Purchase:

Major Defense Equipment (MDE):

Forty (40) 155mm M109A6 Medium Self-Propelled Howitzer Systems.

Twenty (20) M992A2 Field Artillery Ammunition Support Vehicle (FAASV).

One (1) Advanced Field Artillery Tactical Data System (AFATDS).

Five (5) M88A2 Hercules Vehicles.

Five (5) M2 Chrysler Mount .50 Caliber Machine Guns.

One thousand six hundred ninety-eight (1,698) Multi-Option, Precision Guidance Kits (PGK).

Non-MDE: Also included are M 109A6/M992A2 overhaul, conversion and refurbishment services; Special Tools and Test Equipment (STTE); Defense Advanced Global Positioning System (GPS) Receiver; AN/VVS (2) Night Driver's Viewer (NDV); Dynamic Reference Unit Hybrid Replacement Inertial Navigation System; Basic Issue Items (BI); Program Management Support; Verification Testing; System Technical Support; Transportation; Spare and repair parts; communication support equipment; communication equipment integration; tools and test equipment; personnel training and training equipment; repair and return program; camouflage nets; Components of End Items (COEI), Additional Authorized List (AAL), Technical Manuals; Quality Assurance Team (QAT); 155mm M232A1 Propelling Charges, M82 Percussion Primer Fuzes, support and test equipment, integration and test support, software delivery, publications and technical documentation. U.S. Government and contractor engineering; technical and logistics

support services; storage; and other related elements of logistics and program support; OCON US Deprocessing Service; Export Single Channel Ground and Airborne Radio System (SINCGARS); OCONUS Contractor provided Training, Field Service Representatives (FSR); M2A1 .50 Cal MG; MK93 MOD 2 Mount Machine Gun; M239 Smoke Grenade Launchers, U.S. Government and contractor representatives' technical assistance, engineering and logistics support services, and other related elements of logistics support.

(iv) Military Department: Army (TW-B-ZDI).

(v) Prior Related Cases, if any: None.

(vi) Sales Commission, Fee, etc., Paid, Offered, or Agreed to be Paid: None.

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology Contained in the Defense Article or Defense Services Proposed to be Sold: See Attached Annex.

(viii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: August 4, 2021.

\*As defined in Section 47(6) of the Arms Export Control Act.

#### POLICY JUSTIFICATION

Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office in the United States (TECRO)—155mm M109A6 Paladin Medium Self-Propelled Howitzer System

TECRO has requested to buy forty (40) 155mm M109A6 Medium Self-Propelled Howitzer Systems; twenty (20) M992A2 Field Artillery Ammunition Support Vehicles (FAASV); one (1) Advanced Field Artillery Tactical Data System (AFATDS); five (5) M88A2 Hercules vehicles; five (5) M2 Chrysler Mount .50 caliber machine guns; and one thousand six hundred ninety-eight (1,698) multi-option, Precision Guidance Kits (PGK). Also included are M109A6/M992A2 overhaul, conversion and refurbishment services; Special Tools and Test Equipment (STTE); Defense Advanced Global Positioning System (GPS) Receiver; AN/VVS (2) Night Driver's Viewer (NDV); Dynamic Reference Unit Hybrid Replacement Inertial Navigation System; Basic Issue Items (BI); Program Management Support; Verification Testing; System Technical Support; Transportation; Spare and repair parts; communication support equipment; communication equipment integration; tools and test equipment; personnel training and training equipment; repair and return program; camouflage nets; Components of End Items (COEI), Additional Authorized List (AAL), Technical Manuals; Quality Assurance Team (QAT); 155mm M232A1 Propelling Charges, M82 Percussion Primer Fuzes, support and test equipment, integration and test support, software delivery, publications and technical documentation. U.S. Government and contractor engineering; technical and logistics support services; storage; and other related elements of logistics and program support; OCONUS Deprocessing Service; Export Single Channel Ground and Airborne Radio System (SINCGARS); OCONUS Contractor provided Training, Field Service Representatives (FSR); M2A1 .50 Cal MG; MK93 MOD 2 Mount Machine Gun; M239 Smoke Grenade Launchers, U.S. Government and contractor representatives' technical assistance, engineering and logistics support services, and other related elements of logistics support. The total estimated program cost is \$750 million.

This proposed sale is consistent with U.S. law and policy as expressed in Public Law 96-8.

This proposed sale serves U.S. national, economic, and security interests by supporting the recipient's continuing efforts to modernize its armed forces and to maintain a credible defensive capability. The proposed sale will help improve the security of the recipient and assist in maintaining political

stability, military balance, economic and progress in the region.

This proposed sale of M109A6 SPH will contribute to the modernization of the recipient's self-propelled howitzer fleet, enhancing its ability to meet current and future threats. These systems will contribute to the recipient's goal of updating its military capability while further enhancing interoperability with the United States and other allies. The recipient will have no difficulty absorbing these systems into its armed forces.

The proposed sale of this equipment and support will not alter the basic military balance in the region.

The prime contractor for the Self-Propelled Howitzer Systems will be BAE Systems, Anniston, AL, and Elgin, OK; M992A2 FAASV, Anniston Army Depot (ANAD), Bynum, AL; and M88A2 recovery vehicles, BAE, York, PA. The purchaser has requested offsets. At this time, agreements are undetermined and will be defined in negotiations between the purchaser and contractor.

Implementation of this proposed sale will not require the permanent assignment of any additional U.S. Government or contractor representatives to recipient. Support teams will travel to recipient on a temporary basis.

There will be no adverse impact on U.S. defense readiness as a result of this proposed sale.

#### TRANSMITTAL NO. 21-44

#### Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act

##### Annex Item No. vii

##### (vii) Sensitivity of Technology:

1. The Paladin M109A6 howitzer is the fifth product improvement to the original M109 self-propelled howitzer. It features improvements in the areas of survivability; reliability, availability, and maintainability (RAM); responsiveness; and terminal effects. The M109A6 is an armored, full tracked howitzer carrying 37 complete conventional rounds and two Copperhead projectiles and is operated by a crew of four. It is designed with a new turret structure that facilitates integration of the various turret improvements and vulnerability reduction measures. It improves overall crew compartment layout and space. The howitzer can travel at a maximum speed of 38 miles per hour and has a maximum cruising range of 186 miles. The M109A6 can operate independently, on the move, it can receive a fire mission, compute firing data, select and take up its firing position, automatically unlock and point its cannon, fire and move—all without external technical assistance. Firing the first round following a move in under 60 seconds, a "shoot and scoot" capability protects the crew from counterbattery fire. The M109A6 is capable of firing up to four rounds per minute to ranges of 30 kilometers. The M109A6 features increased survivability characteristics such as day/night operability, Nuclear, Biological, Chemical (NBC) protection with climate control and secure voice and digital communications. The crew remains in the vehicle throughout the mission.

2. The Inertial Navigation Unit (INU) component provides the vehicle with its own position location utilizing sensors that continuously calculates its direction and velocity without the continuous dependency of a GPS; the INU receives GPS data from an external GPS receiver as an input when available to provide better precision. The INU allows the vehicle to more precisely calculate its position to other components in the vehicle to improve its functions and safety of use; these functions include movement and maneuver of the vehicle, movement of the turret, and pointing of the gun tube.

3. The Electronic Fire Control System (EFCS) commonly referred to as the Paladin

Fire Control System (PFCS) is the major change for the Paladin M109A6 Howitzer from the manual fire control system used on the M109A5. This gives the howitzer the ability to operate over a widely dispersed area and to move and emplace using the on board fire control navigation and GPS system. The M109A6 can move and position within an assigned position area, process technical firing data, and fire a mission without relying on aiming circles and wire lines. The M109A6 can change position more frequently, an advantage against enemy fire. Such advancements give new meaning to the artillery's ability to move, shoot and communicate. In addition, the EFCS with embedded electronic diagnostics improves maintenance and repair functions by assisting in pinpointing faults.

4. The Defense Advanced GPS (Global Positioning System) Receiver (DAGR) is a lightweight (less than 2 pounds) hand-held or host platform-mounted, dual frequency (L1/L2), Selective Availability Anti-Spoofing Module (SAASM) based, Precise Positioning Service (PPS) device that receives and decodes the L1 and L2 signals-in-space which are transmitted by the NAVSTAR GPS satellite constellation. The DAGR provides real-time positioning, velocity (ground speed), navigation, and timing (PVNT) information, in standalone (dismounted) and mounted (ground facilities, sea, air, and land vehicles) configurations. The DAGR can support missions involving land-based war-fighting and non-war fighting operations. The DAGR can also be used as a secondary or supplemental aid to aviation-based missions which involve operations in low-dynamic aircraft, and as an aid to navigation in water-borne operations.

5. The M1156 Precision Guidance Kit (PGK) is a Global Positioning System (GPS) Guidance Kit with fuzing functions for the M795 and M549A1 155mm High Explosive (HE) Artillery Projectiles. The PGK corrects the ballistic trajectory of the projectile to reduce delivery errors and thus improves projectile accuracy. The PGK will effectively reduce target delivery error of conventional artillery munitions and reduce the number of projectiles required to execute a fire mission.

6. The 155mm M232A1 Propelling Charge (DODIC DA13), will be used in M109 series howitzers. The Modular Artillery Charge System (MACS) consists of two propelling charge module types, the M231 and the M232/M232A1, and their associated packaging. The system is compatible with all current and planned 155mm field artillery weapons.

7. The M82 Percussion Primer (DODIC N523) will be used in M109 series howitzers.

8. The International Field Artillery Tactical Data System is the international export version of the Army's Advanced Field Artillery Tactical Data System (AFATDS). It provides networked and fully automated support for the planning, coordination, control, and execution of fires and effects such as mortars, field artillery, rockets and missiles, and close air support. International versions are developed for each customer unique to the weapon and targeting systems in their inventory.

9. Field Artillery Ammunition Support Vehicle (FAASV) M992A2 this ammunition vehicle has no turret, but has a taller superstructure to store 95 rounds with a corresponding number of powders and primers. Until recently, much of the remaining internal crew space was taken up by a hydraulically powered conveyor system designed to allow the quick uploading of rounds or their transfer to the M109-series howitzer.

10. Heavy Equipment Recovery Combat Utility Lift and Evacuation System (HERCULES) Improved Recovery Vehicle—M88A2

recovers tanks mired to different depths removes and replaces tank turrets and power packs, and uprights overturned heavy combat vehicles. The main winch of the M88A2 is capable of a 70-ton, single-line recovery, allowing the HERCULES to provide recovery of the 70-Ton M1A2 Abrams Tank.

11. The A-frame boom and hoist winch of the M88A2 can lift 35 tons. The spade can be used to anchor the vehicle when using the main winch and can be used for light earth moving to prepare a recovery area. The M88A2 employs an auxiliary power unit to provide auxiliary electrical and hydraulic power when the main engine is not in operation. It can also be used to slave start other vehicles, as well as a means to refuel or defuel vehicles. The M88A2 can refuel Abrams tanks from its own fuel tank.

12. The Browning M2 is an air-cooled, belt-fed machine gun. The M2 fires from a closed bolt, operated on the short recoil principle. The M2 fires the .50 BMG cartridge, which offers long range, accuracy, and immense stopping power.

13. The highest level of classification of defense articles, components, and services included in this potential sale is SECRET.

14. If a technologically advanced adversary were to obtain knowledge of the hardware and software elements, the information could be used to develop countermeasures or equivalent systems, which might reduce system effectiveness or be used in the development of a system with similar or advanced capabilities.

15. A determination has been made that the recipient can provide substantially the same degree of protection for the sensitive technology being released as the U.S. Government. This sale is necessary in furtherance of the U.S. foreign policy and national security objectives outlined in the Policy Justification.

16. All defense articles and services listed in this transmittal have been authorized for release and export to the recipient.

#### ARMS SALES NOTIFICATION

Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. President, section 36(b) of the Arms Export Control Act requires that Congress receive prior notification of certain proposed arms sales as defined by that statute. Upon such notification, the Congress has 30 calendar days during which the sale may be reviewed. The provision stipulates that, in the Senate, the notification of proposed sales shall be sent to the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

In keeping with the committee's intention to see that relevant information is available to the full Senate, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD the notifications which have been received. If the cover letter references a classified annex, then such annex is available to all Senators in the office of the Foreign Relations Committee, room SD-423.

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

DEFENSE SECURITY  
COOPERATION AGENCY,  
Arlington, VA.

Hon. ROBERT MENENDEZ,  
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Relations,  
U.S. Senate, Washington, DC

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(5)(C) of the Arms Export Control Act (AECA), as



amended, we are forwarding Transmittal No. 21-0J. This notification relates to enhancements or upgrades from the level of sensitivity of technology or capability described in the Section 36(b)(1) AECA certification 13-40 of June 27, 2013.

Sincerely,

HEIDI H. GRANT,  
*Director.*

Enclosures.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 21-0J

Report of Enhancement or Upgrade of Sensitivity of Technology or Capability (Sec. 36(B)(5)(C)), (AECA)

(i) Purchaser: Government of France.

(ii) Sec. 36(b)(1), AECA Transmittal No.: 13-40; Date: June 27, 2013; Military Department: Air Force.

(iii) Description: On June 27, 2013, Congress was notified by Congressional certification transmittal number 13-40 of the possible sale, under Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, of sixteen (16) MQ-9 Reaper Remotely Piloted Aircraft; eight (8) Mobile Ground Control Stations; forty-eight (48) Honeywell TPE331-10T Turboprop Engines (16 installed and 32 Spares); twenty-four (24) Satellite Earth Terminal Substations; forty (40) Ku Band Link-Airborne Communication Systems; forty (40) General Atomics Lynx (exportable) Synthetic Aperture Radar/Ground Moving Target Indicator (SAR/GMTI) Systems; forty (40) AN/DAS-1 Multi-Spectral Targeting System (MTS)-B; forty (40) Ground Data Terminals; forty (40) ARC-210 Radio Systems; forty (40) Embedded Global Positioning System/Inertial Navigation Systems; and forty-eight (48) AN/APX-119 and KIV-119 Identify Friend or Foe (IFF) Systems. Also included were spare and repair parts; communication, test, and support equipment; publications and technical documentation; airworthiness and maintenance support; site surveys and bed down planning; personnel training and training equipment; operational flight test; U.S. Government and contractor technical and logistics personnel services; and other related elements of logistics support. The estimated cost was \$1.5 billion. Major Defense Equipment (MDE) constituted \$765 million of this total.

On July 26, 2018, Congress was notified by Congressional certification transmittal number 18-0B of the retrofit of MQ-9s to become weapons capable, and the inclusion of one hundred (100) GBU-49 Enhanced Paveway dual mode GPS and laser guided bomb kits comprised of MXU-650 Air Foil Group (AFG) and MAU-210 Enhanced Computer Control Group (ECCG); two hundred (200) FMU-152 fuzes; six hundred fifty (650) AGM-114R Hellfire missiles, with active warheads; forty-five (45) AGM-114R Hellfire training missiles, without active warheads; and six (6) Hellfire Captive Air Training Missiles. The retrofit and inclusion of MDE not enumerated in the original notification resulted in the total notified cost of MDE increasing to \$975 million. The total notified case value increased to \$1.71 billion.

On November 22, 2019, Congress was notified by Congressional certification transmittal number 19-0P of the retrofit of four (4) MQ-9A Block 1 to exportable MQ-9A Block 5; the addition of four (4) MQ-9A Block 5; and the addition of fourteen (14) Embedded GPS/INS (EGI) with GPS Security Devices. The retrofit and inclusion of MDE not enumerated in the original notification resulted in the total notified cost of MDE increasing to \$1.055 billion. The total notified case value remained \$1.71 billion.

This transmittal reports the addition of up to five (5) Mobile Ground Control Stations (MDE). Also included are additional ARC-210 Radios Systems (non-MDE). The inclusion of MDE not enumerated in the original notification

will result in the total notified cost of MDE increasing to \$1.0875 billion. The total notified case value will remain at \$1.71 billion.

(iv) Significance: This notification is being provided to report the inclusion of MDE and non-MDE articles and services not previously notified. Their inclusion represents an increase in capability over what was originally notified. The proposed articles and services will provide France's MQ-9 program with the equipment necessary to support capabilities that France is already employing.

(v) Justification: This proposed sale will support the foreign policy and national security of the United States by helping to improve the security of a NATO ally which is an important force for political stability and economic progress in Europe.

(vi) Sensitivity of Technology: The MQ-9A Mobile Ground Control Station (MGCS) enables a pilot to operate, in real-time, a long-endurance, medium altitude Remotely Piloted Aircraft (RPA) that can be used for surveillance, military reconnaissance, and targeting missions. A data link is maintained that uplink commands and downlink video with telemetry data. The data link can be a Line-of-Sight (LOS) C-Band communication or Beyond Line-of-Sight (BLOS) Ku-Band Satellite Communication (SATCOM). Aircraft can be handed off to other strategically placed ground control stations.

The highest level of classification of defense articles, components, and services included in this potential sale is UNCLASSIFIED.

(vii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: August 4, 2021

#### ARMS SALES NOTIFICATION

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. President, section 36(b) of the Arms Export Control Act requires that Congress receive prior notification of certain proposed arms sales as defined by that statute. Upon such notification, the Congress has 30 calendar days during which the sale may be reviewed. The provision stipulates that, in the Senate, the notification of proposed sales shall be sent to the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

In keeping with the committee's intention to see that relevant information is available to the full Senate, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD the notifications which have been received. If the cover letter references a classified annex, then such annex is available to all Senators in the office of the Foreign Relations Committee, room SD-423.

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

DEFENSE SECURITY  
COOPERATION AGENCY,  
Arlington, VA.

Hon. ROBERT MENENDEZ,  
*Chairman, Committee on Foreign Relations,*  
*U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.*

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended, we are forwarding herewith Transmittal No. 21-51 concerning the Navy's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the Government of Japan for defense articles and services estimated to cost \$61.5 million. After this letter is delivered to your office, we plan

to issue a news release to notify the public of this proposed sale.

Sincerely,

HEIDI H. GRANT,  
*Director.*

Enclosures.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 21-51

Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended

(i) Prospective Purchaser: Government of Japan.

(ii) Total Estimated Value:  
Major Defense Equipment\* \$53.0 million.  
Other \$ 8.5 million.  
Total \$61.5 million.

(iii) Description and Quantity or Quantities of Articles or Services under Consideration for Purchase:

Major Defense Equipment (MDE):

Up to forty-four (44) Rolling Airframe Missiles (RAM) Block 2 Tactical Missiles, RIM-116C.

Non-MDE: Also included are RAM Block 2 Guidance Control Groups; RAM Guided Missile Round Pack Tri-Pack shipping and storage containers; operator manuals and technical documentation; U.S. Government and contractor engineering, technical and logistics support services; and other related elements of logistics and program support.

(iv) Military Department: Navy (JA-P-AUN).

(v) Prior Related Cases, if any: JA-P-ATK, JA-P-AUF.

(vi) Sales Commission, Fee, etc., Paid, Offered, or Agreed to be Paid: None.

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology Contained in the Defense Article or Defense Services Proposed to be Sold: See Attached Annex.

(viii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: August 4, 2021.

\* As defined in Section 47(6) of the Arms Export Control Act.

#### POLICY JUSTIFICATION

Japan—RAM Block 2 Tactical Missiles

The Government of Japan has requested to buy up to forty-four (44) Rolling Airframe Missiles (RAM) Block 2 Tactical Missiles, RIM-116C. Also included are RAM Block 2 Guidance Control Groups; RAM Guided Missile Round Pack Tri-Pack shipping and storage containers; operator manuals and technical documentation; U.S. Government and contractor engineering, technical and logistics support services; and other related elements of logistics and program support. The total estimated program cost is \$61.5 million.

This proposed sale will support the foreign policy goals and national security objectives of the United States by improving the security of a major ally that is a force for political stability and economic progress in the Asia-Pacific region. It is vital to U.S. national interest to assist Japan in developing and maintaining a strong and effective self-defense capability.

The proposed will provide significantly enhanced area defense capabilities over critical East Asian and Western Pacific air and sea-lanes of communication. Japan will have no difficulty absorbing these services and support into its armed forces.

The proposed sale of this equipment and support will not alter the basic military balance in the region.

The principal contractor will be Raytheon Missiles and Defense, Tucson, AZ. There are no known offset agreements proposed in connection with this potential sale.

Implementation of this proposed sale will not require the assignment of any additional U.S. Government or contractor representatives to Japan.

There will be no adverse impact on U.S. defense readiness as a result of this proposed sale.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 21-51

Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act

Annex Item No. vii

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology:

1. The RIM-116C Rolling Airframe Missile (RAM) is an autonomous (i.e., "fire and forget") lightweight, supersonic, surface-to-air tactical missile for ship self-defense against current and evolving anti-ship cruise missile threats. Advanced technology in the RIM-116C includes dualmode RF/IR (radio frequency/infrared) guidance with IR all-the-way capability for non-emitting threats.

2. The highest level of classification of defense articles, components, and services included in this potential sale is CONFIDENTIAL.

3. If a technologically advanced adversary were to obtain knowledge of the specific hardware and software elements, the information could be used to develop countermeasures that might reduce weapon system effectiveness or be used in the development of a system with similar or advanced capabilities.

4. A determination has been made that Japan can provide substantially the same degree of protection for the sensitive technology being released as the U.S. Government. This sale is necessary in furtherance of the U.S. foreign policy and national security objectives outlined in the Policy Justification.

5. All defense articles and services listed in this transmittal have been authorized for release and export to Japan.

### ARMS SALES NOTIFICATION

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. President, section 36(b) of the Arms Export Control Act requires that Congress receive prior notification of certain proposed arms sales as defined by that statute. Upon such notification, the Congress has 30 calendar days during which the sale may be reviewed. The provision stipulates that, in the Senate, the notification of proposed sales shall be sent to the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

In keeping with the committee's intention to see that relevant information is available to the full Senate, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD the notifications which have been received. If the cover letter references a classified annex, then such annex is available to all Senators in the office of the Foreign Relations Committee, room SD-423.

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

DEFENSE SECURITY  
COOPERATION AGENCY,  
Arlington, VA.

Hon. ROBERT MENENDEZ,  
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Relations,  
U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(h)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended, we are forwarding herewith Transmittal No. 21-55, concerning the Navy's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the Government of Australia for defense articles and services estimated to cost \$350 million. After this letter is delivered to your office, we plan

to issue a news release to notify the public of this proposed sale.

Sincerely,

JEDIDIAH P. ROYAL,  
Deputy Director.

Enclosures.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 21-55

Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended

(i) Prospective Purchaser: Government of Australia.

(ii) Total Estimated Value:

Major Defense Equipment\* \$0 million.

Other \$350 million.

Total \$350 million.

(iii) Description and Quantity or Quantities of Articles or Services under Consideration for Purchase:

Major Defense Equipment (MDE):

None.

Non-MDE: Defense services related to the future purchase of Standard Missile 6 Block I (SM-6) and Standard Missile 2 Block IIIC (SM-2 IIIC) missiles. These services include development; engineering, integration, and testing (EI&T); obsolescence engineering activities required to ensure readiness; U.S. Government and contractor engineering/technical assistance; related studies and analysis support; and other related elements of programmatic, technical and logistics support.

(iv) Military Department: Navy (AT-P-AVY).

(v) Prior Related Cases, if any: None.

(vi) Sales Commission, Fee, etc., Paid, Offered, or Agreed to be Paid: None.

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology Contained in the Defense Article or Defense Services Proposed to be Sold: See Attached Annex.

(viii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: August 25, 2021.

\*As defined in Section (47)(6) of the Arms Export Control Act.

### POLICY JUSTIFICATION

#### Australia—Defense Services Related to Future Standard Missile Production

The Government of Australia has requested to buy defense services related to the future purchase of Standard Missile 6 Block I (SM-6) and Standard Missile 2 Block IIIC (SM-2 IIIC) missiles. These services include development; engineering, integration, and testing (EI&T); obsolescence engineering activities required to ensure readiness; U.S. Government and contractor engineering/technical assistance, and related studies and analysis support; technical and logistics support services; and other related elements of program and logistical support. The total estimated value is \$350 million.

This proposed sale will support the foreign policy and national security objectives of the United States. Australia is one of our most important allies in the Western Pacific. Australia is strategically positioned to contribute significantly to ensuring peace and economic stability in the region. It is vital to the U.S. national interest to assist our ally in developing and maintaining a strong and ready self-defense capability.

The proposed sale will support the readiness and future sale of vital anti-air warfare capability that can be deployed from Australia's newest Hunter-Class Destroyers equipped with the latest AEGIS Combat Systems. The purchase of Standard Missile 6 Block I (SM-6) and Standard Missile 2 Block IIIC (SM-2 IIIC) missiles is currently included in Australia's procurement roadmap and will improve their ability to operate alongside U.S. and Allied naval forces against the full spectrum of naval threats. Australia will have no difficulty absorbing these defense services into its armed forces.

The proposed sale of this equipment and support will not alter the basic military balance in the region.

The principal U.S. contractor will be Raytheon Missiles and Defense (RMD), Tucson, AZ. There are no known offset agreements proposed in connection with this potential sale.

Implementation of the proposed sale will require U.S. Government and contractor personnel to visit Australia on a temporary basis in conjunction with program technical oversight and support requirements, including program and technical reviews.

There will be no adverse impact on U.S. defense readiness as a result of this proposed sale.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 21-55

Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act

Annex Item No. vii

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology:

1. The proposed sale will result in the transfer of sensitive and classified technical data related to obsolescence engineering, integration, and test activities required to ensure readiness for the future procurement of Standard Missile 6 Block I (SM-6) and Standard Missile 2 Block IIIC (SM-2 IIIC) missiles. No SM-6 Blk I or SM-2 IIIC hardware or software will be transferred under this proposed sale. Australia currently employs SM-2 Block IIIA and IIIB on Royal Australian Navy (RAN) AEGIS surface combatants, and has been afforded access to similar technical information for these delivered systems.

2. The highest level of classification of defense articles, components, and services included in this potential sale is SECRET.

3. If a technologically advanced adversary were to obtain knowledge of the specific hardware and software elements, the information could be used to develop countermeasures that might reduce weapon system effectiveness or be used in the development of a system with similar or advanced capabilities.

4. A determination has been made that the Government of Australia can provide substantially the same degree of protection for the sensitive technology being released as the U.S. Government. This sale is necessary in furtherance of the U.S. foreign policy and national security objectives outlined in the Policy Justification.

5. All defense articles and services listed in this transmittal are authorized for release and export to the Government of Australia.

### ARMS SALES NOTIFICATION

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. President, section 36(b) of the Arms Export Control Act requires that Congress receive prior notification of certain proposed arms sales as defined by that statute. Upon such notification, the Congress has 30 calendar days during which the sale may be reviewed. The provision stipulates that, in the Senate, the notification of proposed sales shall be sent to the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

In keeping with the committee's intention to see that relevant information is available to the full Senate, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD the notifications which have been received. If the cover letter references a classified annex, then such annex is available to all Senators in the office of the Foreign Relations Committee, room SD-423.

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

DEFENSE SECURITY  
COOPERATION AGENCY,  
Arlington, VA.

Hon. ROBERT MENENDEZ,  
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Relations,  
U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended, we are forwarding herewith Transmittal No. 21-54 concerning the Air Force's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the Republic of Korea for defense articles and services estimated to cost \$258 million. After this letter is delivered to your office, we plan to issue a news release to notify the public of this proposed sale.

Sincerely,

JEDIDIAH P. ROYAL,  
Deputy Director.

Enclosures.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 21-54

Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended

(i) Prospective Purchaser: Republic of Korea.

(ii) Total Estimated Value:

Major Defense Equipment\* \$251 million.

Other \$7 million.

Total \$258 million.

(iii) Description and Quantity or Quantities of Articles or Services under Consideration for Purchase:

Major Defense Equipment (MDE):

Three thousand nine hundred fifty-three (3,953) Joint Direct Attack Munition (JDAM) Guidance Kits, KMU-556 for GBU-31.

One thousand nine hundred eighty-one (1,981) JDAM Guidance Kits, KMU-557 for GBU-31, GBU-56.

One thousand one hundred seventy-nine (1,179) JDAM Guidance Kits, KMU-572 for GBU-38.

One thousand seven hundred fifty-five (1,755) FMU-139 Fuze Systems.

Non-MDE: Also included are DSU-42/B Detectors, Laser Illuminated Target for GBU-56; weapon spare parts, components and accessories; weapons training aids, devices, and spare parts; U.S. Government and contractor engineering, technical assistance, and logistical support services; and other related elements of logistical and program support.

(iv) Military Department: Air Force (KS-D-YAW, KS-D-YAX, KS-D-YAY).

(v) Prior Related Cases, if any: None.

(vi) Sales Commission, Fee, etc., Paid, Offered, or Agreed to be Paid: None.

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology Contained in the Defense Article or Defense Services Proposed to be Sold: See Attached Annex.

(viii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: August 25, 2021.

\* As defined in Section 47(6) of the Arms Export Control Act.

#### POLICY JUSTIFICATION

##### Korea—Precision Guided Munitions

The Republic of Korea has requested to buy three thousand nine hundred fifty-three (3,953) Joint Direct Attack Munition (JDAM) Guidance Kits, KMU-556 for GBU-31; one thousand nine hundred eighty-one (1,981) JDAM Guidance Kits, KMU-557 for GBU-31, GBU-56; one thousand one hundred seventy-nine (1,179) JDAM Guidance Kits, KMU-572 for GBU-38; and one thousand seven hundred fifty-five (1,755) FMU-139 Fuze Systems. Also included are DSU-42/B Detectors, Laser Illuminated Target for GBU-56; weapon spare parts, components and accessories; weapons training aids, devices, and spare parts; U.S. Government and contractor engineering,

technical assistance, and logistical support services; and other related elements of logistical and program support. The estimated total cost is \$258 million.

This proposed sale will support the foreign policy goals and national security objectives of the United States by helping to improve the security of a Major Non-NATO ally that continues to be an important force for political stability, peace, and economic progress in the Indo-Pacific region.

The proposed sale will improve the Republic of Korea's capability to meet current and future threats by increasing available stores of munitions on the Korean Peninsula in support of Alliance Operations Plans (OPLANs), as well as to fulfill conditions outlined by the Condition-Based Operational Control (OPCON) Transition Plan. The Republic of Korea will have no difficulty absorbing these articles into its armed forces.

The proposed sale of this equipment and support will not alter the basic military balance in the region.

The principal contractor will be Boeing Corporation, St Louis, Missouri. There are no known offset agreements proposed in connection with this potential sale.

Implementation of this proposed sale will not require the assignment of any additional U.S. Government or contractor representatives to the Republic of Korea.

There will be no adverse impact on U.S. defense readiness as a result of this proposed sale.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 21-54

Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act

#### Annex Item No. vii

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology:

1. The Joint Direct Attack Munition (JDAM) is a guidance kit that converts existing unguided free-fall bombs into an accurate, adverse weather "smart" munition. The Guidance Set consists of a Tail Kit, which contains the Inertial Navigation System (INS) and a Global Positioning System (GPS), a set of Aerosurfaces and an umbilical cover, which allows the JDAM to improve the accuracy of unguided, General Purpose bombs. The JDAM weapon can be delivered from modest standoff ranges at high or low altitudes against a variety of land and surface targets during the day or night. The JDAM is capable of receiving target coordinates via preplanned mission data from the delivery aircraft, by onboard aircraft sensors (i.e., FLIR, Radar, etc.) during captive carry, or from a third-party source via manual or automated aircrew cockpit entry. The Guidance Set, when combined with a warhead and appropriate fuze, forms a JDAM Guided Bomb Unit (GBU).

(a) The KMU-572 is the tail kit for a GBU-38 500LB JDAM.

(b) The KMU-556 is the tail kit for a GBU-31 2,000LB Mk-84 (General Purpose bomb body) JDAM.

(c) The KMU-557 is the tail kit for a GBU-31/-56 2,000LB BLU-109 (General Purpose bomb body) JDAM.

2. The Laser JDAM (GBU-56) is a 2,000LB JDAM that incorporates all the capabilities of the JDAM guidance tail kit and adds a DSU-42/B precision laser guidance set. The DSU-42/B sensor gives the weapon system an optional semi-active laser seeker. The addition of the DSU-42/B laser sensor combined with additional cabling and mounting hardware turns a GBU-31 JDAM into a GBU-56 LJDAM. The DSU-42/B consists of a laser spot tracker, a cable connecting the DSU-42/B to the basic JDAM guidance set, a cable cover, cable cover tie-down straps, modified tail kit door and wiring harness, and associated modified JDAM software that incor-

porates navigation and guidance flight software to support both LJDAM and standard JDAM missions. The DSU-42/B adds the flexibility to strike targets of opportunity, including mobile and moving targets, to an already accurate adverse weather GPS/INS guided JDAM.

3. The Joint Programmable Fuze (JPF) FMU-139D/B is a multi-delay, multi-arm and proximity sensor compatible with general purpose blast, frag and hardened-target penetrator weapons. The JPF settings are cockpit selectable in flight when used numerous precision-guided weapons. It can interface with the following weapons: GBU-31, GBU-38, and GBU-56.

4. The highest level of classification of defense articles, components, and services included in this potential sale is SECRET.

5. If a technologically advanced adversary were to obtain knowledge of the specific hardware and software elements, the information could be used to develop countermeasures that might reduce weapon system effectiveness or be used in the development of a system with similar or advanced capabilities.

6. A determination has been made that the Republic of Korea can provide substantially the same degree of protection for the sensitive technology being released as the U.S. Government. This sale is necessary in furtherance of the U.S. foreign policy and national security objectives outlined in the Policy Justification.

7. All defense articles and services listed in this transmittal have been authorized for release and export to the Republic of Korea.

#### ARMS SALES NOTIFICATION

Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. President, section 36(b) of the Arms Export Control Act requires that Congress receive prior notification of certain proposed arms sales as defined by that statute. Upon such notification, the Congress has 30 calendar days during which the sale may be reviewed. The provision stipulates that, in the Senate, the notification of proposed sales shall be sent to the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

In keeping with the committee's intention to see that relevant information is available to the full Senate, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD the notifications which have been received. If the cover letter references a classified annex, then such annex is available to all Senators in the office of the Foreign Relations Committee, room SD-423.

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

DEFENSE SECURITY  
COOPERATION AGENCY,  
Arlington, VA.

Hon. ROBERT MENENDEZ,  
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Relations,  
U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(5)(A) of the Arms Export Control Act (AECA), as amended, we are forwarding Transmittal No. OU-21. This notification relates to enhancements or upgrades from the level of sensitivity of technology or capability described in the Section 36(b)(1) AECA certification 17-12 of June 23, 2017.

Sincerely,

JEDIDIAH P. ROYAL,  
Deputy Director.

Enclosures.

TRANSMITTAL NO. OU-21

Report of Enhancement or Upgrade of Sensitivity of Technology or Capability (Sec. 36(B)(5)(A), AECA)

(i) Purchaser: Government of Australia

(ii) Sec. 36(b)(1), AECA Transmittal No.: 17-12.

Date: June 23, 2017.

Military Department: Air Force.

(iii) Description: On June 23, 2017, Congress was notified by Congressional certification transmittal number 17-12 of the possible sale under Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act of up to five (5) Gulfstream G-550 aircraft modified to integrate Airborne Intelligence, Surveillance, Reconnaissance, and Electronic Warfare (AISREW) mission systems, Global Positioning System (GPS) capability, secure communications, aircraft defensive systems; spares, including whole life costs of airborne and ground segments; aircraft modification and integration; ground systems for data processing and crew training; ground support equipment; publications and technical data; U.S. Government and contractor engineering, technical and logistics support services; flight test and certification; and other related elements of logistical and program support. The estimated total cost was \$1.3 billion. Major Defense Equipment (MDE) constituted \$0.04 billion of this total.

On August 26, 2020, Congress was notified by Congressional certification transmittal number 20-0J of Australia's request for the inclusion of the following non-MDE items and services: spares and repair/return parts; consumables and support equipment; publications and technical documentation; maintenance, training and training equipment; U.S. Government and contractor flight test and certification, aircraft modification and integration, engineering, technical and logistics support services; and other related elements of logistical and program support. These additional items resulted in an increase in non-MDE cost of \$500 million, causing a revised total cost for non-MDE of \$1.76 billion. Major Defense Equipment (MDE) remained \$0.04 billion. The total estimated case value increased by \$500 million to \$1.8 billion.

This transmittal reports the addition of the following MDE item: one (1) LN-200 Embedded GPS-INS sensor. The total cost of the new MDE item is \$300,000. This will not result in a net increase in the total cost of MDE. The total MDE value will remain \$0.04 billion. The total estimated case value will remain \$1.8 billion.

(iv) Significance: This notification is being provided to report the inclusion of an MDE item not previously notified. The inclusion of this MDE represents an increase in capability over what was previously notified. The additional equipment is required to support Australia's efforts to modernize its Electronic Warfare support capability and increases interoperability between the U.S. Air Force and the Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF).

(v) Justification: This proposed sale supports the foreign policy and national security objectives of the United States by improving the security of a Major Non-NATO Ally that is a key partner of the United States in ensuring peace and stability around the world.

(vi) Sensitivity of Technology: The Sensitivity of Technology Statement contained in the original notification applies to item reported here.

(vii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: August 25, 2021.

## ARMS SALES NOTIFICATION

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. President, section 36(b) of the Arms Export Control Act requires that Congress receive prior notification of certain proposed arms sales as defined by that statute. Upon such notification, the Congress has 30 calendar days during which the sale may be reviewed. The provision stipulates that, in the Senate, the notification of proposed sales shall be sent to the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

In keeping with the committee's intention to see that relevant information is available to the full Senate, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD the notifications which have been received. If the cover letter references a classified annex, then such annex is available to all Senators in the office of the Foreign Relations Committee, room SD-423.

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

DEFENSE SECURITY  
COOPERATION AGENCY,  
Arlington, VA.

Hon. ROBERT MENENDEZ,  
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Relations,  
U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(5)(A) of the Arms Export Control Act (AECA), as amended, we are forwarding Transmittal No. 0R-21. This notification relates to enhancements or upgrades from the level of sensitivity of technology or capability described in the Section 36(b)(1) AECA certification 19-36 of May 30, 2019.

Sincerely,

JEDIDIAH P. ROYAL,  
Deputy Director.

Enclosures.

TRANSMITTAL NO. OR-21

Report of Enhancement or Upgrade of Sensitivity of Technology or Capability (Sec. 36(B)(5)(A), AECA)

(i) Purchaser: Government of Bulgaria

(ii) Sec. 36(b)(1), AECA Transmittal No.: 19-36; Date: May 30, 2019; Military Department: Air Force.

Funding Source: National Funds.

(iii) Description: On May 30, 2019, Congress was notified by Congressional certification transmittal number 19-36, of the possible sale under Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act of eight (8) F-16 C/D Block 70/72 aircraft; ten (10) F110 General Electric engines (includes 2 spares); ten (10) Link-16 Multi-Functional Information Distribution System (MIDS)—JTRS (MIDS-JTRS) (includes 2 spares); nine (9) Improved Program Display Generators (iPDG) (includes 1 spare); nine (9) AN/APG-83 Active Electronically Scanned Array (AESA) Radars (includes 1 spare); four (4) AN/AAQ-33 SNIPER Targeting Pods; nine (9) Modular Mission Computers (MMC) 7000AH (includes 1 spare); nine (9) LN-260 Embedded OPS/INS (EGI); nine (9) M61 Vulcan 20mm Cannons; sixteen (16) AIM-120C7 Advanced Medium Range Air-to-Air Missiles (AMRAAMs); one AIM-120C7 Spare Guidance Section; twenty-four (24) AIM-9X Sidewinder Missiles; eight (8) AIM-9X Captive Air Training Missiles (CATM); four (4) AIM-9X Spare Tactical Guidance Sections; four (4) AIM-9X Spare CATM Guidance Sections; forty-eight (48) LAU-129 Multi-Purpose Launchers; fifteen (15) GBU-49 Enhanced Paveway II Kits; fifteen (15) GBU-54 Laser JDAM Kits; twenty-eight (28) GBU-39 Small

Diameter Bombs (SDB-1); twenty-four (24) FMU-152 Fuzes; twenty-four (24) MK-82 Bombs (Tritonal); six (6) MK82 Bombs (Inert); and thirteen (13) MAU-210 Enhanced Computer Control Group (ECCG). Also included are nine (9) AN/ALQ-211 Internal Advanced Integrated Defensive Electronic Warfare Suites (including 1 spare); nine (9) AN/ALE-47 Countermeasure Dispensers (including 1 spare); 4,140 Infrared Flare countermeasures, with impulse cartridges; 8,250 each of PGU-27 A/B 20mm training and combat munitions; thirty-six (36) MK-124 Signal/Smoke Illumination devices; nine (9) APX-126 Advanced Identification Friend or Foe (AIFF) units with Secure Communications and Cryptographic Appliances; eighteen (18) AN/ARC-238 UHF/VHF SATURN Radios; sixteen (16) AIM-120C AMRAAM training CATMs; Joint Mission Planning System (JMPS) with software, training and support; twenty (20) Joint Helmet Mounted Cueing System (JHMCS) II with Night Vision Goggle compatibility; ten (10) Night Vision Devices; two (2) Remote Operated Video Enhanced Receiver (ROVER) 6i units, plus 1 ground station; ground training device (flight and maintenance simulator); one (1) Avionics I-level Test Station; Electronic Combat International Security Assistance Program (ECISAP) support; Cartridge Actuated and Propellant Actuated Devices (CAD/PAD) support; Common Munitions Bit-test Reprogramming Equipment (CMBRE) support with Computer Test Set Adapter Group; communications equipment; software delivery and support; facilities and construction support; spares and repair/replace parts; personnel training and training equipment; publications and technical documentation; containers; munition support and test equipment; aircraft and munition integration and test support; studies and surveys; U.S. Government and contractor technical, engineering and logistical support services; and other related elements of logistics and program support. The estimated cost was \$1.673 billion. Major Defense Equipment (MDE) constituted \$0.763 billion of this total.

This transmittal reports the inclusion of additional non-MDE articles and services that were not previously notified: Electronic Countermeasure Dispenser AN/ALE-4 7s and Stinger Multi-Band Antennas. The total MDE value will remain \$0.763 billion. The total non-MDE value will increase by \$1.38 million to \$911.38 million, and the total case value will increase to \$1.675 billion.

(iv) Significance: This notification is being provided to report the inclusion of additional non-MDE articles and services that were not previously notified. The proposed articles and services will provide Bulgaria's new F-16 fleet with the equipment necessary to provide for the defense of its airspace, regional security, and interoperability with the United States and NATO.

(v) Justification: This proposed sale will contribute to the foreign policy and national security objectives of the United States by helping to improve the security of a NATO ally and a key democratic partner of the United States in ensuring peace and stability in Europe.

(vi) Sensitivity of Technology: The Sensitivity of Technology statement contained in the original notification applies to items reported here.

(vii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: August 25, 2021.

## ARMS SALES NOTIFICATION

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. President, section 36(b) of the Arms Export Control Act requires that Congress receive prior notification of certain proposed

arms sales as defined by that statute. Upon such notification, the Congress has 30 calendar days during which the sale may be reviewed. The provision stipulates that, in the Senate, the notification of proposed sales shall be sent to the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

In keeping with the committee's intention to see that relevant information is available to the full Senate, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD the notifications which have been received. If the cover letter references a classified annex, then such annex is available to all Senators in the office of the Foreign Relations Committee, room SD-423.

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

DEFENSE SECURITY  
COOPERATION AGENCY,  
Arlington, VA.

Hon. ROBERT MENENDEZ,  
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Relations,  
U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(5)(A) of the Arms Export Control Act (AECA), as amended, we are forwarding Transmittal No. 0S-21. This notification relates to enhancements or upgrades from the level of sensitivity of technology or capability described in the Section 36(b)(1) AECA certification 10-60 of September 29, 2010.

Sincerely,

JEDIDIAH P. ROYAL,  
Deputy Director.

Enclosures.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 0S-21

Report of Enhancement or Upgrade of Sensitivity of Technology or Capability (Sec. 36(b)(5)(A), AECA)

(i) Purchaser: Government of Spain.

(ii) Sec. 36(b)(1), AECA Transmittal No.: 10-60; Date: September 29, 2010; Military Department: Navy.

(iii) Description: On September 29, 2010, Congress was notified by Congressional certification transmittal number 10-60, of the possible sale under Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act of (6) SH-60F Multi-Mission Utility Helicopters being offered as Excess Defense Articles, (13) T700-GE-401C engines (12 installed and 1 spare), inspection and modifications, spare and repairs parts, support equipment, personnel training and training equipment, publications and technical documentation, U.S. Government and contractor engineering, technical, and logistics support services, and other related logistics and program support. The estimated total cost was \$155 million. Major Defense Equipment (MDE) constituted \$47 million of this total.

On July 28, 2017, Congress was notified by Congressional certification transmittal number 0K-17 of the inclusion of four (4) Embedded Global Positioning Units/Inertial Navigation Systems (EGI) with GPS Selective Availability Anti-Spoofing Module (SAASM) and three (3) AN/AAR-47E(V)2 (one (1) for each aircraft and one (1) spare). The EGIs and AN/AAR-47E(V)2 were MDE. Also included were two (2) CPS Anti-Jam System (GAS-1), two (2) Missile Warning System sets with certification and installation in each aircraft, and three (3) AN/ALE-47 Countermeasure Dispensing Systems (one (1) for each aircraft and one (1) spare) along with integration, certification, and installation on each aircraft. These items were to be used to equip two (2) of the six (6) total EDA SH-

60 helicopters. The inclusion of these MDE items did not result in a change to the estimated MDE value of \$47 million. The total estimated case value remained \$155 million.

On June 26, 2018, Congress was notified by Congressional certification transmittal number 0J-18 of the inclusion of eight (8) Embedded Global Positioning Units/Inertial Navigation Systems (EGI) with GPS Selective Availability Anti-Spoofing Module (SAASM) and four (4) AN/AAR-47E Missile Warning Systems (MWS) (MDE items). Also included were four (4) GPS Anti-Jam Systems (GAS-1), four (4) AN/ALE-47 Countermeasure Dispensing Systems and eight (8) AN/ARC-210(V) RT-1990A(C) radios. These items were to be used to equip the remaining four (4) of the original six (6) total EDA SH-60F helicopters. The estimated value of the additional MDE items was \$4.26 million, but the addition did not result in a change to the estimated MDE value of \$47 million. The total estimated case value remained \$155 million.

On November 16, 2018, Congress was notified by Congressional certification transmittal number 0T-18 of the inclusion of four (4) additional EDA SH-60F helicopters (two flyable/two spares non-flying), including eight (8) T700-GE-401C engines (installed). Two (2) aircraft were to be equipped with the following additional systems: four (4) EGIs with GPS SAASM, two (2) AN/AAR-47E MWS (both items MDE); two (2) GAS-1s, two (2) AN/ALE-47 Countermeasure Dispensing Systems, and four (4) AN/ARC-210(V) RT-1990A(C) radios. The estimated value of the additional MDE items was \$11.6 million, but the addition did not result in a change to the estimated MDE value of \$47 million. The total estimated case value remained \$155 million.

On May 21, 2019, Congress was notified by Congressional certification transmittal number 0K-19 of an increase in total case value that had not been recently reevaluated. The total case value increase was based on the following factors. The previous value was calculated before the open and inspect phase of the first aircraft. As retired aircraft stored at the Aerospace Maintenance and Regeneration Group (AMARG), Spain's aircraft contained more damage that could be discovered only during a full teardown and inspection, and the last aircraft had been demilitarized and assessed in overall poor condition with a planned date to be shredded. Returning these aircraft to flight condition required extensive work and greater expense than anticipated. There was also a cost increase to provide for return-and-repair services, engineering hours, and spare parts. No additional MDE was added and the estimated MDE value remained \$47 million. The estimated additional non-MDE value increased by \$61 million. The total estimated case value increased to \$216 million.

On January 14, 2020, Congress was notified by Congressional certification transmittal number 0A-20 of an additional four (4) Embedded Global Positioning Units/Inertial Navigation Systems (EGIs) with GPS Selective Availability Anti-Spoofing Module (SAASM). The estimated MDE value was \$1 million, for a total estimated MDE value of \$48 million. The total estimated case value increased to \$217 million.

This transmittal reports the inclusion of additional MDE articles and services that were not previously notified: Three (3) 7.62MM M240D Machine Guns. The total estimated MDE value will increase to \$48.7 million. The total estimated case value will increase to \$217.7 million.

(iv) Significance: This notification is being provided as the additional MDE items were not enumerated in the original notification. The inclusion of this MDE represents an increase in capability over what was pre-

viously notified. The proposed articles and services will augment the Spanish Navy's multi-mission, multi-role helicopters to perform humanitarian missions, search and rescue, medical evacuations, firefighting, and anti-piracy efforts.

(v) Justification: This proposed sale will support the foreign policy and national security of the United States by improving the security of a NATO ally which is an important force for political stability and economic progress in Europe.

(vi) Sensitivity of Technology: The 7.62MM M240D Machine Gun is a belt-fed, gas operated medium machine gun that chambers the 7.62x51mm NATO cartridge. The M240D has two configurations, both aircraft mounted and egress kit designed to provide downed aircrew personnel with increased firepower. The highest level of classification of defense articles, components, and services included in this potential sale is UNCLASSIFIED.

(vii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: September 7, 2021.

## NATIONAL POW/MIA RECOGNITION DAY

Mr. CRAPO. Mr. President, in honor of the observation of National POW/MIA Recognition Day this September 17, 2021, I join in raising awareness about the more than 81,600 Americans the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency, DPAA, reports remain missing from World War II, the Korean war, the Vietnam war, the Cold war, the gulf wars, and other conflicts. Thank you to the members of the POW/MIA Awareness Rally Corp. of Pocatello, ID, and other similar groups for their unwavering commitment to keeping the need to bring all missing American servicemembers home at the forefront of our national focus.

Etched on the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier at Arlington National Cemetery are the words, "Here Rests In Honored Glory An American Soldier Known But To God." The tribute prompts reflection on the American servicemembers, many also in graves known but to God, who have not yet been identified or returned home. This year marks 100 years since the first unknown soldier, a World War I veteran, was interred at the tomb. Over the century since, a World War II, a Korean war, and a Vietnam war veteran were also laid to rest in the tomb. Following the identification and exhumation of the interred Vietnam veteran Air Force First Lieutenant Michael Joseph Blassie, the empty crypt was rededicated to honor American servicemembers who remain missing in Southeast Asia.

The DPAA reports 75 percent of lost Americans are located in the Indo-Pacific, and more than 41,000 of the missing are presumed lost at sea. My heart remains with the families of the missing and those working tirelessly, often through significant challenges to get needed answers, to bring them home. Despite the difficulty, the DPAA has reported accounting for more than 100 of America's missing since the start of this year. This includes Navy Fireman 2nd Class Carl M. Bradley who was

killed in action aboard the USS *Oklahoma* on December 7, 1941. He was returned to rest in his hometown of Shelley, ID, earlier this year.

To support these efforts, work continues toward reintroducing the Bring Our Heroes Home Act to provide a more efficient process for accessing records needed for recovery efforts of missing servicemembers. We can never let up in bringing home all our Nation's heroes, including the 358 Idahoans, who have yet to be returned. Our country's dedication to bringing our lost servicemembers home must mirror the precision, stamina, formality and respect with which The Old Guard unwaveringly protects the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. They resolutely honor our Nation's unidentified and missing servicemembers, as we must in steadily pressing forward to get answers for the families who await their return.

#### TRIBUTE TO MARCUS GAMBLE

Mr. SULLIVAN. Mr. President, I wish today to honor Marcus Earl Gamble, a member of my Senate staff who has departed to explore exciting opportunities in the great State of Wisconsin.

Marcus, who is from Eagle River, AK, has been an invaluable member of my Senate staff since May of 2018. Marcus is the son of Tonya and Brad Gamble, who recently left Alaska for sunny Arizona. After attending Chugiak High School, Marcus graduated from the University of Montana in 2018 with bachelor of arts degree in political science.

I first met Marcus in the summer of 2016, when he served as an intern in my Washington, DC office. He immediately distinguished himself with his incredible positive attitude and his ever-present smile. He lit up every room he entered and he soon became a staple of the front office and was lauded by many Alaskan visitors for his friendly, informative banter during tours of the U.S. Capitol.

Following his graduation from the University of Montana, Marcus joined my Senate staff as a staff assistant. He quickly became a staff favorite, seeming to never have a bad day as he took calls and greeted visitors to the office. Marcus quickly earned additional responsibility, eventually becoming the internship coordinator and systems administrator.

The COVID-19 pandemic showed us all how vital Marcus is to my office. In a matter of hours, he had every staff member outfitted with equipment and made sure everyone was connected and ready to work. Thanks to Marcus, my office didn't miss a beat and was able to continue to serve Alaska.

In addition to being an effective member of my staff, Marcus is a trusted colleague. His high regard for his fellow Alaskans is evident in the excellent service he has provided to my staff and the public. His can-do, positive attitude and his know-how for all things big and small is greatly missed.

My staff and I will miss Marcus greatly, but are sure he will continue to be a brilliant example of Alaska's indomitable spirit. Thank you, Marcus, for your outstanding service and best of luck as you start this new chapter in life.

#### ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

##### TRIBUTE TO SENIOR MASTER SERGEANT JEREMY MAYO

• Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize SMSGT Jeremy Mayo who has earned the Military Times 2021 Airman of the Year award after a remarkable 19 years of military service.

Jeremy Mayo is a proud Arkansan who has dedicated his life to protecting and defending his country. Mayo grew up hearing stories about his grandfather's 20 years in the military and says it had a big influence in his life and served as his inspiration to join the Armed Forces.

In his 10 deployments, he has handled a variety of crucial operations from dropping personnel to refilling helicopters, as well as resupply, infiltration, and exfiltration missions. He was initially drawn to the position for its unpredictability and the opportunity to work with some of the top military groups from a variety of branches. Mayo has demonstrated, time and time again, the grit and work ethic so crucial to the success of members of our military. To Mayo, the most important part of his job was simply to get the crew and the team he was supporting in and out and to get them home safely.

Mayo praised the U.S. Air Force for instilling in him important traits such as leadership, saying the roles he has taken on forced him to really step up. As a Special Operations Command loadmaster, Mayo had been trained to roll with the punches, so when the coronavirus pandemic hit, he did just that.

Mayo recognized the significance of the chemical aircrew survivability barrier, a tent-like, air-filtering structure for C-130 airframes. He then helped develop plans to utilize this tool during the pandemic, making special operations crews increasingly self-sufficient and mobile in dangerous medical evacuations.

His quick thinking and creativity in repurposing this chemical and biological contamination tent to protect troops from the coronavirus earned him this prestigious award and, more importantly, has helped protect countless servicemembers.

While the pandemic presented a variety of challenges, Senior Master Sergeant Mayo clearly demonstrated his perseverance in the face of adversity. He deployed to three different regions of the world and served as the senior enlisted leader in an exercise that trained French special operations heli-

copter crews on refueling and seizure skills to prepare for combat in Africa.

I applaud SMSGT Jeremy Mayo for his outstanding commitment and dedication to our Nation. He richly deserves this recognition for his ingenuity and determination, and we are proud of this Arkansan's distinguished record of service on behalf of our country. I commend him for all his efforts that have culminated in this honor and express my gratitude for his leadership and example.●

##### RECOGNIZING STATE AUTO INSURANCE COMPANIES

• Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize the 100-year anniversary of the founding of State Auto Insurance Companies.

Founded with \$30,000 in borrowed funds by Robert S. Pein in 1921, the State Automobile Mutual Insurance Association had three employees in a rented room at 257 East Broad Street in Columbus, OH.

Pein believed that the insurance industry at the time was ripe for improvement to customer service and increased affordability. The company's early mission statement was "Prompt and Satisfactory Service in the Settlement of All Claims and operated by a golden rule of "do unto others as you would have them do unto you." Those guiding principles remain to this day.

State Auto's geographic footprint expanded as the company entered new States and acquired or affiliated with companies throughout the country. Today, the company offers products in 33 States. State Auto has grown steadily and now is among the 40 largest property and casualty insurance companies in the United States.

Throughout its history, State Auto has been an innovator in the insurance industry. The company introduced the industry's first auto insurance payment plan and recently transformed into an entirely digital provider of auto, home, and business insurance.

This required a transformation not only of its technology but also of its products and culture. State Auto's culture is open and inclusive, with a belief that every voice is important. Feeling comfortable, even obligated, to speak up, challenge, and disagree is critical.

It is an impressive feat for a company to reach its 100th anniversary. State Auto has reached this milestone while being a great community partner in central Ohio.

I wish State Auto Insurance Companies a future of continued success.●

#### 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

In executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages



from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The messages received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings).

#### MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 10:02 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Alli, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 4. An act to amend the Voting Rights Act of 1965 to revise the criteria for determining which States and political subdivisions are subject to section 4 of the Act, and for other purposes.

#### MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME

The following bill was read the first time:

S. 2747. A bill to expand Americans' access to the ballot box and reduce the influence of big money in politics, and for other purposes.

#### EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

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

EC-1943. A communication from the Deputy Administrator for Policy Support, Food and Nutrition Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP): 2008 Farm Bill Provisions on Clarification of Split Issuance; Accrual of Benefits and Definition Changes; Delay of Implementation Date for Certain Provisions" (RIN0584-AE02) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 9, 2021; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-1944. A communication from the Secretary of Defense, transmitting a report on the approved retirement of Lieutenant General Robert F. Hedelund, United States Marine Corps, and his advancement to the grade of lieutenant general on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-1945. A communication from the Acting Chairman and President of the Export-Import Bank, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a transaction involving U.S. exports to various countries; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-1946. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to the International Emergency Economic Powers Act, a report relative to the issuance of an Executive Order in order to expand the scope of the national emergency declared in Executive Order 13405 of June 16, 2006 with respect to blocking property of certain persons undermining democratic processes or institutions in Belarus; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-1947. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a six-month periodic report on the national emergency that was declared in Executive Order 13851 with respect to Nicaragua; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-1948. A communication from the Director of the Legal Processing Division, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "State Populations Residing in a Qualified Disaster Zone" (Notice 2021-45) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 10, 2021; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-1949. A communication from the Director of the Legal Processing Division, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Retroactive application of section 13204 of TCJA" (Rev. Proc. 2021-28) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 10, 2021; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-1950. A communication from the Director of the Legal Processing Division, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "45Q Carbon Capture Equipment Revenue Ruling" (Rev. Rul. 2021-13) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 10, 2021; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-1951. A communication from the Director of the Legal Processing Division, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Premium Assistance for COBRA Benefits Part II" (Notice 2021-46) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 9, 2021; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-1952. A communication from the Assistant Legal Adviser for Treaty Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to the Case-Zablocki Act, 1 U.S.C. 112b, as amended, the report of the texts and background statements of international agreements, other than treaties (List 2021-0092-2021-0094); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-1953. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to section 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act, the certification of a proposed license for the export of firearms, parts, and components abroad controlled under Category I of the U.S. Munitions List to Mexico in the amount of \$1,000,000 or more (Transmittal No. DDTIC 20-087); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-1954. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to section 36(d) of the Arms Export Control Act, the certification of a proposed license for the export of defense articles, including technical data and defense services to Mexico, for the manufacture of significant military equipment abroad; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-1955. A communication from the Director of the Legal Processing Division, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Transparency in Coverage" (RIN1545-BP47) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 10, 2021; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-1956. A communication from the Secretary of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Report to Congress on the Prevention and Reduction of Underage Drinking (RTC)" and other relative reports; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-1957. A communication from the Secretary of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Annual Report to Congress on the Prevention and Reduction of Underage Drinking"; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-1958. A communication from the Secretary of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the 21st Century IDEA 2019 report; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-1959. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting a legislative proposal entitled "To repeal section 3516(f)(2) of title 31, United States Code, and for other purposes"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-1960. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 24-141, "Engineering Licensure Temporary Amendment Act of 2021"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-1961. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 24-142, "Fiscal Year 2021 Revised Local Budget Advance School Payment and COVID Relief Temporary Amendment Act of 2021"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-1962. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 24-143, "Good Faith Waiver of Certificates of Need for Health Care Providers Temporary Amendment Act of 2021"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-1963. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 24-144, "Local Food Access Grants Temporary Amendment Act of 2021"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-1964. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 24-145, "Fair Elections Clarification Temporary Amendment Act of 2021"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-1965. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 24-146, "Student Activity Fund Theatrical and Music Performance Expenditures Temporary Act of 2021"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-1966. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 24-147, "Certificate of Assurance Moratorium Extension Temporary Amendment Act of 2021"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-1967. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 24-148, "Local Business Enterprise Clarification Temporary Amendment Act of 2021"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-1968. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 24-149, "Performing Arts Promotion Temporary Amendment Act of 2021"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-1969. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 24-123, "Real Property Tax Sale COVID-19 Equitable Temporary Amendment Act of 2021"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-1970. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report

on D.C. Act 24-124, "DCPS Drug Testing Clarification Temporary Amendment Act of 2021"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-1971. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 24-122, "Flavored Tobacco Product Prohibition Amendment Act of 2021"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-1972. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 24-150, "Insurer Corporate Governance Annual Report Act of 2021"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

## REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Ms. CANTWELL, from the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 1037. A bill to provide for the establishment of a section of the website of the Department of Commerce that shall serve as the primary hub for information relating to Federal manufacturing programs, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 117-38).

## 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. OSSOFF (for himself, Mr. WARNOCK, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Ms. WARREN, Ms. SMITH, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, and Mr. CARDIN):

S. 2726. A bill to provide for competitive grants to support access to affordable housing and the enhancement of mobility for residents in disadvantaged communities or neighborhoods; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. LANKFORD (for himself, Ms. HASSAN, Ms. ERNST, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. BRAUN, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Mr. DAINES, Mr. KING, Mr. SASSE, and Mr. CASSIDY):

S. 2727. A bill to provide for a period of continuing appropriations in the event of a lapse in appropriations under the normal appropriations process, and establish procedures and consequences in the event of a failure to enact appropriations; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. SULLIVAN (for himself, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Ms. HIRONO, and Mr. SCHATZ):

S. 2728. A bill to amend title VI of the Social Security Act to extend the coverage of Coronavirus Relief Fund payments to Tribal Governments; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. WARNOCK:

S. 2729. A bill to direct the Federal Communications Commission to establish a program through which eligible individuals may obtain vouchers for the purchase of connected devices, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. PADILLA (for himself and Ms. WARREN):

S. 2730. A bill to direct the Secretary of Education to establish a pilot grant program to develop, implement, and evaluate comprehensive mental health services programs

in elementary schools and secondary schools, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mrs. BLACKBURN (for herself and Mr. HAGERTY):

S. 2731. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2245 Rosa L Parks Boulevard in Nashville, Tennessee, as the "Thelma Harper Post Office Building"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, and Ms. COLLINS):

S. 2732. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to prohibit certain conduct relating to the use of horses for human consumption; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

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

S. 2733. A bill to terminate the United States Enrichment Corporation Fund and transfer remaining amounts to the Treasury; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. LEE (for himself, Mr. TUBERVILLE, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. SULLIVAN, and Mr. BRAUN):

S. 2734. A bill to require Senate confirmation of the Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mrs. BLACKBURN:

S. 2735. A bill to amend title 5, United States Code, to designate September 11 Day of Remembrance as a legal public holiday; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. BURR (for himself, Mr. TESTER, Ms. ERNST, Mr. KELLY, Mr. TILLIS, and Mr. MANCHIN):

S. 2736. A bill to exclude vehicles to be used solely for competition from certain provisions of the Clean Air Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. INHOFE (for himself, Mr. KING, Mr. COONS, and Mr. LANKFORD):

S. 2737. A bill to amend the American History and Civics Education program under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to require inclusion of programs that educate students about the history and principles of the Constitution of the United States, including the Bill of Rights; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. CORNYN (for himself, Ms. WARREN, Mr. MARKEY, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. PADILLA, and Mr. CASEY):

S. 2738. A bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal to the United States Army Dustoff crews of the Vietnam War, collectively, in recognition of their extraordinary heroism and life-saving actions in Vietnam; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mrs. BLACKBURN (for herself and Mr. HAGERTY):

S. 2739. A bill to amend title 40, United States Code, to add certain counties to the definition of "Appalachian region"; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. BROWN (for himself and Mr. CASSIDY):

S. 2740. A bill to establish a strategic active pharmaceutical ingredient reserve to maintain a domestic supply of active pharmaceutical ingredients and key starting materials needed for the manufacturing of essential generic medicines, and to build a pipeline for domestic active pharmaceutical ingredient production; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. BOOKER (for himself and Ms. KLOBUCHAR):

S. 2741. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to promote healthy eating and physical activity among children; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. THUNE (for himself and Mr. CRAPO):

S. 2742. A bill to establish the COVID-19 Unemployment Insurance Fraud Task Force, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mrs. BLACKBURN (for herself and Mr. HAGERTY):

S. 2743. A bill to make companies that support venues and events eligible for grants under the shuttered venue operators grant program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

By Mr. LEE (for himself and Mr. BRAUN):

S. 2744. A bill to clarify the meaning of the term "emergency war funding" for purposes of determining eligible costs for such funding, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Budget.

By Mr. RUBIO (for himself, Mr. TUBERVILLE, Mr. SULLIVAN, Mr. TILLIS, Mrs. CAPITO, and Ms. LUMMIS):

S. 2745. A bill to impose sanctions and other measures with respect to the Taliban, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. RUBIO (for himself, Mr. HAGERTY, and Mr. WARNOCK):

S. 2746. A bill to require the Department of Housing and Urban Development to conduct an annual risk assessment of properties receiving tenant-based or project-based rental assistance for lead-based hazards, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself, Mr. KAINE, Mr. KING, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. TESTER, and Mr. WARNOCK):

S. 2747. A bill to expand Americans' access to the ballot box and reduce the influence of big money in politics, and for other purposes; read the first time.

By Ms. CORTEZ MASTO (for herself, Mr. KENNEDY, and Mr. VAN HOLLEN):

S. 2748. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to modify the rules for postponing certain deadlines by reason of disaster; to the Committee on Finance.

## SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. HAWLEY (for himself and Mr. BLUNT):

S. Res. 357. A resolution honoring Missourians who made the ultimate sacrifice in Afghanistan; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. CORNYN (for himself and Mr. CRUZ):

S. Res. 358. A resolution honoring Mr. Steve Verett for more than 24 years of dedicated service to the cotton industry and to Plains Cotton Growers, Inc.; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. GRAHAM (for himself and Mr. BURR):

S. Res. 359. A resolution expressing the sense of the Senate that the Secretary of State should designate the Afghan Taliban as a Foreign Terrorist Organization, freeze all assets of the Government of Afghanistan held in the United States, and use all authority and influence of the United States Government to prohibit the distribution of funds

to the Afghan Taliban by other countries and international institutions and organizations; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. JOHNSON, and Mr. DURBIN):

S. Res. 360. A resolution celebrating the 30th anniversary of the independence of Ukraine from the former Soviet Union; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. BOOKER (for himself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. COONS, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. DURBIN, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. PADILLA, and Mr. VAN HOLLEN):

S. Res. 361. A resolution expressing support for the recognition of July as "Muslim-American Heritage Month" and celebrating the heritage and culture of Muslim Americans in the United States; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. DUCKWORTH (for herself and Mr. MORAN):

S. Res. 362. A resolution expressing the support of the Senate for the contributions and achievements of student parents and recognizing September 2021 as National Student Parent Month; considered and agreed to.

By Mrs. FISCHER (for herself and Mr. PETERS):

S. Res. 363. A resolution designating September 2021 as "School Bus Safety Month"; considered and agreed to.

By Ms. STABENOW (for herself, Mr. KAINE, and Mr. REED):

S. Res. 364. A resolution supporting the designation of September 17, 2021, as "National Physician Suicide Awareness Day" to raise awareness of, and promote a national discussion about, physician suicide and to reduce the stigma of mental health issues; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

#### ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 75

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

S. 77

At the request of Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. THUNE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 77, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to prohibit the Secretary of Health and Human Services from conducting or supporting any research involving human fetal tissue that is obtained pursuant to an induced abortion, and for other purposes.

S. 172

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the names of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER) and the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) were added as cosponsors of S. 172, a bill to authorize the National Medal of Honor Museum Foundation to establish a commemorative work in the District of Columbia and its environs, and for other purposes.

S. 194

At the request of Mrs. SHAHEEN, the name of the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING) was added as a cosponsor of S.

194, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to provide treatment for eating disorders for dependents of members of the uniformed services.

S. 287

At the request of Ms. BALDWIN, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. OSSOFF) was added as a cosponsor of S. 287, a bill to direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services to issue guidance to States to educate providers, managed care entities, and other insurers about the value and process of delivering respectful maternal health care through diverse and multidisciplinary care provider models, and for other purposes.

S. 347

At the request of Ms. SMITH, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. OSSOFF) was added as a cosponsor of S. 347, a bill to improve the collection and review of maternal health data to address maternal mortality, serve maternal morbidity, and other adverse maternal health outcomes.

S. 401

At the request of Mr. LANKFORD, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. KENNEDY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 401, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to prohibit governmental discrimination against health care providers that do not participate in abortion.

S. 535

At the request of Ms. ERNST, the name of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. KAINE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 535, a bill to authorize the location of a memorial on the National Mall to commemorate and honor the members of the Armed Forces that served on active duty in support of the Global War on Terrorism, and for other purposes.

S. 544

At the request of Ms. ERNST, the name of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. HICKENLOOPER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 544, a bill to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to designate one week each year as "Buddy Check Week" for the purpose of outreach and education concerning peer wellness checks for veterans, and for other purposes.

S. 596

At the request of Mr. CARPER, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. LUJÁN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 596, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for the coordination of programs to prevent and treat obesity, and for other purposes.

S. 697

At the request of Ms. ROSEN, the name of the Senator from West Virginia (Mrs. CAPITO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 697, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint commemorative coins in recognition of the Bicentennial of Harriet Tubman's birth.

S. 766

At the request of Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, the names of the Senator from Massa-

chusetts (Ms. WARREN) and the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) were added as cosponsors of S. 766, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow an above-the-line deduction for attorney fees and costs in connection with consumer claim awards.

S. 797

At the request of Mr. THUNE, the names of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. LUJÁN) and the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. CASSIDY) were added as cosponsors of S. 797, a bill to require transparency, accountability, and protections for consumers online.

S. 844

At the request of Mr. THUNE, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 844, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to treat certain amounts paid for physical activity, fitness, and exercise as amounts paid for medical care.

S. 915

At the request of Mr. SANDERS, the name of the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 915, a bill to repeal section 3003 of the Carl Levin and Howard P. "Buck" McKeon National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2015, and for other purposes.

S. 924

At the request of Mrs. BLACKBURN, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Ms. ROSEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 924, a bill to establish a demonstration program to provide payments on eligible loans for individuals who are eligible for the National Health Service Corps Loan Repayment Program.

S. 1089

At the request of Mrs. BLACKBURN, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1089, a bill to direct the Government Accountability Office to evaluate appropriate coverage of assistive technologies provided to patients who experience amputation or live with limb difference.

S. 1136

At the request of Ms. CANTWELL, the names of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY), the Senator from Nevada (Ms. CORTEZ MASTO) and the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) were added as cosponsors of S. 1136, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to reform the low-income housing credit, and for other purposes.

S. 1221

At the request of Mr. DAINES, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Ms. ROSEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1221, a bill to require the Director of the Office of Personnel Management to create a classification that more accurately reflects the vital role of wildland firefighters.

S. 1302

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. LUJÁN) was added as a cosponsor

of S. 1302, a bill to amend title II of the Social Security Act to repeal the Government pension offset and windfall elimination provisions.

S. 1362

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. HOEVEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1362, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for coverage under the Medicare program of pharmacist services.

S. 1401

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BRAUN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1401, a bill to amend the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act to improve nutritional and other program requirements relating to purchases of locally produced food.

S. 1404

At the request of Mr. MARKEY, the names of the Senator from Missouri (Mr. HAWLEY) and the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) were added as cosponsors of S. 1404, a bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal to the 23d Headquarters Special Troops and the 3133d Signal Service Company in recognition of their unique and distinguished service as a "Ghost Army" that conducted deception operations in Europe during World War II.

S. 1408

At the request of Mr. MARKEY, the names of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS) and the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO) were added as cosponsors of S. 1408, a bill to posthumously award the Congressional Gold Medal, collectively, to Glen Doherty, Tyrone Woods, J. Christopher Stevens, and Sean Smith, in recognition of their contributions to the Nation.

S. 1535

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. SMITH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1535, a bill to designate as wilderness certain Federal portions of the red rock canyons of the Colorado Plateau and the Great Basin Deserts in the State of Utah for the benefit of present and future generations of people in the United States.

S. 1574

At the request of Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. KENNEDY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1574, a bill to codify a statutory definition for long-term care pharmacies.

S. 1613

At the request of Ms. DUCKWORTH, the names of the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY), the Senator from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN), the Senator from California (Mr. PADILLA), the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. SMITH), the Senator from Arizona (Mr. KELLY), the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ), the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) and the Senator from Nevada (Ms. ROSEN) 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. 1636

At the request of Mr. MARSHALL, the name of the Senator from Tennessee (Mrs. BLACKBURN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1636, a bill to clarify the treatment of 2 or more employers as joint employers under the National Labor Relations Act and the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938.

S. 1790

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the names of the Senator from Tennessee (Mrs. BLACKBURN) and the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. HASSAN) were added as cosponsors of S. 1790, a bill to ensure that the Federal Communications Commission does not approve radio frequency devices that pose a national security risk.

S. 1815

At the request of Mr. WARNER, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1815, a bill to amend the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to require issuers to disclose to the Securities and Exchange Commission information regarding workforce management policies, practices, and performance, and for other purposes.

S. 1831

At the request of Mrs. MURRAY, the name of the Senator from California (Mr. PADILLA) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1831, a bill to amend the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act to establish a permanent, nationwide electronic benefits transfer program for children during school closures, and for other purposes.

S. 1840

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the names of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER) and the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) were added as cosponsors of S. 1840, a bill to prohibit deceptive practices in Federal elections.

S. 1872

At the request of Ms. ERNST, the name of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1872, a bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal, collectively, to the United States Army Rangers Veterans of World War II in recognition of their extraordinary service during World War II.

S. 2011

At the request of Mr. COONS, the names of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET), the Senator from Nevada (Ms. ROSEN), the Senator from Virginia (Mr. KAINE) and the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) were added as cosponsors of S. 2011, a bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal to honor the contributions of all those whose efforts led to the successful development of life saving vaccines to combat the novel coronavirus.

S. 2013

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the name of the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING) was added as a cosponsor 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. 2047

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2047, a bill to ban the use of intentionally added perfluoroalkyl or polyfluoroalkyl substances in cosmetics.

S. 2057

At the request of Mr. THUNE, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2057, a bill to appropriately limit the size of the population required for urban areas of metropolitan statistical areas.

S. 2065

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2065, a bill to amend title XVI of the Social Security Act to update eligibility for the supplemental security income program, and for other purposes.

S. 2081

At the request of Ms. HIRONO, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. OSSOFF) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2081, a bill to improve the structure of the Federal Pell Grant program, and for other purposes.

S. 2088

At the request of Mr. KELLY, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. LUJÁN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2088, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to improve the process by which a member of the Armed Forces may be referred for a mental health evaluation.

S. 2128

At the request of Mrs. MURRAY, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2128, a bill to ensure the humane treatment of pregnant women by reinstating the presumption of release and prohibiting shackling, restraining, and other inhumane treatment of pregnant detainees, and for other purposes.

S. 2217

At the request of Ms. HIRONO, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2217, a bill to increase the participation of historically underrepresented demographic groups in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics education and industry.

S. 2221

At the request of Mr. CRUZ, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BRAUN) was added as a cosponsor of S.

2221, a bill to restrict executive agencies from acting in contravention of Executive Order 13950, and for other purposes.

S. 2256

At the request of Mr. DAINES, the names of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. KAINE) and the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET) were added as cosponsors of S. 2256, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to limit the charitable deduction for certain qualified conservation contributions.

S. 2285

At the request of Ms. SINEMA, the name of the Senator from Arizona (Mr. KELLY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2285, a bill to require the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, the Secretary of the Interior, and the Secretary of Agriculture to maintain the Urban Water Federal Partnership Program, and for other purposes.

S. 2370

At the request of Mr. HEINRICH, the name of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. HICKENLOOPER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2370, a bill to require the Secretary of Energy to provide rebates for the installation of zero-emission technologies in single-family homes and multifamily buildings, and for other purposes.

S. 2384

At the request of Mr. TOOMEY, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. WARNOCK) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2384, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the semiquincentennial anniversary of the establishment of the United States.

S. 2388

At the request of Mr. BOOKER, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. SMITH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2388, a bill to require the designation of composting as a conservation practice and activity, to provide grants and loan guarantees for composting facilities and programs, and for other purposes.

S. 2389

At the request of Mr. BOOKER, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. SMITH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2389, a bill to require the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to provide grants to reduce the quantity of food waste, and for other purposes.

S. 2390

At the request of Ms. DUCKWORTH, the name of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2390, a bill to allow Americans to receive paid leave time to process and address their own health needs and the health needs of their partners during the period following a pregnancy loss, an unsuccessful round of intrauterine insemination or of an assisted reproductive technology procedure, a failed adoption arrangement, a failed surrogacy arrangement, or a diagnosis

or event that impacts pregnancy or fertility, to support related research and education, and for other purposes.

S. 2395

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the name of the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. HAGERTY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2395, a bill to require an annual feasibility report on cooperation between the National Guard and Taiwan, and for other purposes.

S. 2434

At the request of Ms. CANTWELL, the names of the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER), the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. MANCHIN) and the Senator from Nevada (Ms. CORTEZ MASTO) were added as cosponsors of S. 2434, a bill to provide tax incentives that support local newspapers and other local media, and for other purposes.

S. 2665

At the request of Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2665, a bill to require the Secretary of Energy to establish a grant program to incentivize small business participation in demand side management programs, and for other purposes.

S. 2710

At the request of Mrs. BLACKBURN, the name of the Senator from Wyoming (Ms. LUMMIS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2710, a bill to promote competition and reduce gatekeeper power in the app economy, increase choice, improve quality, and reduce costs for consumers.

S. 2721

At the request of Mr. CRAPO, the names of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. THUNE), the Senator from Iowa (Mr. GRASSLEY) and the Senator from Tennessee (Mrs. BLACKBURN) were added as cosponsors of S. 2721, a bill to require the Internal Revenue Service to issue a report on the tax gap, to establish a fellowship program within the Internal Revenue Service to recruit mid-career tax professionals to create and participate in an audit task force, and for other purposes.

S. 2724

At the request of Mr. KENNEDY, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2724, a bill to reauthorize the National Flood Insurance Program.

S.J. RES. 22

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) was added as a cosponsor of S.J. Res. 22, a joint resolution to prospectively repeal the 2001 Authorization for Use of Military Force.

S. RES. 336

At the request of Mr. KAINE, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. SMITH) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 336, a resolution designating September 15, 2021, as "International Myotonic Dystrophy Awareness Day" and supporting the goals and ideals of International Myotonic Dystrophy Awareness Day.

## STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTION

By Mr. PADILLA (for himself and Ms. WARREN):

S. 2730. A bill to direct the Secretary of Education to establish a pilot grant program to develop, implement, and evaluate comprehensive mental health services programs in elementary schools and secondary schools, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Mr. PADILLA. Mr. President, I rise to speak in support of the "Comprehensive Mental Health in Schools Pilot Program Act of 2021," which I introduced today.

Millions of children and adolescents across the Nation struggle every day with mental health concerns that threaten their emotional well-being and academic achievement.

The COVID-19 pandemic has underscored the need for comprehensive school mental health systems that can provide the support and services that students desperately need.

This bill is a targeted effort to address the worsening mental health crisis in this country. If enacted, this legislation would help schools as they work to promote positive school climates, improve social and emotional learning, and reduce the prevalence and severity of mental illness.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reported that between March and October of 2020, the proportion of children between the ages of 5 and 11 who visited an emergency department because of a mental health crisis climbed 24 percent compared to the same time period in 2019, and climbed 31 percent for children between the ages of 12 and 17. More people are reporting frequent thoughts of suicide and self-harm than have ever been recorded. The full effects of increased learning loss, social isolation, uncertainty, and trauma may not manifest for years, and schools must be prepared to deal with this preventatively.

That is why I am proud to introduce this bill, which would direct the Secretary of Education to establish a \$20 million 4-year pilot grant program to help schools serving low-income students address mental and behavioral wellbeing, as well as academic, cognitive, and social and emotional development, through multi-tier, evidence-based interventions that foster positive learning environments. More specifically, this funding may be used for providing professional development opportunities, encouraging restorative policies, establishing racially, culturally, and linguistically appropriate trauma-informed practices, and hiring more school-based mental and behavioral health professionals.

I want to thank Representative DAVID TRONE for introducing this bill with me, and I hope our colleagues will join us in support of this solution to our youth mental health crisis.

Thank you, Mr. President. I yield the floor.

By Mr. CORNYN (for himself, Ms. WARREN, Mr. MARKEY, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. PADILLA, and Mr. CASEY):

S. 2738. A bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal to the United States Army Dustoff crews of the Vietnam War, collectively, in recognition of their extraordinary heroism and life-saving actions in Vietnam; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to print my bill for introduction in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD. The bill's purpose is to award a Congressional Gold Medal to the United States Army Dustoff crews of the Vietnam War, collectively, in recognition of their extraordinary heroism and life-saving actions in Vietnam.

S. 2738

*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 "Dustoff Crews of the Vietnam War Congressional Gold Medal Act".

#### SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

The Congress finds that—

(1) a United States Army Dustoff crewman (pilot, crew chief, and medic) is a helicopter crew member who served honorably during the Vietnam War aboard helicopter air ambulances, which were both non-division and division assets under the radio call signs "Dustoff" and "Medevac";

(2) Dustoff crews performed aeromedical evacuation for United States, Vietnamese, and allied forces in Southeast Asia from May 1962 through March 1973;

(3) nearing the end of World War II, the United States Army began using helicopters for medical evacuation and years later, during the Korean War, these helicopter air ambulances were responsible for transporting 17,700 United States casualties;

(4) during the Vietnam War, with the use of helicopter air ambulances, United States Army Dustoff crews pioneered the concept of dedicated and rapid medical evacuation and transported almost 900,000 United States, South Vietnamese, and other allied sick and wounded, as well as wounded enemy forces;

(5) helicopters proved to be a revolutionary tool to assist those injured on the battlefield;

(6) highly skilled and intrepid, Dustoff crews were able to operate the helicopters and land them on almost any terrain in nearly any weather to pick up wounded, after which the Dustoff crews could provide care to these patients while transporting them to ready medical facilities;

(7) the vital work of the Dustoff crews required consistent combat exposure and often proved to be the difference between life and death for wounded personnel;

(8) the revolutionary concept of a dedicated combat life-saving system was cultivated and refined by United States Army Dustoff crews during 11 years of intense conflict in and above the jungles of Southeast Asia;

(9) innovative and resourceful Dustoff crews in Vietnam were responsible for taking the new concept of helicopter medical evacuation, born just a few years earlier, and revo-

lutionizing it to meet and surpass the previously unattainable goal of delivering a battlefield casualty to an operating table within the vaunted "golden hour";

(10) some Dustoff units in Vietnam operated so efficiently that they were able to deliver a patient to a waiting medical facility on an average of 50 minutes from the receipt of the mission, which saved the lives of countless personnel in Vietnam, and this legacy continues for modern-day Dustoff crews;

(11) the inherent danger of being a member of a Dustoff crew in Vietnam meant that there was a 1 in 3 chance of being wounded or killed;

(12) many battles during the Vietnam War raged at night, and members of the Dustoff crews often found themselves searching for a landing zone in complete darkness, in bad weather, over mountainous terrain, and all while being the target of intense enemy fire as they attempted to rescue the wounded, which caused Dustoff crews to suffer a rate of aircraft loss that was more than 3 times that of all other types of combat helicopter missions in Vietnam;

(13) the 54th Medical Detachment typified the constant heroism displayed by Dustoff crews in Vietnam, over the span of a 10-month tour, with only 3 flyable helicopters and 40 soldiers in the unit, evacuating 21,435 patients in 8,644 missions while being airborne for 4,832 hours;

(14) collectively, the members of the 54th Medical Detachment earned 78 awards for valor, including 1 Medal of Honor, 1 Distinguished Service Cross, 14 Silver Star Medals, 26 Distinguished Flying Crosses, 2 Bronze Star Medals for valor, 4 Air Medals for valor, 4 Soldier's Medals, and 26 Purple Heart Medals;

(15) the 54th Medical Detachment displayed heroism on a daily basis and set the standard for all Dustoff crews in Vietnam;

(16) 6 members of the 54th Medical Detachment are in the Dustoff Hall of Fame, 3 are in the Army Aviation Hall of Fame, and 1 is the only United States Army aviator in the National Aviation Hall of Fame;

(17) Dustoff crew members are among the most highly decorated soldiers in American military history;

(18) in early 1964, Major Charles L. Kelly was the Commanding Officer of the 57th Medical Detachment (Helicopter Ambulance), Provisional, in Soc Trang, South Vietnam;

(19) Major Kelly helped to forge the Dustoff call sign into history as one of the most welcomed phrases to be heard over the radio by wounded soldiers in perilous and dire situations;

(20) in 1964, Major Kelly was killed in action as he gallantly maneuvered his aircraft to save a wounded American soldier and several Vietnamese soldiers and boldly replied, after being warned to stay away from the landing zone due to the ferocity of enemy fire, "When I have your wounded.";

(21) General William Westmoreland, Commander, Military Assistance Command, Vietnam (1964-1968), singled out Major Kelly as an example of "the greatness of the human spirit" and highlighted his famous reply as an inspiration to all in combat;

(22) General Creighton Abrams, Westmoreland's successor (1968-1972), and former Chief of Staff of the United States Army, highlighted the heroism of Dustoff crews, "A special word about the Dustoffs . . . Courage above and beyond the call of duty was sort of routine to them. It was a daily thing, part of the way they lived. That's the great part, and it meant so much to every last man who served there. Whether he ever got hurt or not, he knew Dustoff was there.";

(23) Dustoff crews possessed unique skills and traits that made them highly successful in aeromedical evacuation in Vietnam, in-

cluding indomitable courage, extraordinary aviation skill and sound judgment under fire, high-level medical expertise, and an unequalled dedication to the preservation of human life;

(24) members of the United States Armed Forces on the ground in Vietnam had their confidence and battlefield prowess reinforced knowing that there were heroic Dustoff crews just a few minutes from the fight, which was instrumental to their well-being, willingness to fight, and morale;

(25) military families in the United States knew that their loved ones would receive the quickest and best possible care in the event of a war-time injury, thanks to the Dustoff crews;

(26) the willingness of Dustoff crews to also risk their lives to save helpless civilians left an immeasurably positive impression on the people of Vietnam and exemplified the finest American ideals of compassion and humanity; and

(27) Dustoff crews from the Vietnam War hailed from every State in the United States and represented numerous ethnic, religious, and cultural backgrounds.

#### SEC. 3. CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL.

(a) PRESENTATION AUTHORIZED.—The Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President pro tempore of the Senate shall make appropriate arrangements for the presentation, on behalf of Congress, of a single gold medal of appropriate design in honor of the Dustoff crews of the Vietnam War, collectively, in recognition of their heroic military service, which saved countless lives and contributed directly to the defense of our country.

(b) DESIGN AND STRIKING.—For the purposes of the award referred to in subsection (a), the Secretary of the Treasury shall strike the gold medal with suitable emblems, devices, and inscriptions, to be determined by the Secretary, in consultation with the Secretary of Defense.

(c) SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Following the award of the gold medal in honor of the Dustoff Crews of the Vietnam War, the gold medal shall be given to the Smithsonian Institution, where it will be available for display as appropriate and available for research.

(2) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that the Smithsonian Institution should also make the gold medal awarded pursuant to this Act available for display elsewhere, particularly at appropriate locations associated with the Vietnam War, and that preference should be given to locations affiliated with the Smithsonian Institution.

#### SEC. 4. DUPLICATE MEDALS.

The Secretary may strike and sell duplicates in bronze of the gold medal struck pursuant to section 3 at a price sufficient to cover the cost thereof, including labor, materials, dies, use of machinery, and overhead expenses.

#### SEC. 5. STATUS OF MEDALS.

(a) NATIONAL MEDAL.—The medal struck pursuant to this Act is a national medal for purposes of chapter 51 of title 31, United States Code.

(b) NUMISMATIC ITEMS.—For purposes of chapter 51 of title 31, United States Code, all medals struck under this Act shall be considered to be numismatic items.

#### SEC. 6. AUTHORITY TO USE FUND AMOUNTS; PROCEEDS OF SALE.

(a) AUTHORITY TO USE FUND AMOUNTS.—There is authorized to be charged against the United States Mint Public Enterprise Fund such amounts as may be necessary to pay for the costs of the medals struck under this Act.

(b) PROCEEDS OF SALE.—Amounts received from the sale of duplicate bronze medals authorized under section 4 shall be deposited



into the United States Mint Public Enterprise Fund.

By Mr. THUNE (for himself and Mr. CRAPO):

S. 2742. A bill to establish the COVID-19 Unemployment Insurance Fraud Task Force, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

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

S. 2742

*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 “Recovering Fraudulent Claims Act”.

#### SEC. 2. COVID-19 UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE FRAUD TASK FORCE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—

(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—Not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this section, the Attorney General, in consultation with the Secretary, shall establish the COVID-19 Unemployment Insurance Fraud Task Force (in this section referred to as the “Task Force”).

(2) DUTIES.—

(A) INVESTIGATION.—The Task Force shall investigate fraud with respect to COVID-19 unemployment insurance benefits, including an identification of and investigation into—

(i) subject to paragraph (3), any alleged instance of fraudulent payment of COVID-19 unemployment insurance benefits to any individual, entity, or organization (either foreign or domestic) that was not eligible to receive such benefits; and

(ii) any alleged instance in which an individual, entity, or organization (either foreign or domestic) stole or attempted to steal the identity or personally identifiable information of any United States citizen in an effort to obtain COVID-19 unemployment insurance benefits, including any instance of synthetic identity theft.

(B) SUBMISSION OF FINDINGS TO ATTORNEY GENERAL.—The Task Force shall submit to the Attorney General the Task Force’s findings with respect to the investigation conducted under subparagraph (A) to assist the Attorney General in the prosecution of fraud concerning COVID-19 unemployment insurance benefits.

(3) CLARIFICATION.—The investigation conducted under paragraph (2)(A) shall not include an identification of or investigation into any improper payment of COVID-19 unemployment insurance benefits to any individual that was eligible to receive such benefits.

(b) MEMBERSHIP.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Attorney General, in consultation with the Secretary, shall appoint to the Task Force a representative from each of the following:

(A) The Office of the Inspector General of the Department of Labor.

(B) The Federal Bureau of Investigation.

(C) The Department of Homeland Security.

(D) The Internal Revenue Service.

(E) The United States Postal Service.

(F) The Office of the Inspector General of the Social Security Administration.

(G) The Office of the Inspector General of the Department of Homeland Security.

(H) A nonprofit organization representing State workforce agencies.

(I) A national law enforcement organization.

(J) Any other organization the Attorney General, in consultation with the Secretary, determines to be appropriate.

(2) PROHIBITION ON COMPENSATION.—The members of the Task Force shall not receive

any compensation from the Federal Government by reason of their service on the Task Force.

(c) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—

(1) PRELIMINARY REPORT.—Subject to paragraph (3), not later than 1 year after the date on which the Task Force is established under subsection (a)(1), the Task Force shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a report that contains a detailed description of the following:

(A) The Task Force’s findings with respect to the investigation conducted under subsection (a)(2)(A), including the following:

(i) The total number of individuals and an itemized list of entities and organizations (either foreign or domestic) that were identified by the Task Force as having allegedly obtained or attempted to obtain fraudulent payments of COVID-19 unemployment insurance benefits, including the amount of such benefits that were identified by the Task Force as having been obtained.

(ii) The total number of individuals and an itemized list of entities and organizations (either foreign or domestic) that were identified by the Task Force as having allegedly stolen or attempted to steal the identity or personally identifiable information of any United States citizen in an effort to obtain COVID-19 unemployment insurance benefits, including any instance of synthetic identity theft.

(iii) The total number of individuals and an itemized list of entities and organizations (either foreign or domestic) that were identified by the Attorney General during the period beginning on the date of enactment of the CARES Act (Public Law 116-136) and ending on the date of the establishment of the Task Force under subsection (a)(1) as having allegedly obtained or attempted to obtain fraudulent payments of COVID-19 unemployment insurance benefits.

(iv) The total number of individuals and an itemized list of entities and organizations (either foreign or domestic) that were identified by the Attorney General during the period beginning on the date of enactment of the CARES Act (Public Law 116-136) and ending on the date of the establishment of the Task Force under subsection (a)(1) as having allegedly stolen or attempted to steal the identity or personally identifiable information of any United States citizen in an effort to obtain COVID-19 unemployment insurance benefits, including any instance of synthetic identity theft.

(v) The total number of individuals the Attorney General has prosecuted for fraud concerning COVID-19 unemployment insurance benefits, including a list of the criminal charges brought and any prison sentences or accompanying fines imposed.

(B) The steps the Attorney General or the head of any other relevant Federal or State agency is taking, or is planning to take, to prosecute or otherwise penalize the individuals, entities, or organizations described in subparagraph (A).

(C) Any challenge or impediment the Attorney General or the head of any other relevant Federal or State agency has encountered in prosecuting or otherwise penalizing such individuals, entities, or organizations.

(D) The efforts the Attorney General or the head of any other relevant Federal or State agency is taking, or is planning to take, to recover any fraudulent payment of COVID-19 unemployment insurance benefits, and the challenges associated with such efforts.

(E) The total amount of fraudulent COVID-19 unemployment insurance benefits that were issued by States, including a State-by-State breakdown of such amount.

(F) The total amount of fraudulent COVID-19 unemployment insurance benefits that the Attorney General or the head of any other

relevant Federal or State agency has been able to recover.

(G) The specific challenges the Task Force encountered in carrying out subsection (a)(2)(A).

(2) FINAL REPORT.—Subject to paragraph (3), not later than 1 year after the submission of the report under paragraph (1), the Task Force shall submit to the appropriate Committees of Congress a final report that includes updated information regarding subparagraphs (A) through (G) of paragraph (1).

(3) DISCLOSURE OF RETURN INFORMATION.—No return information (as defined in section 6103(b) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986) may be included in a report submitted under paragraph (1) or (2), except as authorized by such section 6103.

(d) SUNSET.—The Task Force shall terminate on the later of—

(1) the date on which the Task Force submits the final report under subsection (c)(2); or

(2) a specific date selected by the Attorney General, in consultation with the Secretary, that falls after the date set forth in paragraph (1).

(e) DEFINITIONS.—

(1) APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS.—The term “appropriate committees of Congress” means—

(A) the Committee on Finance of the Senate;

(B) the Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate;

(C) the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate;

(D) the Committee on Ways and Means of the House of Representatives;

(E) the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives; and

(F) the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives.

(2) COVID-19 UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE BENEFITS.—The term “COVID-19 unemployment insurance benefits” means unemployment insurance benefits provided under any of the programs under section 2102, 2104, or 2107 of the CARES Act (15 U.S.C. 9021, 9023, 9025).

(3) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of Labor.

(4) SYNTHETIC IDENTITY THEFT.—The term “synthetic identity theft” means the use of a combination of personally identifiable information to fabricate an individual or entity in order to commit a dishonest act for personal or financial gain.

#### SEC. 3. GAO STUDY AND REPORT.

(a) STUDY.—The Comptroller General of the United States (in this section referred to as the “Comptroller General”) shall conduct a study on unemployment insurance fraud with respect to COVID-19 unemployment insurance benefits (as defined in section 2(e)). Such study shall include an analysis of—

(1) how the amounts appropriated under section 2118 of the CARES Act (15 U.S.C. 9034), as added by section 9032 of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (Public Law 117-2), are being utilized by States to—

(A) detect and prevent fraud in any such program; and

(B) recover any fraudulent payment of COVID-19 unemployment insurance benefits; (2) any reason that such appropriated amounts were not used by States to detect and prevent such fraud and to recover such fraudulent payments;

(3) whether such appropriated amounts were successful in helping States to detect and prevent such fraud and to recover such fraudulent payments; and

(4) any other area determined appropriate by the Comptroller General.

(b) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this section, the

Comptroller General shall submit to Congress a report containing the results of the study conducted under subsection (a), together with recommendations for such legislation and administrative action as the Comptroller General determines appropriate.

## SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

### SENATE RESOLUTION 357—HONORING MISSOURIANS WHO MADE THE ULTIMATE SACRIFICE IN AFGHANISTAN

Mr. HAWLEY (for himself and Mr. BLUNT) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services:

S. RES. 357

Whereas Marine Corps Lance Corporal Jared Schmitz of Wentzville, Missouri, was a dear and loving son, brother, and friend, who sought constantly to lift those around him and care for others in need;

Whereas Lance Corporal Schmitz was a devoted patriot who knew that he wanted to serve in the Marine Corps by his sophomore year of high school and trained relentlessly on his own initiative so that he might one day wear the Eagle, Globe, and Anchor;

Whereas Lance Corporal Schmitz enlisted in the Marine Corps before his 18th birthday and went on to serve with gallantry as a Marine Corps infantryman, upholding the standards and traditions of all the brave service members from the State of Missouri who came before him;

Whereas Lance Corporal Schmitz went to Kabul, Afghanistan, in August 2021 and, despite the risks, demonstrated heroic commitment to supporting the evacuation of citizens of the United States, allies of the United States, partners of the United States, and innocent civilians;

Whereas, on August 26, 2021, at just 20 years of age, while serving alongside his fellow citizens to provide safe passage to those in need, Lance Corporal Schmitz made the ultimate sacrifice at the international airport in Kabul, giving his life so that others might live; and

Whereas Lance Corporal Schmitz was the last of the 56 Missourians who made the ultimate sacrifice as part of Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Freedom's Sentinel and whose names shall not be forgotten, including—

- (1) Christopher Michael Allgaier;
- (2) Michael Chad Bailey;
- (3) Michael Joe Beckerman;
- (4) Brian Jay Bradbury;
- (5) Paul Douglas Carron;
- (6) Jacob Russell Carver;
- (7) Joseph Brian Cemper;
- (8) Robert Keith Charlton;
- (9) Richard Michael Crane;
- (10) Robert Wayne Crow, Jr.;
- (11) Justin Eric Culbreth;
- (12) Robert Gene Davis;
- (13) Edward Fred Dixon III;
- (14) Jason David Fingar;
- (15) James Matthew Finley;
- (16) Zachary Michael Fisher;
- (17) Jacob Rudeloff Fleischer;
- (18) Blake Wade Hall;
- (19) Nicholas Joel Hand;
- (20) James Warren Harrison, Jr.;
- (21) Jonathon Michael Dean Hostetter;
- (22) James Roger Ide V.;
- (23) Issac Brandon Jackson;
- (24) Christopher M. Katzenberger;
- (25) Jeremy Andrew Katzenberger;
- (26) William Jo Kerwood;
- (27) Daniel Leon Kisling, Jr.;

- (28) Denis Deleon Kisseloff;
- (29) Donald Matthew Marler;
- (30) Matthew David Mason;
- (31) Richard Lewis McNulty III;
- (32) Bradley Louis Melton;
- (33) James Douglas Mowris;
- (34) Michael Robert Patton;
- (35) Joseph Michael Peters;
- (36) Robert Wayne Pharris;
- (37) Ricky Linn Richardson, Jr.;
- (38) Charles Montague Sadell;
- (39) Charles Ray Sanders, Jr.;
- (40) Ronald Wayne Sawyer;
- (41) Patrick Wayne Schimmel;
- (42) Jared Marcus Schmitz;
- (43) Roslyn Littman Schulte;
- (44) Billy Joe Siercks;
- (45) Adam Olin Smith;
- (46) Tyler James Smith;
- (47) Christopher Glenn Stark;
- (48) Sean Patrick Sullivan;
- (49) Philip James Svitak;
- (50) Phillip David Vinnedge;
- (51) Matthew Herbert Walker;
- (52) Jeffrey Lee White, Jr.;
- (53) Matthew Willard Wilson;
- (54) Vincent Cortez Winston, Jr.;
- (55) Sterling William Wyatt; and
- (56) Gunnar William Zwilling: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That it is the sense of the Senate that—

- (1) Marine Corps Lance Corporal Jared Schmitz and his fellow Missourians who made the ultimate sacrifice during the war in Afghanistan represent the very best of the State of Missouri and the United States; and
- (2) the United States honors those brave service members and their families and shall never forget the services they rendered and sacrifices they made in the defense of their grateful Nation.

### SENATE RESOLUTION 358—HONORING MR. STEVE VERETT FOR MORE THAN 24 YEARS OF DEDICATED SERVICE TO THE COTTON INDUSTRY AND TO PLAINS COTTON GROWERS, INC.

Mr. CORNYN (for himself and Mr. CRUZ) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 358

Whereas the Texas High Plains region is one of the largest cotton-producing regions in the world, and the sale of cotton brings more than \$2.2 billion annually to the Texas economy;

Whereas, since 1956, Plains Cotton Growers, Inc., has provided premier service and support to the cotton industry in the High Plains region on matters including research, market development, and public policy at both the State and Federal levels;

Whereas Steve Verett has served as the chief executive officer since 1997, being only the third person to hold this role since Plains Cotton Growers, Inc.'s formation in 1956;

Whereas throughout his 24 years of service, Steve Verett's leadership has established an environment that encourages organizational staff and volunteer leaders to continually find ways to improve the organization in order to meet the unique challenges that face the region's cotton economy; and

Whereas Steve Verett has been a dedicated policy advocate for Plains Cotton Growers, Inc., and the cotton industry, working on countless legislative and regulatory efforts, including the development of four farm bills, Federal crop insurance reform, and numerous ad hoc assistance programs, and one of

the most notable efforts where he played a central role was getting cotton back into title I of the 2018 Farm Bill: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) commends Steve Verett for his lifelong dedication and service to the cotton industry and to Plains Cotton Growers, Inc.;

(2) recognizes Steve Verett for his considerable achievements during his tenure as chief executive officer over the last 24 years with Plains Cotton Growers, Inc.; and

(3) congratulates Steve Verett on his retirement and extends to him best wishes in all his future endeavors.

### SENATE RESOLUTION 359—EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE THAT THE SECRETARY OF STATE SHOULD DESIGNATE THE AFGHAN TALIBAN AS A FOREIGN TERRORIST ORGANIZATION, FREEZE ALL ASSETS OF THE GOVERNMENT OF AFGHANISTAN HELD IN THE UNITED STATES, AND USE ALL AUTHORITY AND INFLUENCE OF THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT TO PROHIBIT THE DISTRIBUTION OF FUNDS TO THE AFGHAN TALIBAN BY OTHER COUNTRIES AND INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTIONS AND ORGANIZATIONS

Mr. GRAHAM (for himself and Mr. BURR) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 359

Whereas the designation of an organization as a Foreign Terrorist Organization "play[s] a critical role in our fight against terrorism and [is] an effective means of curtailing support for terrorist activities", according to the Department of State;

Whereas, under section 219 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1189), the Secretary of State may designate an organization as a Foreign Terrorist Organization if the organization is a foreign organization, the organization engages in terrorist activity or retains the capability and intent to engage in terrorist activity or terrorism, and the terrorist activity or terrorism of the organization threatens the security of United States nationals or the national security of the United States;

Whereas, as of August 2021, there are 72 designated Foreign Terrorist Organizations, including radical Islamic terror groups such as Al-Qaida, which was designated as a Foreign Terrorist Organization in 1999;

Whereas, prior to the September 11, 2001, attacks on the United States, the Afghan Taliban provided a safe haven for Al-Qaida to plan, train, and operate freely;

Whereas, following those attacks on the United States, which killed almost 3,000 people, the Afghan Taliban continued to support Al-Qaida;

Whereas Al-Qaida first pledged allegiance to the Afghan Taliban in the 1990s and have reaffirmed their loyalty to the Afghan Taliban repeatedly since 2001;

Whereas, since the early 1990s, the Afghan Taliban have been responsible for the deaths of countless innocent civilians in Afghanistan, terrorizing the countryside and the cities alike;

Whereas the United Nations report of the Analytical Support and Sanctions Monitoring Team released in June 2021 stated that "the [Afghan] Taliban and Al-Qaida remain closely aligned and show no indication

of breaking ties", and "Al-Qaida is resident in at least 15 Afghan provinces";

Whereas, according to the Afghanistan Study Group, "the [Afghan] Taliban have fallen short of their commitments: they have failed to fulfill their guarantee that they will not 'cooperate with groups or individuals threatening the security of the United States and its allies' and will 'prevent them from recruiting, training, and fundraising and will not host them'";

Whereas the Afghan Taliban have continued their terrorist actions through targeted assassinations of former Afghan leaders, prominent civilian leaders, judges, journalists, and human rights advocates;

Whereas an Afghanistan under Afghan Taliban control will result in further oppression of the Afghan people, including women and girls, and the creation of a safe haven for radical Islamic terror groups, which will result in the United States homeland being less safe;

Whereas the threat to the United States homeland has greatly increased now that the Afghan Taliban have taken control of Afghanistan;

Whereas, on September 13, 2021, Secretary of State Antony Blinken testified before the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives that "the [Afghan] Taliban has been designated as a terrorist organization";

Whereas it is critical that all elements of United States national power be used to prohibit the Afghan Taliban from using Afghanistan as a base from which radical Islamic terror organizations can strike the United States homeland, as they did on September 11, 2001;

Whereas the Afghan Taliban share an ideology and interact closely with designated Foreign Terrorist Organizations, including Al-Qaida in the Indian Subcontinent, the Haqqani Network, and Tehrik-e-Taliban Pakistan;

Whereas the newly formed Afghan Taliban Government includes in its senior ranks individuals subject to sanctions imposed by the United Nations and leaders of the Haqqani Network, all of whom are hostile to the United States;

Whereas Sirajuddin Haqqani, the leader of the Haqqani Network, which has targeted and killed United States citizens, has been named as the acting Interior Minister of Afghanistan;

Whereas Sirajuddin Haqqani is listed on the Most Wanted list of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and the Rewards for Justice program of the Department of State is offering a reward of up to \$10,000,000 for information leading to his arrest;

Whereas Khalil al-Rahman Haqqani, the uncle of Sirajuddin Haqqani and a specially designated global terrorist under Executive Order 13224 (50 U.S.C. 1701 note; relating to blocking property and prohibiting transactions with persons who commit, threaten to commit, or support terrorism) for whom the Rewards for Justice program of the Department of State is offering a reward of \$5,000,000 for information leading to his arrest, has been named acting Minister of Refugees of Afghanistan;

Whereas the United States Government must do everything possible to limit the influence of the Afghan Taliban regime, including denying the regime access to all money held by the United States Government, and should pressure other countries to do the same;

Whereas the Biden administration should use all authority and influence to prohibit international institutions and organizations from distributing funds within the jurisdiction of those institutions and organizations to the Afghan Taliban regime; and

Whereas the Biden administration should designate the takeover of Afghanistan by the Afghan Taliban as a coup d'état, and all foreign assistance to Afghanistan, including funds administered by United States Agency for International Development, should be withheld: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) stands with the Afghan people who are now living under the brutal Afghan Taliban regime;

(2) calls upon the Secretary of State to designate the Afghan Taliban as a Foreign Terrorist Organization;

(3) declares that the takeover of Afghanistan by the Afghan Taliban should be designated as a coup d'état;

(4) states that the United States Government must deny the Afghan Taliban regime access to funds held by the United States Government and work to ensure other countries do the same; and

(5) calls upon the United States Government to use all authority and influence to encourage international institutions and organizations to deny the Afghan Taliban regime access to funds held within the jurisdiction of those institutions and organizations.

#### SENATE RESOLUTION 360—CELEBRATING THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE INDEPENDENCE OF UKRAINE FROM THE FORMER SOVIET UNION

Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. JOHNSON, and Mr. DURBIN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

##### S. RES. 360

Whereas, on January 21, 1990, more than 300,000 Ukrainians called for unity and independence from the Soviet Union by forming a human chain between the cities of Kyiv and Ivano-Frankivsk;

Whereas, on August 24, 1991, the elected Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine declared the independence of Ukraine from the Soviet Union with an overwhelming majority of the vote;

Whereas, on December 1, 1991, more than 90 percent of Ukrainian citizens voted in a national referendum in support of independence, with majorities in every region;

Whereas, on February 8, 1994, Ukraine was the first member state of the Commonwealth of Independent States to join the Partnership for Peace program of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization and has since deepened its relationship with the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, recognized as an Enhanced Opportunities Partner;

Whereas, on November 22, 2004, Ukrainians peacefully took to the streets in protest of a fraudulent presidential election, beginning the Orange Revolution and resulting in new elections under free and fair conditions,

Whereas, on November 21, 2013, the Euromaidan protests began, resulting in the Revolution of Dignity and the removal of President Viktor Yanukovich by the Verkhovna Rada;

Whereas, on February 20, 2014, the Russian Federation invaded the independent state of Ukraine, and Ukraine continues to confront malign Russian activity, including the ongoing occupation of the Crimea region, conflict in the Donbas region, and threats to freedom of navigation in the Black Sea and the Sea of Azov;

Whereas Ukraine has made significant progress on defense reforms and has deployed in numerous conflicts with the North Atlan-

tic Treaty Organization in support of allied and coalition operations;

Whereas the United States-Ukraine Trade and Investment Council continues its mission of reducing trade barriers in the bilateral relationship, and Ukraine continues to seek economic alignment with Europe and the West; and

Whereas Ukraine has continued to progress on a path toward democracy and has prioritized closer engagement with the North Atlantic Treaty Organization and the European Union: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the courage and resolve shown by the Ukrainian people in their pursuit of sovereignty and democracy;

(2) remembers the Euromaidan demonstrations of November 2013 as a major step forward in the journey of Ukraine toward democracy;

(3) condemns the illegal military invasion and occupation of Crimea by the Russian Federation in 2014 and the violence fomented by Russian proxies in eastern Ukraine, two active conflicts that continue in 2021;

(4) affirms the Crimea Declaration issued and announced by the Department of State on July 24, 2018, which rejects the illegal annexation of Crimea by the Russian Federation and pledges to maintain that position until the territorial integrity of Ukraine is restored;

(5) applauds the progress that the Government of Ukraine has made in aligning with Euro-Atlantic norms and standards and improving military combat readiness and interoperability with the North Atlantic Treaty Organization;

(6) encourages the Government of Ukraine to continue implementing crucial reforms to fight corruption, build strong and free markets, and strengthen democracy and the rule of law;

(7) affirms the unwavering commitment of the United States Government to support the continuing efforts of the Government of Ukraine to restore Ukraine's territorial integrity by providing consistent political and diplomatic support and additional lethal and non-lethal security assistance to strengthen the defense capabilities of Ukraine on land and sea and in the air;

(8) condemns the ongoing malign activities carried out by the Russian Federation against Ukraine and continues to call upon the Government of the Russian Federation to immediately cease all activity that seeks to undermine Ukraine and destabilize Europe;

(9) calls upon the United States Government and its international allies and partners to increase sanctions pressure against the Russian Federation until the Russian Federation upholds its international obligations to respect the territorial integrity of Ukraine, including obligations under the Memorandum on security assurances in connection with Ukraine's accession to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, signed at Budapest December 5, 1994, and the Minsk agreements agreed to in 2014 and 2015;

(10) congratulates the people of Ukraine on the announcement on January 6, 2019, of autocephaly for an independent Orthodox Church of Ukraine, which marked an important milestone in Ukraine's pursuit of its own future free from Kremlin influence;

(11) celebrates 3 decades of Ukrainian independence and the strong partnership between the peoples and Governments of the United States and Ukraine; and

(12) welcomes the September 1, 2021, visit to Washington, D.C., by President of Ukraine Volodymyr Oleksandrovych Zelensky at the invitation of President Joseph R. Biden to

further deepen the bonds between the United States and Ukraine.

**SENATE RESOLUTION 361—EX-PRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE RECOGNITION OF JULY AS “MUSLIM-AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH” AND CELEBRATING THE HERITAGE AND CULTURE OF MUSLIM AMERICANS IN THE UNITED STATES**

Mr. BOOKER (for himself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. COONS, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. DURBIN, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. PADILLA, and Mr. VAN HOLLEN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 361

Whereas the Senate is proud to recognize and commemorate “Muslim-American Heritage Month”, an observance that celebrates the contributions of Muslim Americans;

Whereas in keeping with its time-honored traditions, the Senate recognizes and pays tribute to those who foster cultural pride and enhance the profile of diverse communities across the United States;

Whereas immigration of Muslims to the colonies of the United States began with the arrival of indentured workers;

Whereas, during the 17th, 18th, and 19th centuries, a significant number of slaves of Muslim heritage were brought to the United States;

Whereas, in the 19th, 20th, and 21st centuries, successive waves of immigration brought additional Muslims to the United States, who sought to pursue economic and social opportunity as well as freedom of religion and enriched the fabric of the society of the United States as business owners, entrepreneurs, health care professionals, humanitarians, scientists, and students;

Whereas Muslim Americans contribute greatly to charitable organizations that help people from all faiths in the United States and around the world by feeding the hungry, providing recuperation efforts following natural disasters, and providing medical assistance, family services, scholastic supplies, and before- and after-school programs;

Whereas Muslim Americans have contributed to every part of the society of the United States to make advancements in architecture, arts, business, culture, diplomacy, government, law, medicine, the military, national security, religion, and sports;

Whereas Bangladeshi-American Fazlur Rahman Khan left his mark on cityscapes in the United States by pioneering a new structural system of frame tubes used to construct iconic buildings like the World Trade Center in New York City, the Hubert H. Humphrey Metrodome in Minneapolis, and the Willis “Sears” Tower in Chicago;

Whereas many Muslim Americans pursue the American dream and contribute to the Nation’s economy as business owners and entrepreneurs, including Pakistani-born billionaire Shahid Khan, owner of the autoproducts company Flex-N-Gate and the National Football League Jacksonville Jaguars;

Whereas Syrian immigrant Ernest Hamwi’s invention of the ice cream cone is a practical confection with a near ubiquitous presence in the lives of the people of the United States;

Whereas, in 2006, Keith Ellison of Minnesota was elected to the House of Representatives, becoming the first Muslim American to serve in Congress;

Whereas, in 2008, Ambassador Sada Cumber was appointed by President George W. Bush

to serve as first Special Envoy to the Organization of the Islamic Conference from the United States, representing the United States to 57 Muslim-majority nations;

Whereas, in 2021, Zahid Quraishi was confirmed as the first Muslim American to serve as an Article III Federal judge as a District Judge of the United States District Court for the District of New Jersey;

Whereas Pakistani-American neurosurgeon Ayub Ommaya’s invention of the intraventricular catheter system provides chemotherapy to treat brain tumors;

Whereas Muslim Americans have fought in support of the United States in every major war, from Bampett Muhamed and Yusuf Ben Ali under the command of General George Washington in the American Revolutionary War to Captain Humayun Khan, who made the ultimate sacrifice in Iraq in 2004;

Whereas Imam Warith Deen Mohammed, the first Muslim American to deliver the invocation for the Senate, and El-Hajj Malik El-Shabazz, the civil rights activist and reformer also known as Malcolm X, were prominent religious leaders and scholars;

Whereas professional athletes like National Basketball Association Hall of Fame members Kareem Abdul Jabbar, Hakeem Olajuwon, and Shaquille O’Neal, and 2-time world heavyweight champion Hasim Shariff Rahman thrilled sports fans across the Nation and around the globe during their respective careers;

Whereas Olympians, like boxer Muhammad Ali, track and field athlete Dalilah Muhammad, and fencer Ibtihaj Muhammad, won medals in international competitions;

Whereas, with roots in at least 77 different countries, and identifying racially as White, Black, Arab, and Asian, Muslim Americans are an extremely diverse population;

Whereas the current population of Muslims living in the United States is estimated at more than 3,450,000;

Whereas more than 4,500 Muslims serve on active duty and more than 2,300 Muslims serve as selected reserve personnel in the Armed Forces;

Whereas the Muslim population has been growing in the United States and the Muslim American population is a tapestry of ethnic, racial, linguistic, social, and economic groups;

Whereas nearly 50 percent of Muslim Americans have reported experiencing religious discrimination, with that number rising to 64 percent for Muslim Americans whose appearance identifies them as Muslim, such as women who wear the hijab, or headscarf;

Whereas there is a need for public education, awareness, and policies that are culturally competent when describing, discussing, or addressing the impacts of being Muslim American in all aspects of the society of the United States, including in discourse and policy;

Whereas “Muslim-American Heritage Month” will be observed in the month of July; and

Whereas the incredible contributions and heritage of Muslim Americans have helped to build a better Nation: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) supports the designation of “Muslim-American Heritage Month”;

(2) honors the contributions and integral role of Muslim Americans in the economy, culture, and identity of the United States; and

(3) urges the people of the United States to observe “Muslim-American Heritage Month” with appropriate ceremonies, programs, and activities that celebrate the contributions of Muslim Americans to the United States.

**SENATE RESOLUTION 362—EX-PRESSING THE SUPPORT OF THE SENATE FOR THE CONTRIBUTIONS AND ACHIEVEMENTS OF STUDENT PARENTS AND RECOGNIZING SEPTEMBER 2021 AS NATIONAL STUDENT PARENT MONTH**

Ms. DUCKWORTH (for herself and Mr. MORAN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 362

Whereas student parents are individuals with children who attend postsecondary educational institutions;

Whereas student parents make up roughly a quarter of the student population, totaling nearly 4,000,000 individuals;

Whereas 70 percent of student parents are women and 43 percent of student parents are single mothers, with nearly half of such student parents being first-generation college students;

Whereas 51 percent of student parents are students of color;

Whereas 47 percent of student parents are military-connected students;

Whereas nearly ⅓ of student parents have incomes at, below, or near the Federal poverty line;

Whereas 42 percent of student parents attend community colleges and 30 percent attend public or private nonprofit 4-year institutions of higher education;

Whereas 1 in 3 college students enrolled in a health care program is a student parent;

Whereas, prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, 53 percent of student parents reported food insecurity and 68 percent reported housing insecurity;

Whereas the COVID-19 pandemic has placed additional burdens on student parents, including the closure of child care centers, the delay or cancellation of college plans, and increased workloads for the 64 percent of employed student parents who are essential workers;

Whereas, on average, student parents have higher grade point averages than their non-parenting peers, but student parents are 10 times less likely to complete a bachelor’s degree within 5 years than students without children;

Whereas a low-income student parent who earns a degree or credential boosts their income, and the earning potential of their children when they become adults, by 17 percent;

Whereas student parents are uniquely motivated to excel in their course of study while often facing challenges, including lack of affordable child care and balancing work responsibilities while attending postsecondary education: Now, therefore be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) expresses support for the contributions and achievements of student parents in seeking and completing a postsecondary education; and

(2) designates September 2021 as “National Student Parent Month”.

**SENATE RESOLUTION 363—DESIGNATING SEPTEMBER 2021 AS “SCHOOL BUS SAFETY MONTH”**

Mrs. FISCHER (for herself and Mr. PETERS) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 363

Whereas, in an average year, on every school day in the United States, approximately 500,000 public and private school

buses carry more than 26,000,000 K-12 students to and from school;

Whereas school buses comprise the largest mass transportation fleet in the United States;

Whereas, in an average year, 48 percent of all K-12 students ride a school bus for each of the 180 school days in a year, and school bus operators drive school buses a total of nearly 4,400,000,000 miles;

Whereas the Child Safety Network (referred to in this preamble as the "CSN"), which is celebrating 32 years of public service in the United States, supports the CSN Safe Bus campaign, which is designed to provide the school bus industry with driver training, the latest technology, and free safety and security resources;

Whereas the designation of School Bus Safety Month will allow broadcast and digital media and social networking industries to commit to disseminating public service announcements that are produced to—

- (1) provide free resources designed to safeguard children;
- (2) recognize school bus operators and professionals; and
- (3) encourage the driving public to engage in safer driving behavior near school buses when students board and disembark from school buses;

Whereas key leaders who deserve recognition during School Bus Safety Month and beyond have—

- (1) provided security awareness training materials to more than 14,000 public and private schools;
- (2) trained more than 116,800 school bus operators; and
- (3) provided more than 163,120 counterterrorism guides to individuals who are key to providing both safety and security for children in the United States; and

Whereas School Bus Safety Month offers the Senate and the people of the United States an opportunity to recognize and thank the school bus operators and the professionals focused on school bus safety and security in the United States: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate designates September 2021 as "School Bus Safety Month".

#### SENATE RESOLUTION 364—SUPPORTING THE DESIGNATION OF SEPTEMBER 17, 2021, AS "NATIONAL PHYSICIAN SUICIDE AWARENESS DAY" TO RAISE AWARENESS OF, AND PROMOTE A NATIONAL DISCUSSION ABOUT, PHYSICIAN SUICIDE AND TO REDUCE THE STIGMA OF MENTAL HEALTH ISSUES

Ms. STABENOW (for herself, Mr. KAINE, and Mr. REED) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:

S. RES. 364

Whereas, prior to the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic, numerous health care workers suffered from work-related burnout and depression;

Whereas physicians work under intense pressure and are exposed to trauma on the job;

Whereas the suicide rate among—

- (1) male physicians is 1.41 times higher than the general male population; and
- (2) female physicians is even more pronounced, being 2.27 times higher than the general female population;

Whereas physicians, nurses, and allied health providers serving on the frontlines of

the COVID-19 pandemic are under a critically high degree of stress and burnout;

Whereas shortages of personal protective equipment, difficult working conditions, burdensome administrative tasks, long hours, grief over losing patients, and watching the families of patients suffer added a layer of extreme stress for many frontline workers;

Whereas mental health and physical health are equally important components of overall health;

Whereas there are structural barriers in place that discourage self-care and mental health help-seeking behaviors among physicians; and

Whereas a day of public awareness and education campaigns to shine a light on the tragedy of physician suicide is held on September 17 each year: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

- (1) supports the goals of National Physician Suicide Awareness Day to bring national attention to the mental health crisis affecting physicians in the United States;
- (2) dedicates a day of reflection to honor the memory of physicians who have died by suicide;
- (3) recognizes the need for greater research into understanding and addressing the issue of physician suicide, including the barriers to treatment, help-seeking behaviors to address burnout, and mental care options to prevent physician suicide; and
- (4) encourages the President to issue a proclamation calling on the people of the United States to observe National Physician Suicide Awareness Day with appropriate awareness and educational activities.

#### AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 3827. Mr. SCHUMER (for Mrs. FEINSTEIN) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 273, to improve the management of driftnet fishing.

SA 3828. Mr. SCHUMER (for Mr. MURPHY) proposed an amendment to the resolution S. Res. 339, expressing support for the designation of September 25, 2021, as "National Ataxia Awareness Day", and raising awareness of ataxia, ataxia research, and the search for a cure.

#### TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 3827. Mr. SCHUMER (for Mrs. FEINSTEIN) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 273, to improve the management of driftnet fishing; as follows:

In section 6(b), strike " , without appropriation or fiscal year limitation."

At the end of section 6, add the following:  
(c) LIMITATION ON COLLECTION AND AVAILABILITY.—Fees shall be collected and available pursuant to this section only to the extent and in such amounts as provided in advance in appropriations Acts, subject to subsection (d).

(d) FEE COLLECTED DURING START-UP PERIOD.—Notwithstanding subsection (c), fees may be collected through the date of enactment of an Act making appropriations for the activities authorized under this Act through September 30, 2022, and shall be available for obligation and remain available until expended.

SA 3828. Mr. SCHUMER (for Mr. MURPHY) proposed an amendment to the resolution S. Res. 339, expressing support for the designation of September 25, 2021, as "National Ataxia Awareness Day", and raising awareness of ataxia, ataxia research, and the search for a cure; as follows:

In the fifth whereas clause of the preamble, insert "in the United States" after "individuals".

#### AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Mrs. CANTWELL. Mr. President, I have 5 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:

##### COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS

The Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, September 14, 2021, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

##### COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

The Committee on Foreign Relations is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, September 14, 2021, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

##### COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

The Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, September 14, 2021, at 2:30 p.m., to conduct a hearing on nominations.

##### COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

The Committee on the Judiciary is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, September 14, 2021, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing on nominations.

##### SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

The Select Committee on Intelligence is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, September 14, 2021, at 2:30 p.m., to conduct a hearing.

#### ORDERS FOR WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2021

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 11 a.m., Wednesday, September 15; that following the prayer and the 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 Strickland nomination.

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

#### ORDER FOR ADJOURNMENT

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



previous order, following the remarks of Senator LANKFORD.

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

The Senator from Oklahoma.

### CORONAVIRUS

Mr. LANKFORD. Mr. President, last week, President Biden announced that he had lost patience with the American people and that he was demanding people get a vaccination.

Now, I have had the vaccine. I am grateful for the vaccine. But it is an entirely different issue for the President of the United States to wag his finger at the American people and to say: I know what you have chosen, but I choose something different, and you are going to follow me.

To literally instruct every employer with 100 employees or more, every Federal contractor, every Federal employee to bend to the will of the President and take this injection, that is a very different thing.

There are over 39 million Americans right now, that we know of, that have already had COVID-19, have survived it, and have natural immunity. The President's demand for a vaccine ignored those almost 40 million Americans that already have natural immunity. His demand was: I know you have natural immunity. I want you to get this vaccine as well.

It ignores cancer survivors who are very, very careful about what goes into their system. It ignores people with religious objections, and there are millions who have religious objections. It ignores individuals who just don't want to do it because they are an American and they don't have to and they do not like to have a Federal Government instructing them what they are going to actually put in their body.

Now, ironically, this was a random selection of companies that have 100 employees and up, so I assume that if you have 99 employees, you are all fine, but if you have 100 employees, it is totally different. There seems to be no accounting for where your employees work. Are your employees all tightly packed, all 100 in one small room, or are your employees all working outside? Do you have 100 employees, but they are in 19 different locations?

There seems to be no accommodation for any of those. It is just the President saying: I have lost patience. You need to go get the vaccine immediately.

So, by Thanksgiving, he is planning on laying this vaccine mandate down on the country. There are multiple problems there, as I have already outlined: the 40 million people who have already survived COVID and don't want to do the vaccine, the individuals in different medical treatments, the individuals with different other religious issues that they have.

But it is also an issue of trying to have a mandate come down from the Federal Government with an Executive

order. That is not how our system works. The President of the United States does not have the ability to be able to just demand behavior from the American people. That is not their role.

It has been interesting to me. I have had several people who have reached out to me and said: I found out that the President's order exempts Congress. So how come you get an exemption and I don't?

I quickly responded back to them: Because we are a coequal branch of government, and the President is trying to find everybody under his purview to be able to do this. But the judicial branch and the legislative branch aren't under his purview. Neither should be the American people because the American people do not work for the President of the United States. And companies of 100 people or more, their chief executive, their leadership does not work for the President of the United States.

So now what? There are lawsuits that are pending, but those lawsuits can't move forward until the actual paperwork comes out from the White House. When the actual paperwork comes out in the next couple of weeks, we assume—we have not been told—then they will have what is called standing in the courts, and litigation from across the country will be able to speak into and Federal judges across the country will be able to move on an injunction on this out-of-control mandate and to be able to say they cannot just compel people to be able to go take a shot because the President wants them to get it.

So that will be the first big step. There will be legislative challenges that will come through this body. They are slower, so the Federal courts are the fastest response to this. But there will be multiple other groups that will push back on this, myself included.

Listen, why would we not respect those individuals who have already had COVID-19? According to an article that is in the Wall Street Journal just today, there was a study out of Israel that shows that the immunity from natural immunity is 27 times more effective than the shot—27 times, according to the study that has just recently come out.

To ignore that and to say that is not enough is absurd—or to compel Americans, whether they have had COVID or not, to be able to have a behavior just because the President has “lost patience” is not who we are as Americans. It is not constitutional. It will not stand in the courts and should not stand. We should push back on this.

### GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWNS

Mr. LANKFORD. Mr. President, you are very aware because in the committee that we both sit on, we have worked through a process of trying to form an answer to a problem that is coming at us again in 2 weeks.

Two weeks from now, we will hit the end of the fiscal year. At the end of the fiscal year, according to the Budget Act of 1974, we should have already passed 12 appropriations bills out of this body, 12 appropriations bills out of the House, have conferred those two bills, sent it to the White House for a signature. That is the instructions that should be done by the end of the fiscal year.

The problem with that is the Senate has not passed a single one of those appropriations bills even out of committee—not one. So our government is not funded 2 weeks from now, which means the countdown clock will begin again toward when we are headed to another government shutdown, and the conversation will be: Are we going to have another government shutdown? Are we going to be open? What is going to happen to Federal workers?

Agencies across Washington, DC, and across the country will shortly get instructions for here is what to do in case of a shutdown in your Agency. Here is who, of employees, would be nonessential, what needs to happen to them; essential, what needs to happen to them.

And the chaos will begin in all these Agencies because 2 weeks from now we are headed toward the end of the fiscal year and not a single appropriations bill, of the 12, has been taken up in committee. Not one of them is even scheduled even to be debated on the floor of the Senate. We will not have appropriations bills done 2 weeks from now. It is not going to happen.

So here are the alternatives: There will be what is called a short-term continuing resolution of some length or we will have a shutdown 2 weeks from now.

For the past 3 years, Senator MAGGIE HASSAN and I have proposed a very straightforward solution to end the threat of government shutdowns. Our straightforward proposal to stop government shutdowns is a simple way to be able to solve this issue. If we get to the end of the fiscal year, September 30, midnight, and we have not finished the work that needs to be done on those 12 appropriations bills, automatically a continuing resolution will kick in to prevent a government shutdown. But starting the very next day, October 1, the Senate and the House have mandatory quorum calls every single day until we finish the 12 appropriations bills. We stay here to be able to finish our work. But the work has to be done.

Why is that important? Because Federal Agencies shouldn't constantly be worried about another government shutdown, and the American people should be able to interact with their own government. Now, all of us know the government actually doesn't shut down, but it moves into shutdown mode. Some people have to show up for work; some people do not. But everyone is paid. Some people can get access to a permit when they contact their



Federal Agency; some people cannot. Some people can get licensing; some people cannot. Some people can work through the process with the Corps of Engineers; some people cannot.

And this chaos for the American people and for people who work for the Federal workforce happens all over the country simply because Congress did not get its job done.

Well, the solution is simple. Hold the American people and the Federal workers harmless and push Members of Congress to actually finish the work. This is not a partisan solution. It is just a solution. That is why Republicans and Democrats alike have agreed to the simple solution that MAGGIE HASSAN and I have come to, to be able to end government shutdowns and to say let's continue the conversation that needs to be done, but let's not have yet another shutdown.

This body knows, in the past 40 years, we have had 21 government shutdowns—21. The last one needs to be our last, but I don't know if it will be because 2 weeks from now we are headed to the end of the year, and there is no solution on the table for how to avoid a government shutdown again.

Senator HASSAN and I and multiple others again filed our bill today and said: We know how to stop government shutdowns. Keep us at work. Hold the American people harmless, and let's get the task done.

Honestly, I have had people say: That is such a creative solution, and it is such a simple process to get done. I have smiled at them and said: Actually, it is not all that creative. It is the same thing that my mom did when my brother and I were growing up at the house. When my brother and I were in an argument, she would put the two of us in our room and would say: You guys work it out. When you work it out, then you can come out of the room.

It is really no different than that to say Members of Congress should stay at the task until we solve the budget work and we should not leave with the budget work undone and leave the American people experiencing another government shutdown.

Let's not have shutdown 22. Let's end government shutdowns, and let's get our actual budget work done, on time, as is expected by the American people.

With that, I yield the floor.

#### ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 11 A.M. TOMORROW

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate stands adjourned until 11 a.m. tomorrow.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 6:37 p.m., adjourned until Wednesday, September 15, 2021, at 11 a.m.

#### NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate:

##### IN THE ARMY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR TEMPORARY APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE

UNITED STATES ARMY JUDGE ADVOCATE GENERAL'S CORPS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 605 AND 7064:

##### To be colonel

DAVID O. ANGLIN  
NATHAN J. BANKSON  
CHARLES D. HALVERSON  
JAMES P. LEARY  
DOUGLAS W. MOORE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY AS CHAPLAINS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 624 AND 7064:

##### To be major

LITO D. AMANDE  
ANDREW M. ANDERSON  
MICKEY L. BASHAM II  
MICHAEL J. BASIE  
LEON S. BUCHANAN  
JOHNNY C. BURNHAM  
ROBERT W. CARUSO  
MICHAEL CERULA  
JAE Y. CHANG  
JAMES M. COCHELL  
DANNY P. CROSBY  
CHRISTOPHER S. DAVIS  
JASON M. DAVIS  
DALE R. DUMONT  
LARRY C. EDWARDS  
SAMUEL L. FLETCHER  
ANTHONY L. FOXWORTH  
DANIEL C. GARNETT  
TRAVIS W. HAIRSTON  
SETH C. HAMILTON  
HEEJA HAN  
JOHN K. HAN  
CHRISTOPHER S. HODGE  
NEIL D. HUENEFELD  
ANTHONY J. HUNLEY  
JIYONG Y. HWANG  
ROBERT L. JACKSON  
DOUGLAS R. JONES  
GRACE W. KIM  
CHAE W. LEE  
MARK R. LEE  
GERARD H. MAUTERER, JR.  
MATTHEW C. MCCRANEY  
DANIEL E. MELIN  
RYAN D. MORTENSEN  
DEREK D. MOSHER  
CORNELIUS MUASA  
JAMES D. MURRAY IV  
CHRISTIAN NISONGER  
MATTHEW A. OLIVER  
JASON A. PHIPPS  
JOSHUA M. PORTWOOD  
BENJAMIN D. REED  
MALCOLM A. RIOS  
RICHARD J. RIVERS  
THOMAS C. ROBINSON  
RUSSELL S. SANDERS  
LANE H. SANDIFER  
AZANDE M. SASA  
CAREY W. SHEPARD  
JOSEPH D. SHERWIN  
DELANA I. SMALL  
ABRAM R. STATEN  
JAMES A. STEELMAN  
MENACHEM M. STERN  
DAVID A. THOMPSON  
GLEN W. THOMPSON  
JEFFERY M. TILDEN  
STUART M. WILLIAMS  
THOMAS R. WOOD  
BERNARDINO YEBRA  
ERIK S. YELDING  
D016150

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

##### To be colonel

DANIEL C. ESTAVILLE  
BRIAN J. HARLAN  
THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

##### To be colonel

GEORGE W. BOGUSLAWSKI  
HEIKO P. COPPOLA  
NOAH J. FONTANEZ  
BRYAN C. GLASS  
JEFFREY B. JONES  
PETER V. LEE  
ANGELA J. MALLORY  
STEPHAN E. NOLTEN  
RODERICK J. OCONNOR  
SEAN S. PARK  
RODERICK C. PATRICK  
MICHAEL L. PRATT  
MICHAEL J. SCIONTI  
JONATHAN T. SHOENHOLZ  
JOHN R. STEFFEN  
PAUL E. THOMPSON, JR.  
JENNIFER M. WAGNER  
MATTHEW H. WATTERS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR TEMPORARY APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 605:

##### To be colonel

DOUGLAS F. BAKER, JR.

JOSHUA M. BETTY  
BRIAN C. CAMPBELL  
NATHANIEL D. CROW  
MATTHEW C. DAWSON  
KENNETH M. DWYER  
JOHN L. HAAKE  
TODD R. HERTLING  
TYSON J. HISE  
JOHN P. HORNING  
ERICA R. IVERSON  
JOEL M. JOHNSON  
ALEXIS PEREZCRUZ  
JEFFREY D. PORTER  
JENNIFER D. REED  
CHRISTOPHER O. ROBERTS  
TYWANA D. ROBINSON  
KEVIN P. STONEROOK  
JAMES C. STULTZ  
JAMES S. VCHULEK II  
SAMUEL S. YI

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR TEMPORARY APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 605:

##### To be lieutenant colonel

DAVID S. BICKELL  
CELIO S. BIERING  
CHRISTOPHER S. BIZOR  
VIRGINIA R. BRICKNER  
JASON E. CADY  
MICHAEL P. CARVELLI  
JOHN R. CHAMBERS  
MARC D. CLEVELAND  
KINARD R. EGLETON  
JAMES M. FASONE  
JUSTIN L. GERON  
ROBERT W. GREEN  
DAVID L. HAMLIN  
RYAN S. HAND  
MATTHEW T. HEGARTY  
JEFFREY T. JAO  
JOSEPHINE E. LADNIER  
ABBY E. LANNI  
WILLIAM D. LINCOLN  
DIANNA C. LIVELY  
PAUL R. LLOVIO  
SEAN A. MERRITT  
JUSTIN T. MILLER  
MATTHEW T. MILLER  
WILLIAMS W. POLLARD  
MATTHEW D. PRIDE  
JAMES E. RAJCHEL  
EDER C. RAMIREZ  
ELIZABETH A. SCHWEMMER  
ROCK A. STEVENS  
KIETH A. THIERRY  
STEVEN J. WHITE  
ROBERT T. WILKINS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR TEMPORARY APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 605:

##### To be major

VICTORIA M. ADAME  
CALEB K. ELLIS  
JONATHAN E. MARSH  
BENJAMIN W. MATTHEWS  
STEPHEN E. ROGACKI  
BENJAMIN R. THOMPSON

##### IN THE NAVY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

##### To be lieutenant commander

HANIF K. BENT  
LAWRENCE C. BRITTEN  
ERIC C. DUBOIS  
STEVEN N. DYSON  
CHRISTOPHER FORERO  
MICHAEL A. GILBERT II  
MICHAEL J. HABER  
JEFFERY O. HENRY  
YAROSLAV M. IVASYUK  
JOHN M. JASINSKI, JR.  
CHRISTOPHER O. LILES  
BENJAMIN M. MATHE  
JEREMY P. NEIMAN  
ROBIN F. NELSON  
ALBERTO H. OSVATH  
CRISTIAN POPA  
DANIEL J. ROBINSON  
ADRIAN A. RUBLE  
RICHARD J. WALLACE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

##### To be lieutenant commander

TWYLA M. ARBUCKLE  
JASMINE M. BEE  
ELIZABETH A. BOCHNER  
CESAR J. CEPEDA  
MEGAN M. ELLINGTON  
ZARAANNE E. FARRAR  
CHRISTOPHER D. GALVIN  
ALEXIS B. GRAHAM  
JAMES J. V. KILPATRICK  
JORDAN A. KRONSHAGE  
JACQUELINE M. LINSTER  
JOY L. LONGWORTH

PORSHA J. LORICK  
BRITTNEY K. MAYFIELD  
JASON W. MCCLINTON  
KARLTON L. MITCHELL  
MEGAN C. MITTLEIDER  
KELLY N. MOON  
JOEL D. PAGAN  
JENNA M. QUIST  
JOHN L. RAMAGE  
KATHERINE M. STEELE  
RYAN J. WICKHAM  
KEITH D. WILLIAMS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT  
TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY  
UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

*To be lieutenant commander*

AARON M. ACKERMAN  
CHRISTOPHER J. ANDERSON  
EDWARD A. ANUAT  
GLADYS V. ANUAT  
NICHOLAS A. BAILEY  
THOMAS D. BELNA  
CHRISTOPHER R. BENNETT  
CORIA L. BUCK  
PAUL J. CROSS  
JUSTIN K. DAVIS  
ERIK V. DESOUSA  
MARGARET A. DORI  
FARSAI EBEL  
ALEXANDER S. FREDRICKSON  
ANDREW W. HAHN  
CHARLES H. HASENBANK  
PATRICK H. HEARN  
WILLIAM R. HENTSCHEL  
LAUREN C. HOWARD  
JOHN R. JACKSON  
MARY E. JANOWSKI  
DANIEL T. KINNEY, JR.  
DANIEL A. KOTEI  
JUSTIN A. LADDUSAW  
JOSHUA D. LEWIS  
MICHAEL K. LIU  
BIANCA L. LOVDAHL  
NATHAN E. MAXWELL  
CHRISTIAN C. NEAL  
JOHN H. PANDE  
LACEY L. RASCHKE  
UDIT S. RATHORE  
AARON SANTIAGO  
JESSICA R. SHAPIRO  
DANIEL L. SLOAN  
LUCAS K. STONE  
CASEY L. STROUSE  
KRISTIA M. SURIBEN  
JAMES S. WALSH II  
RYAN M. WILLIS  
PETER J. WINSTEAD  
LANCE J. WRIGHT  
EDWARD V. WULFF  
MARGARET H. ZICK  
BRANDON M. ZOSS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT  
TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY  
UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

*To be lieutenant commander*

DANIEL A. DIERKS  
TATIANA M. KISH  
SCOTT N. NIEMAN  
JONATHON K. PARRY  
CARL B. STEFFER

IN THE ARMY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR TEMPORARY  
APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE  
UNITED STATES ARMY JUDGE ADVOCATE GENERAL'S  
CORPS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 605 AND 7064:

*To be lieutenant colonel*

SEAN P. MAHONEY

IN THE NAVY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT  
TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY  
UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

*To be commander*

WAJAHAT ALI

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT  
TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY  
UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

*To be commander*

MASON P. JONES

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT  
TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY  
UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

*To be commander*

JARROD M. TRANT

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT  
TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY  
UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

*To be lieutenant commander*

DANNEMARC ATIS  
AMARACHI E. BANGURA  
GENEVIEVE G. BARRETT  
MELISSA R. BARRY  
GERALDINE BAZILE  
RUSTY H. BLEDSOE

PRISCILLA BOATENG  
VICTORIA J. BOTTEN  
IVONNE BRENNICK  
JANET E. BRISTOW  
NANCY V. BROZ  
ANALIZA R. CALL  
DANIEL L. CALMA  
BRENDA A. CAPETILLO  
SARAH M. CHILSON  
KRISTOPHER L. CLYMER  
DEREK B. CRISMAN  
ALAINNA C. CROTTY  
CYNTHIA A. DAVIS  
TRACY L. DEAN  
BLAKE L. DEBOOTH  
MARIACRISTINA V. DIAZ  
JOSEPH J. DIMARUCUT  
VINCENT E. DIVENTI  
BRIAN J. DUNFORD  
NICOLLE R. ELY  
JANE A. FERGUSON  
DANA M. FLIEGER  
KYNESHA L. FONGSAM  
ELIZABETH V. GALLEGOS  
BERNADETTE GARCIA  
NINA H. GILMORE  
PAUL R. GONZALES  
JULIANA GUTIERREZ  
JON R. S. GUZMAN  
CHAD E. HAGEDORN  
ASHLEY S. HANHURST  
GAIL E. HEIMER  
JACOB K. HOLLAND  
SARAH E. HOWE  
CHEYANNE K. HULS  
SAINTHERESA L. JACKSON  
RUTH A. JOHNS  
JEREMY JORDAN  
KELLY A. KELLEHER  
JARED A. C. LACAMIENTO  
ERIK R. LAWRENCE  
TIFFANY C. LERCH  
JEREMY L. LIGHTNER  
MANUEL R. MARTINEZ  
MICHELA L. MAZARD  
JOHN W. MCDUFFIE  
JONATHAN M. MCGOWEN  
CHEREE A. NAGLE  
KRISTINE J. NARCISO  
BRAD L. OKEEFE  
JESSICA L. OLIVER  
KIMBELEE B. ORR  
ERIKA M. PAPPENFUSS  
CHRISTOPHER A. PARKER  
RAMON A. PAUL  
CHARLES T. PEARSON  
CASSY A. PIELA  
JASON D. QUADE  
SHAUNA M. RALSTON  
RENEE J. RAPPOLD  
THERESA M. RICE  
MELISSA L. RICHLING  
KATHERINE S. ROBINS  
ALISEN W. ROCKWELL  
NICHOLAS L. RODRIGUEZ  
CRAIG ROGERS  
THOMAS A. SARTI  
HEIDI L. SCHRECKENBACH  
DAVID J. SCHULTE  
MARK T. SEBALD  
DAVID L. SELBY  
LINDSEY B. SNYDER  
COLLEEN M. SPIRI  
TERRY W. STARKEY  
ERICA L. STEWART  
STEPHANIE R. STOLER  
LISA M. TATE  
MARIA M. TEJADA  
JILL A. THOMPSON  
KEENART L. TIO  
ANDREA M. TONDRE  
CATHERINE A. URBAN  
HOLLY M. VICKERS  
BERLY VINCENT  
TRISTAN C. VOKOUN  
KYLE G. WAITE  
HEATHER A. WALMER  
LAUREN K. WATERS  
DANIEL W. WATSON  
GEORGE C. WROLSTAD  
KYLE E. ZUNK

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT  
TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY  
UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

*To be lieutenant commander*

SAMUEL O. ADJEI  
OMOTAYO A. AKINSUYI  
JAMES W. BALL  
ROWENA A. BEDIAKO  
MARK A. L. BOOC  
CESSAR A. BOULANGGER  
JOHN E. BUERGERS  
WILLIAM L. BURCH  
JUSTIN E. BURDETT  
CLARA C. CANDALOR  
RICARDO C. CASTANEDA  
MICHELLE M. COLEMAN  
KYLE S. COMBS, JR.  
MATTHEW R. DOUTH  
YAHAYA A. DABRE  
BRANDEN W. DAVENPORT  
TYLER J. DEAR  
RYAN G. DOMBROSKI  
DAT T. DUONG  
DAVID M. FERREIRA

JUAN S. FIGUEROA  
DREW P. FINNERAN  
PATRICK J. FOSTER  
JOSHUA A. FOX  
TRAVIS A. H. O. FRANCIS  
KAITLYN E. FRANZ  
JESSE J. GALE  
NICKY D. E. GLOVER  
NAOMI R. GREEN  
VICTOR GUAN  
WILLIAM R. GURECK  
JOSHUA R. HALL  
ROY S. HAMILTON, JR.  
TYREE E. HARRIS  
BRENDAN S. HENNING  
MATTHEW C. HIGGINS  
HEATHER E. IRELAND  
ADAM C. JOHNSON  
JUSTIN A. KNOX  
MASSOUD M. KOLEINI  
GENE A. KRAMPEN  
CARLOS J. LOPEZ  
MARIANNA LUPORINI  
JOSEPH C. MACDONALD III  
JARRED M. MACK  
JOSHUA A. MARTIN  
ROBERT A. MARTINEZ  
MELANIE J. G. MARTINS  
RYAN A. MATLOCK  
BETHANY C. MAY  
JACK R. MCKEON  
IGOR MENDEL  
JOSHUA M. MILLER  
MARK D. MILLER  
SHANE R. MOORE  
JACOB A. NGUYEN  
EMILIO NODAL  
NATHAN P. NUSZ  
JOHN F. OBOYLE  
ADENIYI J. OKE  
MARUFUDEEN OLADIPUPO  
GONZALO J. RAMOS  
DARIUS D. RAWLS  
EMILY W. REILLY  
JUSTIN W. C. RIDDICK  
GEOFFREY S. RIENSTRA  
JOEL A. SAM  
JACOB M. SKIPPER  
ANDREW C. SMALL  
DOUGLAS M. SMITH  
JOSEPH A. STARK  
ARTHUR L. STONE, JR.  
ISMAIL O. TAJUDEEN  
RAMY F. TERIAK  
CESAR A. VALENZUELA  
BARRY L. VENTURA  
MARIA E. WARNER  
JAMES H. WEIGLE  
RYAN S. WU  
KENNETH E. YOUNG  
FELIX C. YU  
JASON A. YUREK  
MICHAEL T. ZERVAS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT  
TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY  
UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

*To be lieutenant commander*

PETER L. AGDAMAG  
TRAVIS M. ARMES  
ERIC M. BROWN  
ANDREW W. BURNS  
JAMES W. CAMPBELL  
HALCOTT R. CARTER  
YONINA E. CREDITOR  
LUKE R. DUNDON  
MATTHEW T. FISHER  
JOHNSON G. FOLAHAN  
ROY L. FONDREN, JR.  
ANDREW W. FORESTER  
GLENNDON C. GENTHNER  
ROBERT R. HECOX  
JENNIFER M. HOWE  
ANDREW P. HOYLE  
DAVID R. JONES, JR.  
ANTONY KANIHARU  
GREGORY C. KEARNS  
MARIAN J. KING  
RYAN J. KRAUSE  
MARK A. MILLER, JR.  
DOMINIC J. MIRENDA  
FRANCISCO L. MUNIZVALLE  
PATRICK J. RIFFLE  
DANIEL J. ROBINSON  
BENJAMIN J. SHEAR  
HOLLY C. SHORT  
HEATH E. TAYLOR  
MICHAEL P. TUNGETT  
JASON D. TURNER  
IAN P. UNDERHILL  
JONATHAN D. YUBOCO  
RYAN E. WHITFIELD  
LLOYD S. WICKER  
COLE C. YOOS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT  
TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY  
UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

*To be lieutenant commander*

MORONKEJI S. ADERIBIGBE  
DELAINE N. ANDERSON  
WALTER T. ANDERSON  
TYSON J. BACA  
HUMBERTO BAEZA  
RAYMOND J. BENDT

SPENCER J. BULL  
JASON M. BURKE  
MICHAEL J. CHIMIACK  
SAMUEL T. COREY  
KARL J. COULSON  
JUAN R. DELACRUZ  
CORY S. DEVONIS  
ENISIO S. DOSSANTOS, JR.  
BRIAN T. DOUGLAS  
MICHAEL L. FRAGUADA  
VICTORIA H. GONZALEZ  
DANIEL S. HAGAN  
RYAN J. HARBAUGH  
LAURA E. HESS  
MICHAEL B. HOWLAND  
JAMES KEOKOSAL  
BRITTNI N. KING  
ALEXIS L. KINGERY  
MICHAEL D. KRESTOS  
JAMES J. KWASNY  
JOSHUA A. LARAMIE  
HEIDI D. LAWRENZ  
JOHN A. MCCORKINDALE  
DELROY A. MCEWAN  
CORY S. MCLAUGHLIN  
CHRISTINA M. MILONE  
PHILLIP G. MONCAYO  
PATRICK D. NACEY  
GAFAR O. ODUFUYE  
OLIVE G. A. OLIVEROS  
KATHLEEN M. ORRICO  
CLARE E. OVESEN  
DANIEL D. PUCKETT  
DANIEL B. PULLIAM  
ELIZABETH A. QUAGLIANO  
GERARD K. RAMOUTAR  
LEVI C. REED  
ERWIN RODRIGUEZ  
JOSHUA C. SASSER  
MATTHEW M. SCHILLO  
CHARLES B. SHEPPERD  
JACOB W. SPRINGER  
ANDREW B. STITT  
VARUN R. TANDON  
YIPMING TANG  
DANIEL M. VICKERS  
KRIZTOFER VILLALTASALAMANCA  
JAMIE E. WALLACE  
MARVIE J. WONSIA  
JONATHAN P. ZISKO

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT  
TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY  
UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

*To be lieutenant commander*

LEONARDO D. CALDERON  
JOHN E. CLEVELAND  
NICHOLAS J. GEGG

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT  
TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY  
UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

*To be lieutenant commander*

SUSANA AGUDELOURIBE  
RACQUEL S. ALLEN  
MARY M. ALLING  
ASHLEY B. ANDERSON  
BRIAN ANDREW  
REX E. ATWOOD  
ERIN I. AUSBORN  
MATTHEW F. BAKER  
SYMONE M. BAKER  
VIRGINIA B. BAKER  
KRISTINA G. BARLEY  
BETHANY M. BARTLETT  
SAMANTHA J. BARTLING  
NICHOLAS H. BAUER  
ANTHONY J. BECKER  
ITSE U. BEGHO  
JAY F. BELMAREZ  
JENNIFER M. BENCZE  
DEREK A. BENHAM  
ETHAN BERNSTEIN  
IAN M. BLUBAUGH  
MONICA L. BORA  
FAIGE E. BOWMAN  
MELISSA K. BRUEBAKER  
CHRISTOPHER P. BURNETT  
JAMES C. BURR IV  
JOSHUA M. BUSS  
EMILY Y. CALHOUN  
BRYAN R. CAMPBELL  
EVAN N. CAPRASO  
JENNA L. CAPUANO  
AMANDA L. CASE  
MICHELLE F. CASKEY  
NATALIE M. CASTRO  
JONATHAN K. CHU  
TYLER L. CHURCH  
BARAK C. CLEMENT  
ERIC L. COKER  
MARTIN A. COLLIER  
ELIZABETH S. COOPER  
JAMES COOPER  
STEVEN R. CORNELLUS  
VAREA H. COSTELLO  
MARY M. COUGHLIN  
MICHAEL J. COULTER  
ERIC R. CRAIG  
JESSE M. CRAWFORD  
ANGELA M. CROTTY  
PAUL M. CUSMANO  
JAMES A. DANDREA  
JULLIANNE B. DAVISON  
JASON A. DEDEKER

EMILY R. DELORIA  
AMADEO J. DELUCAWESTRATE  
JOHN D. DEMIS  
NICOLE E. DEREN  
TAYLOR T. DESROSIER  
SAMUEL L. A. DOUGLAS  
SHELDON L. EDWARDS  
KATHLEEN ELSNER  
ANDREW J. ERNST  
ALLISON A. EUBANKS  
JOHN F. FAHY  
DAWN C. FEDERONICK  
SCOTT M. FEELEY  
JOSHUA J. FISH  
MATTHEW J. FOWLER  
CHRISTOPHER S. FREDERICK  
JUSTIN T. FRISENDA  
PHILLIP E. FRY, JR.  
JAMES P. GALLAGHER II  
EUGEN S. GOESER  
CHRISTOPHER GOLJAN  
EMILY T. GOODWIN  
ANDREW T. GOULD  
THEODORE E. GRASK  
BRIAN A. GREATHOUSE  
AANTHONY J. GRECO III  
VICTOR K. GUTIERREZ  
CAITLIN HALTNER  
MARK R. HANNAY  
MATTHEW T. HANNON  
JOSHUA R. HARRINGTON  
HANNAH B. HARRIS  
CYRUS C. HASELBY  
SARAH M. HAVILAND  
BENJAMIN F. HAVKO  
DOUGLAS T. HOFSTETTER  
THOMAS P. J. HOLCOMBE  
GABRIELLE L. HOOD  
MICHAEL R. HORN  
RILEY B. HOYER  
BENJAMIN W. HOYT  
JOHN S. HUNT, JR.  
JILL A. IRELAND  
NATHANIEL J. IRVINE  
JOSHUA M. JABAUT  
TAYLOR M. JAMES  
KARA S. JENDRICH  
JOSHUA H. JOHNSTON  
DEVON E. JOHNSTON  
ZACHARY M. JOHNSTON  
MATTHEW R. JORDAN  
MATTHEW M. JUSTUS  
KYLE V. KEINATH  
BRADLEY C. KETNER  
MOVICQUE F. KING  
WILLIAM E. KINGLEWIS  
THOMAS KLOTZ  
TYLER F. KOSS  
DANIEL S. KOZICKI  
KATHLEEN E. P. KRAMER  
DANIEL S. KRAUTH  
CORINNE A. LANDIS  
CLARA J. LEE  
MELISSA J. LEE  
KENNEN D. LESS  
JEDSON R. LIGGETT II  
DAVID LIN  
VINCENT M. LUBETSKI  
MALINDA J. LYON  
NORA C. E. MADDY  
ELBERT S. MALONEY III  
KRISTIN E. MANGALINDAN  
CORY D. MANLY  
HICKS C. MANSON  
TIMOTHY B. MARCOUX, JR.  
ALEXANDER MARROTTE  
ANDREW G. MARTHY  
ROBERT M. W. MARNER  
ALISON K. MATSUNAGA  
KAITLYN H. MAYER  
LIANE M. MCAULIFFE  
ANDREW J. MCGOWAN  
COLIN A. MCILAIN  
ANDREW J. MEDENBACH  
SHAWN J. MILLER  
GRACE E. MONTES  
TRAVIS Y. MORIOKA  
RICHARD P. MOSES  
TAWNEY A. NAKAMURA  
COLIN E. NEVINS  
ALEX H. NGUYEN  
BRYANT A. NIETO  
STEPHEN O. NNODIM, JR.  
MAXWELL W. NOE  
OSMUND A. NOGRA  
JANETTE NOVERAS  
BRANDON P. D. NOYES  
SANDERS OH  
LORENZO Q. OLIVE  
SYDNEY M. OMALLEY  
MATTHEW L. OREILLY  
ANDREW M. OWEN  
SCOTT L. PARADISE  
DALE A. PARSONS  
CAMERON W. C. PATERSON  
ROY M. PENNINGTON III  
MICHAEL A. PETRELLI  
ALICIA E. PHILLIPS  
MICHAEL A. POPPE  
CULLEN R. PRESSLEY  
STEPHANIE M. PRICE  
NATHAN K. PROBST  
AMANDA N. QUACH  
EMILY L. RAETZ  
JUAN R. RAMOSDOMINGUEZ  
JAYDEEP J. RAVAL  
PATRICK D. REEVES

DANIEL J. ROBERSON  
ERICK M. ROFF  
ELIZABETH I. ROGER  
ALLEY E. RONALDI  
BENJAMIN S. ROSS  
AMIRA O. SAAD  
SHAYLA L. SALGADO  
KRISTEN B. SAMARDZIC  
JOSEPH M. I. SAPOVAL  
LAUREN M. SCHALK  
GERALD D. SCHMIDT  
ERIC J. SCHMIELER  
JOSEF M. SCHROEDER  
JASMINE A. SCOTT  
ANDREW G. SEE  
RICHARD A. SHEHANE  
SHRAM D. SHUKLA  
JOSHUA A. SLEP  
ALISHA M. SMITH  
LARA E. SMITH  
GLENN C. SNYDERS, JR.  
CHRISTOPHER B. SOWERS  
JEFFREY D. SPIRO  
JACK R. STACEY III  
JONATHAN D. STERNS II  
BEVERLY M. STRUNK  
ERIC F. SULAVA  
JOHN F. SULLIVAN  
ALICIA G. SYKES  
AARON M. TALLANT  
CAITLIN A. TALLANT  
FINIS A. TAYLOR III  
JESSICA L. TEDFORD  
BRIAN C. TEMPLET  
CHELSEA H. THOMPSON  
RYAN B. THOMPSON  
ZANE A. THOMPSON  
JOANNA K. TIMMER  
TREVOR M. TOMPANE  
DOUGLAS C. TRASK  
TERESA M. G. TRUFANT  
LONDON L. VANDELL  
BRIAN VAUGHT  
ERIC M. VINCESLIO  
MEGAN B. VYLONIS  
RYAN T. WARNER  
MARVIN J. WENIGER, JR.  
SHEA B. WICKLAND  
MEAGHAN S. WIDO  
ZENUS J. WILSON  
PIOTR WISNIEWSKI  
TYLER S. WITZEL  
DARCY D. WYNN  
DANNY X. XU  
JOSIAH F. YOUNG  
DANIEL ZHANG

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT  
TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY  
UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

*To be lieutenant commander*

MARILYN A. H. ANDERSEN  
KEITH L. ARGRAVES  
DANA M. BABA  
JOSHUA D. BARCLAY  
KARA B. BARKLEY  
BETHANY D. BROOKS  
MATTHEW C. CHRISTIE  
IFEANYI C. CHUKWUKA  
ANDREW J. CORRECES  
SHELBY A. CURTIS  
MACKENZIE H. CVELICH  
MICHAEL K. CVELICH  
PHILLIP J. DUNSFORD  
SARAH J. ERMOSHIN  
KYLE A. FIELDS  
JESSE M. FROEHNER  
FRANK I. GENTZ  
STEPHANIE D. GREEN  
TALI HADAR  
JABRENTA L. HUBBARD  
KEN K. HUFFMAN  
OANH P. HUTSON  
ANIKA ISLAM  
ZACHARY J. JIN  
ALLISON L. KAEMMER  
GRACE S. C. LAN  
KYLE D. LEE  
ANTHONY M. LOTESTO  
DAVID P. MACIBORSKI  
TYLER R. MARTINI  
MICHAEL W. MCQUINN  
WILLIAM D. MONTES  
STEPHEN D. MORENO  
ADELEKE O. MOWOBI  
ERIC M. MOY  
JACQUELINE M. OGI  
BRYAN B. STRIFFOLINO  
MEREDITH C. SWISHER  
TERRALL L. THURMAN, JR.  
MATTHEW J. TURNER  
CLAUS J. ULLSTAD  
LU WANG  
WILLIAM A. WASHBURN  
MICHAEL S. WEBER, JR.  
RYAN F. WELKER  
BRANDON M. WEST  
SCOTT C. WESTRA  
CHRISTOPHER P. WILDE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT  
TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY  
UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

*To be lieutenant commander*

MICHAEL S. ACKMAN

EDWARD W. AGBEVEY  
JASON C. ASENIO  
MELISSA V. AYALA  
CATHERINE M. BABCANEC  
PATRICK J. BAKER  
DEBBIE S. BALL  
JUSTIN R. BECKER  
CHRISTIAN A. BETANCOURT  
MARGARET C. BOCIAN  
DANIEL M. BROWN  
ALISTER K. BRYSON  
MACCON A. BUCHANAN  
PHILIP B. BURGESS  
J. T. BURTON  
ANGEL P. CAMACHO  
JOSEPH CANTWELL  
PRESTON C. CASPER  
JULIA M. CASTRONOVA  
JASON P. COLE  
CALVIN R. CONWAY III  
JACOB W. CORLEW  
MICHAEL J. CROKE  
IAN J. CROW  
DARRYL L. DAVENPORT  
SHAWN DEAN  
MARK J. DEBANO, JR.  
VIRGINIA E. DEBONS  
ARTHUR O. DECASTRO  
THOMAS J. DRISCOLL, JR.  
KEZIA S. EDMONSON  
EDGAR A. ESCOBAR  
MATTHEW D. FORBES  
MATTHEW C. GALLAGHER  
LUIS J. GARCIA  
NELLIE GARCIA  
KENNETH M. GILL  
AIMEE K. GRANDE  
ERIC J. GREEN  
CHRISTOPHER S. GREIL  
STEPHEN M. GRIST  
MARIA J. HERRERABARON  
NATALIE A. HOIDAL  
COREY J. HOUSEPIAN  
THOMAS A. HURTADO  
JONATHAN J. JACESKO  
SHANNON A. JACKSON  
MATTHEW C. JAPZON  
ANGELA L. JAUREGUI  
REBECCA L. A. JONES  
ANGELA D. KACZMAREK  
TRAVIS S. KELLEY  
EDWARD D. KOONCE, JR.  
SCOTT E. KRASOVETZ  
MATTHEW R. KUGELMAN  
JAYME G. LARICK  
MICHAEL V. LOMBARDI  
JED J. LYNN  
RICHELLE M. MAGALHAES  
KAREN A. MALDARELLI  
LUKE A. MANSFIELD  
TANESIA K. MAUL  
JOHN H. MCGINNISS  
MATTHEW R. MCGRATH  
ABBIE J. MERKL  
LONNIE E. MEYERS II  
ROBERT G. MILLER  
JOHN D. MUNYAN  
MICHAEL W. NATALI  
SIERRA R. NICHOLS  
STEFAN O. NWANDUVINCENT  
UGOCHUKWU M. NWOSU  
BRENDAN P. OBOYLE  
ERIC W. OLSON  
NII A. J. ONINKU  
MATTHEW J. OZANICH  
CHRISTOPHER G. PELLEJERA  
CANG K. PHAM  
JOSE A. PONCEVEGA  
JENNIFER M. RAJNER  
ALVARO Z. RAMOS  
CONSTANCE F. RAMSBURG  
RYAN N. REED  
EDWARD R. ROBERTS  
JUAN B. RODRIGUEZBARRANTES  
DOUGLAS W. ROSAAEN  
CHRISTOPHER H. ROSSETTI  
KATHERYN B. RYAN  
ALICIA R. SAMMONS  
STEFAN K. J. SCHALK  
TECKOLAR SEALS  
TODD R. SEECH  
KUNAL J. SHAH  
CORTNEY C. SHEWMAKER  
SERGE A. SHKURO  
DANIELA SLOAN  
RYAN R. SMITH  
JOEL J. SNIDER  
JAMES W. SPENCE  
EMILY K. STEFANOV  
HADLEY M. SULPIZIO  
CHRISROCK TENORIO  
BEAU R. TICE  
NIESHA M. TOWNSEND  
MARCUS R. VANSICKLE  
LISA M. WALKER  
LEA M. WALSH  
KRISTOFER M. WARD  
CHASELYNN M. WATERS  
DEREK E. WEISS  
DAWN M. WHITING  
DALE R. WILSON, JR.  
JACOB J. WITTENAUER  
DAVID J. ZART

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT  
TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY  
UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

*To be lieutenant commander*

ASHLEY M. BELYEA  
HANNAH M. BENNETT  
JUSTIN D. BENNETT  
ANDREA N. BERTUCCI  
SARA E. BLACK  
CHELSEY J. BOGGS  
JOHN M. BUNT  
CONRAD W. CASCADEN  
JEFFREY J. COLLINS  
ANTHONY J. COUCH  
RICHARD C. CULBERT  
KYLE E. DOHERTY PETERS  
RAYMOND J. FERRANO  
JACOB M. FISCH  
MICHELLE S. FLASH  
SHANNON E. GEARHART  
KATHERINE T. GORSKI  
BENJAMIN W. HAIGHT  
RYAN P. HEALY  
JACOB M. HONIGMAN  
LAURA M. JACOBSON  
NADINE N. JENKINS  
MICHAEL J. JOHNSON  
PHILLIP A. JOHNSTON  
RYAN A. KENNEDY  
GEORGIA B. S. KUPLIC  
DAVID A. LAYNE  
BOB LIU  
JOHN C. LUNDBERG II  
DAVID B. MADDOX  
KATHRINE E. MAPES  
CAITLYN F. MCCARTHY  
JOHN W. MCQUARRIE  
BRADEN W. MORGAN  
JASON C. OBRIEN  
ERIKA B. PLUMADORE  
JOHN V. PREIS  
KELSEY M. REICHAERT  
KIMBERLY RIOS  
DANIEL E. ROSINSKI  
TERENCE R. SANDERS  
KATHARINE M. SHUMWAY  
CARA L. W. STEELE  
JASON J. THELEN  
ALLEN G. TOLLETH  
LAUREN E. YUTCHISHEN

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT  
TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY  
UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

*To be lieutenant commander*

DEVIN M. ARNESON  
TYLER J. BARKER  
TRAVIS C. CALLAGHAN  
ROBERT J. DIXON, JR.  
JOHN G. GEORGES  
ANTHONY J. IVESTER  
JOSHUA L. KELSEY  
SETH B. KOENIG  
JOSIE L. LENNY  
CHLOE J. MORGAN  
JOSEPH W. PFAFF  
RICHARD RODRIGUEZ, JR.  
JOHN J. STEVENS IV  
MICHELLE L. T. TUCKER

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT  
TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY  
UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

*To be lieutenant commander*

COLIN A. BARNARD  
THOMAS B. BLEVINS  
NICHOLAS N. FRITZHAND  
DANIELLE M. GARBARINO  
REBECCA M. GUILD  
SARA M. JOHNSON  
SARAH E. C. JONES  
SHANNON D. LAMANTIA  
RYAN C. LAW  
MATTHEW J. LINDSAY  
HARVEY D. MANLEY III  
KIMBERLY A. MUIRHEAD  
DONALD M. PANTER III  
WESLEY R. SAAVEDRA  
MELLINI A. WALL  
PHILIP J. WATTERSON  
KELLY G. WENDLAND  
NATALIA A. WIDULINSKI

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT  
TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY  
UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

*To be lieutenant commander*

JEREMY M. BULLARD  
JASON C. DAHL  
LINDSEY L. DARLING  
TAYLOR B. HUDSON  
EDWARD K. JACOBS  
MONICA L. KILLORAN  
JOSHUA A. LUND  
CHRISTIAN M. MIER  
BAILEY C. MILLER  
HEATHER M. PICKETT  
RAUL M. RAMIREZ  
KELSEY M. ROWE  
FITZHERBERT S. SANTOS  
CHRISTOPHER J. WILSON

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT  
TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY  
UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

*To be lieutenant commander*

MATTHEW D. AKERS

SABRINA L. ATCHLEY  
DIANA M. BARRON  
DAVID R. BARIS  
KATHERINE A. BRAY  
RODERICK R. BROACH  
DAVID C. BROCK  
ALEX S. BROWN  
GREG T. BUNDER  
PAUL E. BURK, JR.  
JOHN A. CHISVETTE  
SHAWN D. DOUGLAS  
PETER G. FABBRI  
ALEXANDRA L. FELTES  
STEVEN D. FINCH  
BENJAMIN A. FOX  
TRICIA GHUNNEY  
RYAN GOLDSMITH  
ALLEN N. GOLPHIN III  
OHANNES P. HASHAS  
BARTON A. HICKLIN  
CLINTON R. IBARRA  
ALYSIA M. KING  
RANDY R. LEMMONS  
MELISSA C. LEVITON  
JASON M. LEVY  
MATTHEW L. LITTON  
JAMES G. LONG  
JEREMY MALDONADODELRIO  
AMADOR A. MARIN  
CARLOS S. MARTINEZ, JR.  
LAUREN E. MASAK  
ANDREW S. MICULA  
JUSTIN W. MILES  
JAMES D. MILLER  
ABRAAM R. MINA  
JAMES S. MOSYCHUK  
PRESTON C. MUSGRAVE  
STEPHEN D. NGUYEN  
DAVID C. NYGREN  
ASHLEY R. PFALLEN  
DANIEL K. PRICE  
JONATHAN D. PUCKETT  
MATTHEW L. RABURN  
JAMES R. ROGERS  
JAMES C. ROWE  
CHRISTOPHER A. SCANZONI  
JULIAN H. SEVILLAPARRA  
STEWART M. SIMPSON  
MATTHEW J. SMITH  
JOHN M. STRUTT  
ERIC A. THERRIO  
JERMAINE E. UPTON  
NICHOLAS A. WARD  
KELLY WU

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT  
TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY  
UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

*To be lieutenant commander*

BRIAN T. ABE  
ZAMIR A. ALVAREZ  
DANIEL C. ANTELO  
MIGUEL BARBA  
JOSHUA R. BREWSTER  
BRIAN C. BRINKLEY  
DANIEL P. BRONK  
ANDREW J. BUCKLEY  
COURTNEY L. BURROWS  
WAGUENS CAMILLE  
JOSEPH E. CANTRELL  
MICHAEL C. CASHEN  
JOSHUA R. DARDEN  
ROBERT A. DEWOLFE  
DARIUSZ P. DZIURA  
MIGUEL D. ESTRELLA  
CHARLES J. GREEN III  
JONATHAN M. HAMEL  
JIMMY C. HEFLIN  
SAMUEL S. HUGHES  
ROBERT M. JOHNSON  
WILLIAM S. KEATON  
ROBERT E. LATIMER II  
KEVIN C. MCCARTNEY  
TROY W. MCFADDEN  
SHAWN L. MORENCY  
RAUL A. MUNET  
JOSHUA J. NAPOLI  
JONATHAN G. PATNAUDE  
SCOTT R. POWELL  
ASKIA M. RAHMAN  
SEAN H. RIGHTER  
DENNIS J. SCULLY, JR.  
JONATHAN H. SIFFORD  
RICHARD G. SIMMONS  
JEREMY D. SNYDER  
STEVEN J. STASIK  
PATRICK STIMPHIL  
BRENT A. TAYLOR  
CHRISTOPHER W. VANDORN  
CARL R. VICK  
JOSHUA T. WILLHITE  
JASON D. WILLS  
PAUL T. WINCH  
STEPHEN V. YACCARINO  
TYLER D. YOUNG

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT  
TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY  
UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

*To be lieutenant commander*

MACBRIDE J. ABEASI  
LEROY AMES III  
LUSLAIDA BARBOSA  
JAMES BETHEA, JR.  
ROGER G. BLAKE

FERNANDO CEREZO  
CHRISTOPHER S. CORNETTE  
VINCENT S. DEMAKAS  
DARYL J. ELLIS  
PAUL R. FOSKEY  
BRYAN J. GILL  
CHRISTOPHER A. GUAYDACAN  
CHAD S. GUILLORY  
VICTOR H. GUTIERREZ  
JARROD D. HAMBY  
PHILLIP E. HARPER  
CONSTANCE M. HEBERT  
ANDREW J. HONEYCUTT  
ZEB L. HOWZE IV  
JEHU S. HUMPHRIES  
MATTHEW M. LONG  
AARON L. MITCHEM III  
BILLY C. NEWELL  
JASON L. NICHOLAS  
RYAN R. NOLAN  
MARINA M. NOVAKOVICH  
NATHAN J. OUELLETTE  
OMAR PALOMERA  
SHAWN C. REECE  
DONALD J. REINHART, JR.  
EUGENIA M. RHONE  
MARCELO A. RODRIGUEZ  
GARRETT B. RUCKER  
COREY A. SHEELEY  
BRUCE S. SIMMONS  
GARY S. SIMPSON  
REICO O. TAYLOR

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT  
TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY  
UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

*To be lieutenant commander*

NATHAN J. ADMIRAAL  
ERIC D. ARNETTE  
DENISE A. BAUMEISTER  
RYAN M. BENITO  
JASON T. CARROLL  
JONATHAN A. CHITWOOD  
KATHERINE M. CHLEBO  
RYAN P. CORRIDAN  
JOSHUA P. CRISAFULLI  
RYAN A. CUSTER  
JASON B. DARBY, JR.  
JAVEN E. DAVIS  
FITO DELHOMME  
JONATHAN K. DESIMONE  
KYLE E. DEVRIES  
BENJAMIN W. DIEHL  
JAMES A. DIRST III  
DAVID L. EIERDAM  
TIMOTHY P. FONTANA  
ADRIEL G. FRAZIER  
DAVID L. GAYLE  
MARVIN L. GIBBS  
GEOFFREY B. GROOMS  
BRIAN A. HALL  
DAVID R. HAMILTON  
TIA J. HATCHER  
GENNARRO L. HAWKINS  
MARK I. HEIER  
COREY D. INGRAHAM  
JORDAN M. JOHNSON  
JOSEPH A. KESSOPHA  
RUSSELL J. KEULING II  
KARISSA M. KLEINSCHMIDT  
VINCENT M. LEE  
FLOYD E. LEWIS  
TRAVIS W. LEWIS  
CHRISTOPHER Y. LIU  
ASHLEY M. MANNIX  
CHRISTOPHER W. MCDONALD  
NATHAN D. MEEKER  
DOMINIC G. MONTEZ  
TONY B. NELSON  
DUC H. NGUYEN  
CLAIRE K. NYARADY  
GERRED M. OLONA  
NICHOLAS J. PAPETTI  
LUKE A. PATERNA  
LAURONT S. PEPIN  
GREG PORTER  
LUUTHUY K. QUAN  
JUAN F. QUINTEROMORENO  
KEVIN P. RICHARDSON  
GERALD D. RIMMER  
LEIGHTON G. RODRIGO  
FRANK R. RODRIGUEZ  
MATTHEW R. RUKSTELA  
JESSE T. SCIUTO  
JONATHAN C. SHAWBELL  
VLADIMIR V. SHUMILOV  
JONATHAN R. SMITH  
TAYLOR A. SOER  
SHAUN A. STANLEY  
SAMUEL F. STRELKOFF  
JASON D. VEDDER  
MICHELLE L. VERBEECK  
CHRISTOPHER L. WILLIAMS  
DANIEL A. WILLIAMS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT  
TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY  
UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

*To be lieutenant commander*

ANDREW M. ADAMS  
RYAN N. APPLE  
KRISTIN D. BAKER  
TRISHA M. BAXTER  
AMBER N. BIXLER  
NICOLE M. BREEN

ASHTON L. BRIGANTI  
CHRISTOPHER R. CAMPBELL  
CHRISTOPHER D. CAVALLACCI  
MATTHEW J. CAVELL  
JOSEPH B. M. CHUA  
TERI R. COTTLE  
MICHELLE A. CRONE  
ALEXANDER W. CROSBY  
ANDREW S. DAVIS  
SAMUEL F. DECK  
JESSICA V. DEMONT  
GREGORY T. DOWNER  
JONATHAN B. EUBANKS  
NATHAN C. FORTNER  
ADAM C. GANSER  
SAMUEL D. GITLITZ  
AARON L. GOLDAN  
HEATHER D. GOTLIBOSKI  
AARON M. S. GREEN  
ROBERT M. HARTZELL  
SCHUYLER L. HEISS  
KATELYN J. HICKEY  
NICHOLAS A. HULSEY  
NICHOLAS L. JORDAN  
DOUGLAS E. KELLEY, JR.  
SAMUEL C. KENDRICK  
MICHAEL A. KESSLER  
MICHAEL C. KLUNDER  
SCOTT R. KUHNERT  
VANCE M. LAMBERT  
DONALD B. LOCKWOOD  
PATRICK M. LOONEY  
JUAN LOPEZ  
WILLIAM B. MALLORY III  
PHILLIP M. MARTINEZ  
KYLE D. MOROS  
JASON S. NOWAK  
JOSIAH D. ORTHMANN  
EMILY E. OSTROWSKI  
KENNETH M. PANFILIO  
APRIL L. PANNELL  
MARK D. PHELPS  
SEAN H. PHILBIN  
ANDRES POLIFRONI  
SHANNON W. PROTHERO  
MARK A. REID, JR.  
MATTHEW A. RILEY  
BRIAN T. ROLLER  
PATRICK C. RUMSEY  
KEEGAN D. RYAN  
CHARLOTTE K. SCHALLES  
MASON S. SEARCY  
ANDREW P. SHEPHERD  
DANIEL R. SHERMAN  
MANPREET K. SINGH  
CAMERON R. SKINNER  
MICHAEL S. SPEICHERHARRIS  
JASON A. SPENCER  
JAMES M. STEELE  
BRIAN B. SUSUKI  
COLE P. SWAVELY  
DAVID W. SWEETERMAN  
RYAN C. TRENCK  
JASON A. TUCKER  
FABIAN VARELA  
JURELL D. D. VERONCRUZ  
PATRISHA R. WILSON  
MICHAEL J. ZIAREK

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT  
TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY  
UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

*To be lieutenant commander*

CARL A. GROVER  
JASON O. LAWRIE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT  
TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY  
UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

*To be lieutenant commander*

CHRISTOPHER S. ANDERSON  
MICHAEL A. AZUELA  
JEFFREY M. BLACK  
WILLIAM W. BOLL  
JARED A. BOLTON  
SAINTRIOUS T. BONNET  
JOSE G. CARRILLO  
AARON J. CHESSER  
JEFFREY W. CLAYTON  
JUAN F. CORA, JR.  
JOSHUA D. CRAIG  
JESSE P. CRIDER  
MICHELLE L. DUGAN  
NIKKO A. X. EDWARDS  
ELTON D. EVATT II  
NORKESHA S. GATLIN  
RALPH J. GORDILLO  
AARON M. GORDON  
ROBERT J. GRADY  
VICTOR M. GUZMAN  
SHAUNA N. HAILES  
MATTHEW H. HEBERT  
PAUL J. HOMER III  
CHRISTINE V. JACKSON  
KEVIN M. JACOBI  
JEFFREY D. JOHNS  
BRADLEY A. JOHNSON  
PATRICK M. LAKEMAN  
HUNGCHI LEE  
MICKEY L. LOUIS, JR.  
ANDREW N. MARTIN  
ANDREW O. MILES  
JRAY NORRIS  
OSAROB OMOREGIE  
RICHARD A. PETTY, JR.

STEPHEN J. PRICE  
BRANDLEY SINOC  
JOSHUA W. SPENCER  
CRAIG D. STOMMEL  
DAVID J. SWASEY  
CHRISTOPHER A. WARZINSKI  
BEUX B. WEDDERBURN  
GEORGE M. WEHUNT  
DAVID S. WILEY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT  
TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY  
UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

*To be lieutenant commander*

MATTHEW C. ABARE  
SPENCER N. BATTLE, JR.  
CORREY J. BORRELLI  
EARL E. BUCHANAN III  
JEFFERSON Z. BURNS  
LOUIS C. CARTER, JR.  
GRANT W. COOK  
JASON J. CZARNIK  
THOMAS W. DAHLIN  
RAYMOND DELASK  
MATTHEW B. FERRIER  
ROGER L. GAHM III  
CHRISTOPHER M. GARDNER  
JEREMY D. GORIC  
BENJAMIN L. GROUDLE  
JAMES B. HAGG  
JOSHUA E. HEDGES  
RYAN P. HICKEY  
MICHAEL D. KRATZER  
ANDREW N. LISLE  
ALEXANDER R. MASTIN  
JOSEPH A. MEADOWS  
MARLOWE R. OLSON  
ANTHONY J. READ  
JOSHUA J. RITCHEY  
PHILIP L. ROCHEFORT II  
WILLIAM S. RUTHART  
MATTHEW J. SAWYERS  
TIMOTHY A. SHAW  
TIMOTHY R. SHEA, JR.  
SCOTT T. SILVIA  
KIRK T. STAFFORD  
ROBERT W. STEELE II  
KEVIN J. TWEET  
IRA L. VANIRVIN  
TRAVIS R. VOSLER  
TIMOTHY G. WHARTON  
KEITH E. WILBER

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT  
TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY  
UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

*To be commander*

KARIMA AYESH  
RICHARD D. BARTOL III  
BRADLEY A. BENNETT  
STEPHEN R. BLACK  
MICHAEL A. BOHMAN  
BRANDON K. CALLAWAY  
KARL M. CHANDLER  
RACHEL V. DULEBOHN  
KENNETH K. H. FAN  
AMANDA A. FIX  
KARSTEN J. HAIN  
JAMES M. HAWKINS  
SHIN J. KIM  
JIMMY H. KU  
JOHN J. LEE  
MICHAEL J. LEWIS  
JOSEPH R. MUCKENTHALER  
GRANT R. RUTHERFORD  
JAMES A. SHAUL  
JEFFREY T. SMITH  
JEREMIAH J. SPARKS  
JUSTIN I. WATSON  
STACY L. YU

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT  
TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY  
UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

*To be commander*

EMILEE K. BALDINI  
RONISHA T. BEASLEYLEDET  
DANIEL M. BRIDGES  
PARKER S. CARLISLE  
THERESA J. CHAMP  
NEIL R. DARCO  
THOMAS L. EATON  
JESSICA L. FORD  
CHARLES C. GOUGH  
PAUL T. HOCHMUTH, JR.  
LATHAM T. HUDSON  
PATRICK O. JACKSON  
LEAH A. OBRIEN  
BRIAN F. ROACH  
BRANDON H. SARGENT  
ANTHONY P. SHAM  
PAUL H. THOMPSON  
MICHAEL F. WHITTAN

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT  
TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY  
UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

*To be commander*

TUESDAY L. ADAMS  
KENNETH D. BARBER  
LAURA A. BOERSTE  
ELYSE M. BRAXTON  
MOHNEKE V. BROUGHTON  
STEPHANIE L. BURLISON

MICHAEL D. BUSHEY  
 SARAH M. CHAMBERAS  
 DARCY R. GUERRICAGOTTA  
 JONATHAN D. HAMRICK  
 CANDICE D. HECK  
 ANNETTE M. HEMPHILL  
 MIRANDA R. HORNE  
 KAYLA R. HORTON  
 MICHELLE K. HOSEA  
 MOLLY P. HURDA  
 SACHIKO M. IKARI  
 SONDRAL. L. JOLLY  
 ANGELA M. KELLY  
 KATHERINE M. KIDDE  
 CANDICE N. KLINE  
 NATHAN J. LEE  
 KRISTIE L. LINDER  
 ANDY G. LUM  
 CHRISTOPHER A. LYNN  
 CAMERON F. MATHIE  
 MICHELLE M. MCCORMICK  
 DAVID R. MCDONALD  
 MELODY A. OCONNOR  
 NICHOLAS G. PEREZ  
 WENDYALINE PHILIPCYPRIEN  
 AUTUMN J. RIDDELL  
 REBECA S. RODRIGUEZ  
 MICHAEL T. RUCKER  
 BRITNEY E. SAITO  
 SARAH J. T. TALLENT  
 CARRIE E. URBAN  
 MEGHAN L. WEAVER  
 STELLA J. WEISS  
 ALLYSON E. WHALEN  
 BRENDA M. WILLIAMS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

*To be commander*

SCOTT E. ADAMS  
 FREDERIC ALBESA  
 PATRICK D. AMUNDSON  
 ANJA D. ANLIKER  
 ZACHARY J. ARMSTRONG  
 CARNELL P. AURELIO  
 CHRISTOPHER M. BUCHANAN  
 KEVIN D. CLARIDA  
 PHILIP F. CLARK, JR.  
 JAMES P. CONKLIN  
 GALE A. COOK III  
 KATHRYN M. DAMORE  
 MICHAEL P. DAUSEN  
 ANDREA K. DAVIS  
 PAUL D. FUERY  
 JOSE A. GALVAO  
 RAYFIELD N. GOLDEN  
 ANDREW R. HALEY  
 BRYCE B. HICKS  
 TIMOTHY M. HILL  
 ADAM G. HILLIARD  
 EUGENE K. J. HO  
 PAUL J. KLOEPPING  
 MATTHEW M. LORGE  
 DANIEL MALDONADO III  
 STEPHEN J. MANNILA  
 CHRISTOPHER M. MASON  
 JAY T. MCFARLAND  
 DAVID A. MEDICI  
 TRAVIS M. MILLER  
 WILLIAM E. MORRISON  
 EDUARDO A. NICHOLLSARVAJAL  
 BRENT E. NIVEN  
 EDWARD P. NIXON  
 PAUL C. NOTARNICOLA  
 DAVID F. ODOM  
 JOHN P. O'DONNELL  
 BRANDON W. PALMER  
 CARLISLE C. PENNYCOOKE  
 JESSE P. PETTY  
 JASON J. PFAFF  
 RENAE J. RENKEN  
 JASON L. REVITZER  
 SARAH S. SIRKIN  
 MARY E. B. SLY  
 JAMIE J. STEFFENSMEIER  
 DAVID J. STONECIPHER  
 LAURA A. TAKANEN  
 AARON T. THORNTON  
 MICHAEL S. TUDDENHAM  
 ANTHONY C. URECH  
 REMUIS D. WALLS  
 XIAO Y. WANG  
 CHARMAINE R. YAP

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

*To be commander*

CHRISTOPHER A. ADAMS  
 PATRICIA A. COLEY  
 DAVID A. DAIGLE  
 KEN R. ESPINOSA  
 ROBERT D. FASNACHT  
 DEVON H. FOSTER  
 DANIEL J. FULLERTON  
 JASON A. GREGORY  
 DIANE M. HAMPTON  
 GREGORY R. HAZLETT  
 JAMES P. HOGAN  
 MICHAEL S. KENNEDY  
 GLEN D. KITZMAN  
 SCOTT P. MASON  
 JOSEPH F. MAYER  
 CARL B. MUEHLER

JEFFREY A. PERRY  
 ARTHUR J. ROBBINS II  
 JAMES M. RUTAN  
 JON E. SETTLEMOIR  
 JONATHAN D. STEPHENS  
 JASON D. WEATHERWAX  
 CHRISTOPHER J. WEST  
 BUSTER L. WILLIAMS  
 JAMES P. WILLIFORD, JR.

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

*To be commander*

ADENIYI S. ALATISE  
 HAYDAR M. ALEID  
 WILLIAM C. ANDERSON  
 MARY A. ANDREWS  
 DAVID K. ARBUTHNOT  
 DAVID F. AURIGEMMA  
 BRIAN T. BARLOW  
 MATTHEW P. F. BAUER  
 TERRENCE D. BAYLY  
 DANIEL L. BOWERS  
 RYAN T. BUCKLEY  
 SARAH B. BUCKLEY  
 MATTHEW D. BURGESS  
 AMELIA H. BUTTOLPH  
 WILLIAM E. BYLUND  
 SAMUEL N. CAOILE  
 KAI Y. CHENG  
 ANTHONY J. CHOI  
 PAMELA M. CHOI  
 DANIEL L. CHRISTENSEN  
 GRANT K. COCHRAN  
 CHRISTOPHER P. COSENTINO  
 STACY L. COULTHARD  
 PAUL CRIFE  
 DANIEL J. DEAN, JR.  
 JOHN B. DEGEUS  
 BRIGHAM L. DOUGLAS  
 STEVEN ELEK IV  
 JENNIFER K. ENKULAWAY  
 SHARON C. ENUIJOKE  
 KIMBERLY L. FISCHER  
 SAMUEL D. FRASIER  
 BETHANY K. GAYLORD  
 JUDITH C. GENEROSO  
 GALE K. GOODLOW II  
 JONATHAN R. GOWER  
 DAVID L. GRIFFIN  
 ALEX A. GUTWEILER  
 NAWAZ K. A. HACK  
 SEAN P. HAIGHT  
 KENT M. HALL  
 TODD P. HANSEN  
 HEATHER N. HAUCK  
 MAE W. HEALY  
 MARK D. HEITZMANN  
 PAUL D. HENDRICKSEN  
 ANDREW D. HENEBRY  
 AMY A. HERNANDEZ  
 MAUREN M. HIGGS  
 JENNIFER L. JASKIEWICZ  
 MIA-JIN  
 LUKE T. KRISPINSKY  
 DANIEL P. KUCKEL  
 CHRISTINA L. LACROIX  
 PAUL N. LANGEVIN  
 ERIC C. LARSEN  
 SCOTT M. LAWSON  
 BENJAMIN J. LEHMAN  
 JOSEPH O. LOPREIATO  
 BRUCE L. MATCHIN  
 JEAN G. MATHURIN  
 MARC A. MOLENAT  
 MICHAEL J. E. MONSON  
 JOSEPH A. MOORE  
 DAPHNE P. MORRISONPONCE  
 ROSS A. MULLINAX  
 ROBERT MYSLIN  
 LUKE S. OAKLEY  
 BRENDAN S. OBRIEN  
 OLAMIDE J. OLADIPO  
 ERIK J. OLSON  
 TODD G. OSBORNE  
 JAMIE K. OVERBEY  
 COLLEEN F. PEREZ  
 ALEXANDRA V. PERRY  
 JAMAL A. PHILLIPS  
 SARA J. QUAN  
 NOLEN P. ROBERSON  
 WARREN L. ROSS  
 MATTHEW C. RUSSELL  
 JESSE T. SCHONAU  
 JONATHAN G. SEAVEY  
 ERIK E. SHANAHAN  
 MEGAN M. SICK  
 ROBERT V. SKLAR  
 STEPHANIE L. SMITH  
 RYAN W. SNOW  
 ANA L. SOLIS  
 LEIVI A. SOSA  
 JODI L. SPETH  
 LORETTA L. STEIN  
 KRISTI K. STONEGARZA  
 SCOTT C. STORY  
 SEAN M. STUART  
 RICHARD B. THOMPSON  
 DARSHAN S. THOTA  
 IAN C. UBER  
 JASON M. VALADAO  
 JOHN A. VIGILANTE IV  
 SCOTT C. WAGNER  
 JAMES D. WALLACE  
 JAMES W. WESTBROOK

CLIFTON J. WILCOX  
 ALFRED J. WOLANIN III  
 JAMES A. YODER  
 MICHAEL G. ZAKAROFF  
 KAREN G. ZEMAN  
 NATHAN S. ZUNDEL

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

*To be commander*

JON A. ANGLE  
 BRYAN J. BEYER  
 TREVOR A. BINGHAM  
 RICHARD E. BUECHEL  
 MICHELLE S. B. CAPONIGRO  
 KIMBERLY M. CAUDLE  
 DOUGLASS G. FARRAR  
 JOHN D. FRANK  
 MARJORIE J. GRUBER  
 HEATHER M. HESS  
 CODY W. KEESEE  
 DOUGLAS H. KNOTTS  
 JOSHUA M. LEWIS  
 CHRISTOPHER J. MCDOWELL  
 NIGEL T. MORRISSEY  
 ANDREW G. MOYER  
 RAMA K. MUTYALA  
 JASON R. RAY  
 ANDREW M. TAKACH  
 SHAWN E. TALLEY  
 RUSSELL B. TORGESEN  
 CHRISTOPHER J. WIDHALM  
 SHANNON L. WRIGHT

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR TEMPORARY APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADES INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 605:

*To be captain*

CARL K. BODIN  
 ROBERT J. GARIS  
 RONALD V. HATT  
 HEATH E. JOHNMAYER  
 MATTHEW J. LAMBERT  
 MATTHEW P. PETERSON  
 GREGORY K. RING  
 WILLIAM A. SHAFER  
 BARTHOLOMEW J. SIEVENPIPER  
 PHILLIP SYLVIA, JR.

*To be commander*

STANLEY E. ALLEN, JR.  
 BENJAMIN S. MACNEIL  
 HERU K. MANSELL  
 ANDREW L. POLLACK  
 LAURA B. SANTIAGO

*To be lieutenant commander*

STEPHEN A. ALEX  
 ADAM D. BARNETT  
 JORDAN A. BUCHANAN  
 CALEB J. BURROW  
 MATTHEW C. DENNIS  
 JERRY L. DOME  
 CLAIRE S. EUDY  
 LUCAS J. EVANS  
 KENNETH A. FLETCHER II  
 JAMES A. FRIEDLANDER  
 CONNOR J. GAGLIARDI  
 MCLAREN K. GILMORE  
 GARRETT T. GRIFFIN  
 MATTHEW W. HAIT  
 MALIK X. HARRIS  
 JOSHUA P. HILL  
 JEREMY R. KLINKMAN  
 MACKLEN C. LETHIN  
 KENNETH C. LINN  
 KYLE R. LYNCH  
 DAVID M. MANN  
 JOHN MCDONOUGH  
 STEVEN A. MUSSELWHITE  
 MICHAEL A. NACLERIO  
 CORY F. OBERST  
 ROSS H. OLEY  
 WILLIAM A. REACH  
 SHAWN M. ROADEN  
 MICKEY L. ROASE  
 SIERRA G. ROONEY  
 STEVEN M. SIEGMUND  
 ROBERT L. STANTON  
 CHRISTOPHER J. STEVENS  
 JASON A. THILL  
 GRAHAM D. ZIEMBA

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

*To be commander*

EBENEZER ANIAGYEI  
 JEREMY O. BIEHN  
 HENRY L. BIRD  
 MICHAEL P. BOWERS  
 CLIFTON D. BUTLER  
 WENDY K. CACIOPPO  
 DOUGLAS E. COLE, JR.  
 WALTER J. COLVIN, JR.  
 RACHEL W. P. CONDON  
 RICHARD J. DELINSKY  
 KELLY E. DONOVAN  
 STEPHEN M. EOGAN  
 MARISSA L. GREENE  
 THERON HAMILTON  
 BETH A. HAWKS



DEREK B. HOFFMAN  
MATTHEW J. HORNER  
JOSHUA I. KEIL  
BRENNAN S. KELLY  
CARLOS A. LINOMONTES  
VISHWESH P. MOKASHI  
SHAWN M. MORRIS  
PEDRO A. ORTIZ  
MELISSA K. PARKES  
KATHERINE E. PIERCE  
MEGAN I. POTTER  
MEGAN J. RIEMAN  
ANDREW C. RUTLEDGE  
NICHOLAS C. SCHAAL  
LEE W. SCIARINI  
JONATHAN G. SHEA  
KATHLEEN C. SMITH  
EUGENE SMITH, JR.  
JAMES D. SPEITEL  
DAVID VALENTINE III  
JANNIFER L. WICK  
JASON E. WRIGHT  
ADAM L. ZEILER

## IN THE COAST GUARD

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT  
IN THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD TO THE GRADE IN-  
DICATED UNDER TITLE 14 U.S.C., SECTION 2121(E):

*To be captain*

JASON C. ALEKSAS  
MELISSA J. ARLES  
JESSICA B. BEHERA  
ANDREW J. BEHNKE  
ANDREW R. BENDER  
ROBERT J. BERRY II  
FRED S. BERTSCH IV  
BRIAN P. BREGUET  
CHAD R. BRICK  
JERRY D. BUTWID  
PAUL R. CASEY  
ERIC M. CASPER  
MICHAEL P. C. CHIEN  
RANDALL T. CHONG  
JOYCE M. DIETRICH  
MATTHEW D. DOORIS  
CHRISTOPHER DOUGLAS  
ZACHARY R. FORD

ELISA M. GARRITY  
ZACHARY N. GLASS  
ROBERT H. GOMEZ  
JEREMY M. HALL  
ERIC A. HELGEN  
DOROTHY J. HERNAEZ  
JASON D. INGRAM  
ERIC D. JOHNSON  
CHRISTOPHER M. KEENE  
AJA L. KIRKSEY  
MARK L. LAY  
RACHEL L. LEWIS  
SCOTT E. LUGO  
RYAN P. MATSON  
ERIC J. MATTHIES  
HAROLD L. MCCARTER  
BRAD M. MCNALLY  
JOHN M. P. MCTAMNEY IV  
YOUNGMEE MOON  
MARK R. NEELAND  
JUSTIN W. NOGGLE  
LOAN T. OBRIEN  
ANNE E. OCONNELL  
JAMES M. O'MARA IV  
ROGER E. OMENHISER, JR.  
AARON J. ORTENZIO  
JOSEPH B. PARKER  
JEFFREY L. PAYNE  
JAMES H. PERSHING  
ROBERT M. PIRONE  
MARK B. POTOTSCHNIK  
LISA MARIE RICE  
NICOLE D. RODRIGUEZ  
KEVIN B. SAUNDERS  
MICHELE L. SCHALLIP  
MICHAEL D. SHARP  
JASON S. SMITH  
JOAN SNAITH  
JESSICA R. STYRON  
JAMES B. SUFFERN  
DONALD M. TERKANIAN, JR.  
EMILY L. THARP  
KELLY A. THORKILSON  
DEVIN L. TOWNSEND  
JARED S. TRUSZ  
ROBERT C. TUCKER  
NICOLETTE A. VAUGHAN  
WILLIAM R. WALKER

WILLIAM B. WINBURN  
TRACY L. WIRTH  
CHRISTOPHER L. WRIGHT

## DISCHARGED NOMINATION

On 9/13/2021, the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works was discharged from further consideration of the following nomination under the authority of the order of the Senate of 03/10/2005 and the nomination was placed on the Executive Calendar:

\*MICHAEL LEE CONNOR, OF COLORADO, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE ARMY.

\*Nominee has committed to respond to requests to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.

## CONFIRMATIONS

Executive nominations confirmed by the Senate September 14, 2021:

## DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

JAMES RICHARD KVAAL, OF MASSACHUSETTS, TO BE UNDER SECRETARY OF EDUCATION.

## THE JUDICIARY

DAVID G. ESTUDILLO, OF WASHINGTON, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON.

ANGEL KELLEY, OF MASSACHUSETTS, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE DISTRICT OF MASSACHUSETTS.

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

### RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF JAMES "SKILLET" MARLIN

#### HON. TRENT KELLY

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 14, 2021*

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life and service of Mr. James Alvin Marlin who passed away on Friday, August 27 at the age of 88. I join his family, friends, and loved ones in mourning his loss.

Born on October 16, 1932 in Fawn Grove, Mississippi to Theron Kendall and Vivian Lucas Marlin, Skillet went on to graduate from Iuka High school in 1951. He attended Itawamba Junior College before joining the United States Army. He served as a Tank Commander in the Korean War in the "Hell On Wheels" division.

After service, Skillet moved to Tupelo to work in car sales. He co-owned the Lincoln-Mercury dealership and later purchased and managed it. Years later in Iuka, he purchased and managed the Marlin-Moore Chevrolet dealership. In Iuka he served on the A71 board for the state of Mississippi. For six years he was the Game and Fish Commissioner. For 11 years he served on the Tombigbee Water Management Board and worked as an investigator for the State Insurance Commissioner. Mr. Marlin was the president of the board for NASA Facilities Operations and served on the TCEPA board for more than fifteen years.

Skillet was an avid outdoorsman. He was instrumental in bringing Turkey back to Tishomingo County and was a friend to Elvis Presley. He was beloved by all who had the opportunity to know him. Mr. Marlin is survived by his two sons, Bob and Scott.

Mr. Marlin served his country proudly, and I am thankful for his life of service to this Nation.

### IN RECOGNITION OF MELVIN ROSSON POST'S 75 YEAR ANNI- VERSARY

#### HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 14, 2021*

Mr. WITTMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Melvin Rosson Post 8356, Veterans for Foreign Wars' seventy-fifth anniversary. Melvin Rosson Post 8356 was founded on September 18, 1946, by veterans who had just returned home after World War II as a sanctuary for combat veterans to gather.

Over seventy-five years, the Post has displayed Virginia's commitment to advocacy and civic engagement. The Melvin Rosson Post lends a needed and well-deserved voice to America's veterans, going above and beyond

to raise awareness and honor the Nation's brave heroes in our community. Their displays of courage and determination set an excellent example for all of those around us.

Today the Post's mission remains much the same. With a membership of forty plus, the current members strive to serve the community and veterans. The Melvin Rosson Post has served as a support system to not just the veterans but the surviving spouses and children of military, lending a hand whenever possible.

Therefore Madam Speaker, I ask that you rise with me today to honor and celebrate the seventy-fifth anniversary of the Melvin Rosson Post 8356, Veterans for Foreign Wars. I look forward to hearing about the future projects and stories of your continued commitment to our community and great nation.

### CONGRATULATING FRANK MANCINI

#### HON. JOHN B. LARSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 14, 2021*

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Frank Mancini, of Berlin, Connecticut, on his recent selection to the Board of Directors of the National Association of Federally-Insured Credit Unions (NAFCU).

Frank currently serves as President and Chief Executive Officer of Connex Credit Union in North Haven, Connecticut. He has over 30 years of experience in the financial services industry, including having served as CEO of Connex since 2012, after having served as its Chief Financial Officer since 2003. Under his leadership, Connex has grown in total assets from \$378M to \$810M over the past eight years. Connex currently ranks as the 5th largest credit union in Connecticut in terms of asset size and 3rd in Connecticut in terms of loan balance.

Frank has served on a number of Boards, including New Haven's Financial Empowerment Commission, Credit Union Executive Society of New England (Board Chair), Connex Insurance Services, Constitution State Corporate Credit Union, the Tax Exempt Proceeds Fund, and the Association for Senior Credit Union Officers. In 2016, he was awarded the Mayor's Community Champion Award for his advocacy efforts in assisting low-income households get increased access to banking services. He holds a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration from The University of Connecticut in Storrs, Connecticut, and a Master of Business Administration from The University of Connecticut in West Hartford, Connecticut.

Frank has a wealth of financial services and leadership knowledge. His vision and decision-making skills will be a valuable addition to the NAFCU Board and credit unions for years to come.

I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Frank Mancini and wishing him the best of luck in his new role on the NAFCU Board of Directors. I look forward to working with him in this regard.

### HONORING THE BUTLER COUNTY FARM BUREAU'S 100 YEAR ANNI- VERSARY

#### HON. RON ESTES

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 14, 2021*

Mr. ESTES. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the 100th Anniversary of the Butler County Farm Bureau Association (BCFBA). Now, one hundred years later, BCFBA continues to offer advocacy, education, and service on behalf of those involved in an evolving food and agriculture system.

Founded in 1921, BCFBA serves the agricultural and local communities by providing leadership on agriculture, natural resources, safe and nutritious food, educating school children about how and where food and fiber are grown, and informing legislators and the public on a broad spectrum of agriculture-related issues. The elected board of directors consists primarily of local farmers and ranchers who know how important it is to have the resources the Farm Bureau provides.

Beyond their membership services, the Farm Bureau strives to educate the public about the vital role that farmers and ranchers play in feeding our country and the world. Butler County Farm Bureau's annual Farm to Fork and So Much More event allows people from all over Kansas to take educational tours of farms, ranches, orchards, wineries, and other agri-businesses while enjoying Butler County's beautiful Kansas scenery. This event, along with many other events the Farm Bureau offers throughout the year, highlights the connections between our lives and our state's agricultural community. As a result of their commitment, our fields grow richer, our abundance grows greater, and our country stands stronger.

Please join me in congratulating the Butler County Farm Bureau Association on their centennial anniversary and wishing them continued success in serving Butler County for years to come.

### RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF SER- GEANT FIRST CLASS JASON BELUE

#### HON. TRENT KELLY

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 14, 2021*

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life of Staff Sergeant First Class Jason Belue who passed

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

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

away on Thursday, August 26 at the 154th Regiment, Regional Training Institute, Camp Shelby Joint Forces Training Center in Hattiesburg, Mississippi. I join his friends, family, and loved ones in mourning his loss.

Staff Sergeant Belue was a National Guard soldier assigned to Charlie Troop, 1–98th Cavalry Regiment, 155th Armored Brigade Combat Team. At the time of his passing, Staff Sergeant Belue was attending the Maneuver Senior Leaders Course as a part of his professional military education and career advancement.

He served in the U.S. Armed Forces for 24 years, earning the Army Commendation Medal, Army Achievement Medal (2nd Award), Army Good Conduct Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Army Reserve Component Achievement Medal, Meritorious Unit Commendation, Navy Unit Commendation, Army Service Ribbon, Overseas Service Ribbon (2nd Award), Armed Forces Reserve Medal, (2nd Award), Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, the Combat Action Badge, ad Iraq Campaign medal (with 4 campaign stars). He served on three deployments with the 155th Armored Brigade Combat Team, Mississippi National Guard in support off Operation Iraqi Freedom in 2005 and again for Operation Enduring Freedom in 2009, then Operation Spartan Shield 2018 to 2019.

Left to cherish his memory are his wife of twenty-two years, Jennifer Brents Belue; sons, Blake, Jason, and Bentley; and granddaughter Hazel. He is preceded in death by his grandparents.

I am grateful for Staff Sergeant Belue's years of service to the state of Mississippi and this country.

#### HONORING ERIN BELL AS IOWAN OF THE WEEK

#### HON. CYNTHIA AXNE

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 14, 2021*

Ms. AXNE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize a tireless advocate for the refugee community, Ms. Erin Bell, as Iowan of the Week.

Erin runs the non-profit organization “Des Moines Refugee Support” based in Des Moines and the metro area. Erin is known as someone who has a big heart and an even bigger vision for supporting thousands of refugees in central Iowa. Des Moines Refugee Support strives to serve as a voice, friend, and mentor for all refugees as they make a new home in Iowa. Their focus as an organization is on empowerment, and they strive to address shared issues and work together to uplift all communities.

Upon arrival in the United States, refugee families receive about 90 days of assistance from a caseworker to help them learn about their new home. That's not much time when there's so much to learn. Erin's goal is to fill the gaps when refugees arrive in Iowa.

One of the programs designed to help fill the gaps is their youth soccer sponsorship program. Erin saw the passion for soccer among many of the refugee children, and knew she had to find a way to bring their dream of playing organized soccer to life. Des Moines Refugee Support partnered with Des

Moines Soccer club to raise money through the nonprofit to pay for the kids' cleats, shin guards, registration fees and other items associated with playing an organized sport. This has allowed the kids that are brand new to Iowa an opportunity to make new friends, get involved in their community, and of course play soccer.

Advocates like Erin, and organizations like Des Moines Refugee Support, are what makes our Iowa communities across the state such great places to live. I will always fight in Congress to be a voice for refugees, and to ensure Iowa is a welcoming place. It is my pleasure to name Erin Bell as Iowan of the Week.

#### COMMENDING MR. PAUL COSTELLO ON HIS SERVICE TO THE STATE OF VERMONT

#### HON. PETER WELCH

OF VERMONT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 14, 2021*

Mr. WELCH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and honor my friend Paul Costello, who has served since 2000 as Executive Director of the Vermont Council on Rural Development (VCRD), part of the National Rural Development Partnership established by Congress. Although Paul is retiring from VCRD, his legacy will continue in the projects and initiatives that he has inspired in rural communities across Vermont.

Throughout his years as Executive Director, Paul has established himself as a respected neutral facilitator of community conversations. Paul has a unique ability to unite diverse viewpoints and lead people to consensus, action and success. He is dedicated to the ideals of democracy and to the promotion of social and economic opportunity for all Vermonters. He is a patriotic enthusiast for civic engagement, energizing all who venture into his orbit.

Among his many activities, Paul coordinates the annual VCRD Governor's Rural Summit to build federal and state cross-agency action plans. Each year he facilitates multiple community visits with teams of state, federal, non-profit and private leaders to help rural communities evaluate and prioritize opportunities, develop action plans, connect to resources and rally to action.

Over the past twenty years, Paul has produced and facilitated numerous Vermont Policy Councils and Community Development efforts including the Vermont Forest Products Council, the Vermont Agriculture Viability Council, the Vermont Council on Culture and Innovation, the Vermont Council on Planning, the Vermont Rural Energy Council, the VT Creative Communities Program, the Council on the Future of Vermont, the Vermont Working Landscape Council, the Vermont Working Landscape Partnership, and the Vermont Working Lands Coalition, the e-Vermont Community Broadband Project and Vermont Digital Economy Project, the Vermont Higher Education Food Systems Council, and the Vermont Climate Change Economy Council. Most recently, Paul has chaired the Governor's Covid-19 Local Support and Community Action Team.

A native Vermonter, Paul obtained his B.A. and M.A. at the University of Vermont and

earned a PhD in intellectual history at McGill University in Montreal. He has devoted a substantial part of his career to the cultivation of Vermont civic institutions, and the state is a better place because of it. I wish him a productive and fulfilling retirement.

#### IN RECOGNITION OF WAYNE FREEDMAN

#### HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 14, 2021*

Ms. SPEIER. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor Wayne Freedman, one of the Bay Area's most intrepid television reporters and a fixture on ABC 7 for 30 years who is retiring after a remarkable and award-winning career.

Wayne has covered a vast variety of events here at home and abroad, from major earthquakes, fires, and hurricanes, to national and local elections, to major sports events, to the September 11th attacks, to the COVID-19 pandemic, to NASA space missions, to beached whales. In 1992, ABC 7 sent him solo to Moscow to cover Russia's Second Revolution. He traveled across the U.S. by train visiting small towns to capture the pulse of America after 9/11. No matter the content of a story, Wayne will get to the truth and he has a knack for finding the human angle that resonates with viewers. He likes to put it this way: “My philosophy is to find, small stories within large ones, and large stories in the small ones. Those are the most telling.”

His philosophy and work have earned him over 50 Emmy Awards and several Edward R. Murrow awards. Many of his pieces were picked up by ABC's national show World News Tonight. Wayne is also the author of a book that is required reading in several college journalism programs in the U.S., Canada, and Europe, *It Takes More Than Good Looks To Succeed at Television News Reporting*.

Television is part of the Freedman family's DNA. Wayne's father, Mike Freedman, started working for the ABC network in 1948. He pioneered the use of live, hand-held video cameras for covering news and sports events. As soon as Wayne could walk, his dad took him into the field with him.

Wayne had his first byline in 1968 when he started writing a weekly column about life in middle school for a paper that is now the Los Angeles Daily News. That same summer he worked in San Francisco as a grip for ABC on a profile about heavyweight boxing champion Sonny Liston.

Wayne received his Bachelor's Degree in Political Science from UCLA in 1977 and his Master's Degree in Journalism from the University of Missouri at Columbia in 1978. In 1981 he moved to San Francisco from where he has been reporting ever since. Before he joined ABC 7 in 1991, he worked for CBS News traveling the country to produce a weekly segment called *Only in America* for CBS This Morning.

For those who have seen Wayne Freedman reporting out in the field, they will have noticed an ever-present still camera in his hand with which he snaps behind the scenes photographs that he posts on social media. It's an eye-opening way to see the world from Wayne's perspective.

Wayne and his wife Susan live in Marin County. They are the proud parents of daughter Lauren who lives in New York.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to rise with me to recognize Wayne Freedman for his lifelong passion for storytelling and his ability to transfer that passion to his viewers. He is an outstanding journalist who has thrived throughout decades of changes in the journalism profession.

While we will miss his booming voice and captivating presence on our TV screens and smart phones, we wish him well in his well-deserved retirement.

#### RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF ROBERT LANCE "BOBBY" CRABTREE

##### HON. TRENT KELLY

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 14, 2021*

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life and service of Major Bobby Crabtree who passed away on Thursday, August 26 at North Mississippi Medical Center. He served with the Mississippi Army National Guard within the HHC, 115th Armored Brigade in Tupelo.

Bobby was born in Louisiana to William and Aleta Best Crabtree. He was raised in Houma and graduated from H.L. Bourgeois High School. He studied Business Administration at Nicholls State University in Louisiana and began his career at Sears. In 2002 he was transferred to Tupelo, where he retired and began his career as a truck driver.

Bobby served for twenty-three years in the Mississippi Army National Guard and retired as a Major. He was deployed to Iraq during Operation Iraqi Freedom. He was an active member of the Orchard Church in Tupelo. He was a lifelong LSU football fan, but gladly cheered for Mississippi State, where his sons attended. In his free time he played bass guitar and fished.

Left to cherish his memory are his wife, Pamela Smith Crabtree; sons Wesley, Matthew, and Lance; his mother, Aleta; and brother, Billy.

I am grateful for Major Crabtree's many years of service to the state of Mississippi and I join his family, friends, and loved ones in grieving his loss.

#### IN RECOGNITION OF CHIEF RONALD HADDAD AND THE DEARBORN POLICE DEPARTMENT

##### HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 14, 2021*

Mrs. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Chief Ronald Haddad of the Dearborn Police Department who was recently chosen to be featured in the National Law Enforcement Museum's new exhibit: Post-9/11: The Evolution of American Law Enforcement. His honorable years of service to our community is worthy of commendation.

Two decades after the terrorist attacks on our nation that shook the world, we remember

the lives lost on that terrible day. Dearborn, Michigan is home to the largest Arab American and Muslim populations in the United States and faced unique challenges in the days and months following the horrendous attacks by extremists. Muslim-owned businesses and mosques faced threats, Islamophobia, and hatred—but the Dearborn police ensured their safety and routinely checked in on our neighbors.

For their courageous actions in the face of hate, Chief Haddad and the Dearborn Police Department are featured in an exhibit on post-9/11 policing at the National Law Enforcement Museum in Washington, D.C. Though Chief Haddad was working in Detroit on September 11th, he took it upon himself to work with area police departments to build relationships with the Arab American community and to do what was needed to protect them amidst rising hatred.

Chief Haddad became Dearborn's first Arab American police chief in 2008, as well as the first Arab American police chief in Michigan. He serves on several state and national advisory boards, including on the Law Enforcement Immigration Reform Commission.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Chief Ronald Haddad for his invaluable service to the Dearborn Police Department and for his lasting impact on our community following the events of September 11, 2001. Chief Haddad and the Dearborn Police Department are hardworking, everyday heroes that we are fortunate to have here in Michigan.

#### IN RECOGNITION OF THE SERVICE OF JAMES "HONDO" GEURTS

##### HON. MIKE GALLAGHER

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 14, 2021*

Mr. GALLAGHER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize James "Hondo" Geurts. After retiring from the Air Force as a colonel, Hondo served in the Senior Executive Service as United States Special Operations Command's Acquisition Executive as well as Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Research, Development and Acquisition. He is formally retiring again after continuing his faithful service by performing the duties of the Under Secretary of the Navy. He is not only an advocate for the hardworking men and women of Northeast Wisconsin, but also a dedicated patriot in service to his Nation.

During his more than 30 years of service, Hondo served for 22 years in uniform as acquisition program manager with engineering and in program management leadership positions in numerous weapon systems. As a defense civilian, Hondo served in all levels of defense-related acquisition leadership including Acquisition Executive, Program Executive Officer, and Program Manager of a variety of Major Defense Acquisition Programs to include ballistic missiles, surveillance platforms, tactical fighter aircraft, advanced avionics systems, stealth cruise missiles, training systems, and manned and unmanned special operations aircraft.

After retiring from the Air Force, Hondo served an additional 8 years as Acquisition Executive for USSOCOM and Assistant Sec-

retary of the Navy for Research, Development and Acquisition until Feb. 2021 when he was designated as performing the duties of the Under Secretary of the Navy.

Amidst his commitment as a service member, acquisitions leader, and performing the duties of Under Secretary of the Navy, his greatest contribution to both national security and to the people of Northeast Wisconsin has been his incredible work on the frigate program. Thanks to his uncommon skill and unparalleled dedication, the world is a safer place. I am incredibly thankful for his selfless and dedicated service.

Madam Speaker, I urge all members of this body to join me in applauding James "Hondo" Geurts for his patriotism and inspiring service to a grateful Nation.

#### REMEMBERING RONN MEREDITH

##### HON. TIM RYAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 14, 2021*

Mr. RYAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of my longtime friend, Ronn Meredith. I want to extend my deepest sympathies to his wife Marni, his children Cole, Ava and Reese, and the rest of his family. We know how heartbroken they are, and we all share in their grief of losing such a wonderful human being at such a young age. He truly loved Marni and their children with his entire being and his eyes twinkled whenever he spoke about them. I know he will continue to love his family night and day and his love will never fade away.

I first met Ronn in college as we were both members of the Delta tau Delta fraternity. To say Ronn was a big personality is an understatement. I can honestly say, in all my life, I never met anyone quite like Rondo. He was smart, had a great sense of humor, and unquestionably the best laugh in the business. His family and friends were always number 1, but his second love was Cleveland sports (which if you've followed sports for the last 50 years, wasn't always an easy task).

His energy was absolutely electric. He could express himself on such a wide array of subjects and was passionate about so many things, from golfing to the Grateful Dead. What's more is he could comfortably banter with CEO's on the links, as easily as he could jam out with a 75-year-old hippy at a live show. He could have fun with longtime friends or a new acquaintance; an old-timer or a little kid. They all loved him as he did them, because through him we could feel his lust for life. That's what made him unique. That is what made him special. But no matter who his company, these interchanges almost always ended with a lot of laughs and a room full of love. We all just wish we had one more Saturday night with him. One more chance to ramble on with Rondo.

It's hard to lose a guy like Ronn because he was always just so full of life. His cup was always full, and he made you feel like your cup was full too. He innately knew that the happiest people don't have the best of everything, they just make the best of everything. He drank from the fountain that was not made from the hands of men. He was special that way. He understood at a deep level that we

are all connected; that we are all tied to that song that the morning brings.

It's been difficult, to say the least, for those of us who loved him to come to grips with his passing. So many stories, so much fun. So many good times that we want to hold on to. But I believe God sometimes gives us people like Ronn, and takes them way to early, so that we remember more profoundly how they lived. So that we may take their best qualities and assimilate them into our lives. The real characteristic which I think we can take from Ronn, was that he just loved life in all its forms. His family, sports, work, music, and so much more. I can still see him dancing at concerts, bear hugging his people, and LOUDLY cheering on his favorite teams. Ronn loved it all and he did it with all of his heart.

Madam Speaker, it's our responsibility to take on Ronn's philosophy that we are all the eyes of the world. That we need to connect to that love Ronn embodied every day. We need to be excited about our lives and share our dreams with those around us. We need to love more, share more, care more. We need to ask ourselves, are we kind? We need to be that ripple even if the water is still.

So, we say fare thee well my brother, we love him more than words can say. Although he is not with us physically, he will forever be in our hearts. We here promise, his friends and family, that we will honor him and his amazing life, by being true to ourselves, compassionate to one another, and always, no matter what, enjoying the ride.

#### RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF TONY M. AUSTIN

#### HON. TRENT KELLY

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 14, 2021*

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life of Mr. Tony Austin who passed away on August 15. I join his family, friends, and loved ones in mourning his loss.

Tony was beloved by his community. He proudly served in the United States Army as

a Sergeant in the Korean war from 1950–1953. After returning he continued to serve his community as a Memphis police officer driving car #1 on Beale Street. He was affectionately known by his colleagues as Mr. Smiley.

In his free time, Mr. Austin enjoyed a round of golf, singing gospels, and playing the guitar. He was a father, grandfather, great-grandfather and a friend.

Mr. Austin was a fixture in his community and his legacy will be long remembered. I offer my most sincere condolences to all who had the opportunity to know and love him.

#### RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE AND SACRIFICE OF THE THORNTON FIRE DEPARTMENT

#### HON. JASON CROW

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 14, 2021*

Mr. CROW. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the service and sacrifice of the Thornton Fire Department in my district.

When COVID-19 vaccines became available, the city of Thornton jumped into action and tasked the Thornton Fire Department with administering vaccines to residents. Thornton Fire was uniquely qualified for this rollout as they had been providing mass COVID-19 testing during the pandemic.

As of this past June, Thornton Fire administered over 82,000 doses of the COVID-19 vaccine. These efforts went above and beyond their call of duty and drew in Coloradans from all over the state.

In late-April, the Congressional Fire Services Institute awarded Thornton Fire their "Fire Service-Based EMS Award," a highly coveted award that recognizes the work of the department in testing and vaccinating our community members and implementing a monitoring program for COVID-symptomatic firefighters.

I thank Thornton Fire for their service, sacrifice, and unfailing commitment to all Coloradans.

#### CELEBRATING WASHINGTON FIRE COMPANY NO. 2

#### HON. GREG PENCE

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 14, 2021*

Mr. PENCE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Washington Fire Company No. 2 of Madison, Indiana on its 175th anniversary.

Established on January 22, 1846, the firehouse is one of the last remaining Greek Revival firehouses in the United States. Washington Fire Company No. 2 is the oldest active firehouse in the Hoosier state.

I congratulate Washington Fire Company No. 2 and thank them for 175 years of service.

#### RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF MRS. FANNIE "CINDY" McCLAIN

#### HON. TRENT KELLY

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 14, 2021*

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life of Mrs. McClain who turns 100 years old on September 26, 2021. I congratulate her on a long and healthy life and decades of service to her community.

Mrs. McClain is a gifted seamstress. She is known for her ability to adapt any pattern and create something beautiful overnight. She was also an athlete with the Hernando Community Ladies Softball Team. She was a domestic worker and a seamstress at Minor France Dress Shop in Memphis before retiring.

Mrs. McClain was married to Mr. Cornelius Lloyd McClain and the mother of two sons, Alfred and Calvin. She is a lifelong member of Rising Sun Missionary Baptist Church in Hernando.

I am thrilled to wish Mrs. McClain a happy 100th birthday and offer my most sincere congratulations.

# Daily Digest

## Senate

### Chamber Action

*Routine Proceedings, pages S6463–S6514*

**Measures Introduced:** Twenty-three bills and eight resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 2726–2748, and S. Res. 357–364. **Pages S6497–98**

**Measures Reported:**

S. 1037, to provide for the establishment of a section of the website of the Department of Commerce that shall serve as the primary hub for information relating to Federal manufacturing programs, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. (S. Rept. No. 117–38) **Page S6497**

**Measures Passed:**

***Driftnet Modernization and Bycatch Reduction Act:*** Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation was discharged from further consideration of S. 273, to improve the management of driftnet fishing, and the bill was then passed, after agreeing to the following amendment thereto:

**Pages S6480–81**

Schumer (for Feinstein) Amendment No. 3827, to amend the fees provision. **Pages S6480–81**

***Reinforcing American-Made Products Act:*** Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation was discharged from further consideration of S. 297, to make exclusive the authority of the Federal Government to regulate the labeling of products made in the United States and introduced in interstate or foreign commerce, and the bill was then passed.

**Page S6481**

***Commending Hamilton-class Coast Guard cutters:*** Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation was discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 315, commending the service of Hamilton-class Coast Guard cutters and the officers and crew who served on them, and the resolution was then agreed to.

**Pages S6481–82**

***PCOS Awareness Month:*** Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions was discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 325, recognizing the seriousness of polycystic ovary syndrome (PCOS) and expressing support for the designation of September

2021 as “PCOS Awareness Month”, and the resolution was then agreed to. **Page S6482**

***National Ataxia Awareness Day:*** Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions was discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 339, expressing support for the designation of September 25, 2021, as “National Ataxia Awareness Day”, and raising awareness of ataxia, ataxia research, and the search for a cure, and the resolution was then agreed to, after agreeing to the following amendment proposed thereto: **Page S6482**

Schumer (for Murphy/Hyde-Smith) Amendment No. 3828, to amend the preamble. **Page S6482**

***National Student Parent Month:*** Senate agreed to S. Res. 362, expressing the support of the Senate for the contributions and achievements of student parents and recognizing September 2021 as National Student Parent Month. **Page S6482**

***School Bus Safety Month:*** Senate agreed to S. Res. 363, designating September 2021 as “School Bus Safety Month”. **Pages S6482–83**

**Rossman Nomination—Agreement:** By 51 yeas to 44 nays (Vote No. EX. 365), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination of Veronica S. Rossman, of Colorado, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Tenth Circuit.

**Pages S6479–80**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that the post-cloture time on the nomination be considered expired, and that at 5:30 p.m., on Monday, September 20, 2021, Senate vote on confirmation of the nomination. **Page S6480**

**Strickland Nomination—Cloture:** Senate began consideration of the nomination of Margaret Irene Strickland, to be United States District Judge for the District of New Mexico. **Page S6480**

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, and pursuant to the unanimous-consent agreement of Tuesday, September 14, 2021, a vote on cloture will occur at 11:30 a.m., on Tuesday, September 21, 2021. **Page S6480**



Prior to the consideration of this nomination, Senate took the following action:

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Legislative Session. **Page S6480**

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination. **Page S6480**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the nomination at approximately 11 a.m., on Wednesday, September 15, 2021. **Page S6506**

**Nominations Confirmed:** Senate confirmed the following nominations:

By 58 yeas to 37 nays (Vote No. EX. 360), James Richard Kvaal, of Massachusetts, to be Under Secretary of Education. **Pages S6466–72**

By 54 yeas to 41 nays (Vote No. EX. 362), David G. Estudillo, of Washington, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Washington. **Pages S6472–73, S6473–74**

During consideration of this nomination today, Senate also took the following action:

By 52 yeas to 42 nays (Vote No. EX. 361), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination. **Pages S6472–73**

By 52 yeas to 44 nays (Vote No. EX. 364), Angel Kelley, of Massachusetts, to be United States District Judge for the District of Massachusetts. **Pages S6474–78, S6479**

During consideration of this nomination today, Senate also took the following action:

By 52 yeas to 43 nays (Vote No. EX. 363), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination. **Page S6474**

**Nominations Received:** Senate received the following nominations:

Routine lists in the Army, Coast Guard, and Navy. **Pages S6508–14**

**Messages from the House:** **Page S6496**

**Measures Read the First Time:** **Pages S6480, S6496**

**Executive Communications:** **Page S6496**

**Additional Cosponsors:** **Pages S6498–S6500**

**Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:** **Pages S6500–03**

**Additional Statements:** **Page S6495**

**Amendments Submitted:** **Page S6506**

**Authorities for Committees to Meet:** **Page S6506**

**Record Votes:** Six record votes were taken today. (Total—365) **Pages S6472–74, S6479–80**

**Adjournment:** Senate convened at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 6:37 p.m., until 11 a.m. on Wednesday, September 15, 2021. (For Senate's program, see the

remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on page S6508.)

## Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

### AFGHANISTAN

*Committee on Armed Services:* Committee received a closed briefing on recent events in Afghanistan from General Austin Scott Miller, former Commander of U.S. Forces-Afghanistan.

### SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION OVERSIGHT

*Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs:* Committee concluded an oversight hearing to examine the Securities and Exchange Commission, including S. 354, to reauthorize funding to the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority contingent on improvements to the governance and operations of the Transit Authority, S. 1815, to amend the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to require issuers to disclose to the Securities and Exchange Commission information regarding workforce management policies, practices, and performance, S. 1217, to amend the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to require certain disclosures relating to climate change, and S. 808, to amend the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to promote transparency in the oversight of cybersecurity risks at publicly traded companies, after receiving testimony from Gary Gensler, Chair, Securities and Exchange Commission.

### AFGHANISTAN

*Committee on Foreign Relations:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine the United States withdrawal from Afghanistan, after receiving testimony from Antony J. Blinken, Secretary of State.

### NOMINATIONS

*Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Tovah R. Calderon, to be an Associate Judge of the District of Columbia Court of Appeals, and Kenia Seoane Lopez, Rupa Ranga Puttagunta, and Sean C. Staples, each to be an Associate Judge of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

### NOMINATIONS

*Committee on the Judiciary:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Beth Robinson, of Vermont, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Second Circuit, who was introduced by Senators Leahy and Sanders, Jennifer Sung, of Oregon,

to be United States Circuit Judge for the Ninth Circuit, who was introduced by Senators Wyden and Merkley, Rahul Gupta, of West Virginia, to be Director of National Drug Control Policy, who was introduced by Senators Manchin and Capito, and Elizabeth Prelogar, of Idaho, to be Solicitor General of the United States, Department of Justice, after the

nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

## INTELLIGENCE

*Select Committee on Intelligence:* Committee met in closed session to receive a briefing on certain intelligence matters from officials of the intelligence community.

# House of Representatives

## Chamber Action

**Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced:** 25 public bills, H.R. 5243–5267; and 13 resolutions, H.J. Res. 58; H. Con. Res. 50; and H. Res. 636–646, were introduced. **Pages H4522–24**

**Additional Cosponsors:** **Page H4525**

**Reports Filed:** Reports were filed today as follows:

H.R. 4089, to direct the Secretary of Homeland Security to develop and disseminate best practices for rental companies and dealers to report suspicious behavior to law enforcement agencies at the point of sale of a covered rental vehicle to prevent and mitigate acts of terrorism using motor vehicles, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 117–119);

H.R. 4611, to direct the Secretary of Homeland Security to issue guidance with respect to certain information and communications technology or services contracts, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 117–120);

H.R. 4363, to establish a daily public reporting requirement for covered contract awards of the Department of Homeland Security, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 117–121); and

H.R. 4691, to establish a K–12 education cybersecurity initiative, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 117–122). **Page H4522**

**Speaker:** Read a letter from the Speaker wherein she appointed Representative Sarbanes to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. **Page H4521**

**Communication from the Committee on Ethics:** Read a communication from the Committee on Ethics regarding a fine imposed upon Representative Greene (GA) pursuant to H. Res. 38, for which she did not file an appeal. **Page H4521**

**Communication from the Committee on Ethics:** Read a communication from the Committee on Ethics regarding a fine imposed upon Representative

Roy pursuant to H. Res. 38, for which he did not file an appeal. **Page H4521**

**Quorum Calls—Votes:** There were no yea-and-nay votes, and there were no recorded votes. There were no quorum calls.

**Adjournment:** The House met at 11 a.m. and adjourned at 11:04 a.m.

## Committee Meetings

### MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

*Committee on Energy and Commerce:* Full Committee continued a markup on legislative recommendations to comply with the reconciliation directive included in section 2002 of the Concurrent Resolution on the Budget for Fiscal Year 2022, S. Con. Res. 14.

### MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

*Committee on Financial Services:* Full Committee concluded a markup on H.R. 5196, the “Expediting Assistance to Renters and Landlords Act of 2021”; H.R. 5195, the “Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Reauthorization Act of 2021”; and the Committee Print providing for reconciliation pursuant to S. Con. Res. 14, the Concurrent Resolution on the Budget for Fiscal Year 2022. H.R. 5196, H.R. 5195, and the Committee Print providing for reconciliation pursuant to S. Con. Res. 14, the Concurrent Resolution on the Budget for Fiscal Year 2022 were ordered reported, as amended.

### MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

*Committee on Homeland Security:* Full Committee held a markup on legislative proposals to comply with the reconciliation directive included in section 2002 of the Concurrent Resolution on the Budget for Fiscal Year 2022, S. Con. Res. 14. Legislative proposals to comply with the reconciliation directive included in section 2002 of the Concurrent Resolution on the Budget for Fiscal Year 2022, S. Con. Res. 14, were ordered reported, as amended.

**NATIONAL SMALL BUSINESS WEEK:  
CELEBRATING OUR MAIN STREET  
CHAMPIONS**

*Committee on Small Business:* Full Committee held a hearing entitled “National Small Business Week: Celebrating our Main Street Champions”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

**MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES**

*Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure:* Full Committee began a markup on legislative proposals to comply with the reconciliation directive included in section 2002 of the Concurrent Resolution on the Budget for Fiscal Year 2022, S. Con. Res. 14.

**MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES**

*Committee on Ways and Means:* Full Committee continued a markup on Legislative proposals to comply with the reconciliation directive included in section 2002 of the Concurrent Resolution on the Budget for Fiscal Year 2022, S. Con. Res. 14.

## *Joint Meetings*

No joint committee meetings were held.

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**COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR WEDNESDAY,  
SEPTEMBER 15, 2021**

*(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)*

**Senate**

*Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry:* Subcommittee on Livestock, Dairy, Poultry, Local Food Systems, and Food Safety and Security, to hold hearings to examine milk pricing, focusing on areas for improvement and reform, 9:30 a.m., SR-301.

*Committee on Environment and Public Works:* to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Amanda Howe, of Virginia, and David M. Uhlmann, of Michigan, both to be an Assistant Administrator, and Carlton Waterhouse, of Virginia, to be Assistant Administrator, Office of Solid Waste, all of the Environmental Protection Agency, 10 a.m., SD-406.

*Committee on Foreign Relations:* to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Julieta Valls Noyes, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary (Population, Refugees, and Migration), Denise Campbell Bauer, of California, to be Ambassador to the French Republic, and to serve concur-

rently and without additional compensation as Ambassador to the Principality of Monaco, Julianne Smith, of Michigan, to be United States Permanent Representative on the Council of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, with the rank and status of Ambassador, and Barbara A. Leaf, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary (Near Eastern Affairs), all of the Department of State, and other pending nominations, 10:30 a.m., SD-G50/VTC.

Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the nominations of C.S. Eliot Kang, of New Jersey, to be an Assistant Secretary (International Security and Non-Proliferation), Adam Scheinman, of Virginia, to be Special Representative of the President for Nuclear Nonproliferation, with the rank of Ambassador, Marcia Stephens Bloom Bernicat, of New Jersey, to be Director General of the Foreign Service, Bathsheba Nell Crocker, of the District of Columbia, to be Representative of the United States of America to the Office of the United Nations and Other International Organizations in Geneva, with the rank of Ambassador, and Michael Carpenter, of the District of Columbia, to be U.S. Representative to the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, all of the Department of State, 2:30 p.m., VTC.

*Committee on the Judiciary:* business meeting to consider S. 1787, to amend title 28 of the United States Code to prevent the transfer of actions arising under the antitrust laws in which a State is a complainant, S. 2502, to provide first-time, low-level, nonviolent simple possession offenders an opportunity to expunge that conviction after successful completion of court-imposed probation, and the nominations of Toby J. Heytens, of Virginia, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Fourth Circuit, Patricia Tolliver Giles, and Michael S. Nachmanoff, both to be a United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Virginia, Sarala Vidya Nagala, and Omar Antonio Williams, both to be a United States District Judge for the District of Connecticut, and Hampton Y. Dellinger, of North Carolina, to be an Assistant Attorney General, Department of Justice, 9:45 a.m., SH-216.

Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the Inspector General's report on the Federal Bureau of Investigation's handling of the Larry Nassar investigation, 10 a.m., SH-216.

**House**

*Committee on Ways and Means:* Full Committee, continue markup on Legislative proposals to comply with the reconciliation directive included in section 2002 of the Concurrent Resolution on the Budget for Fiscal Year 2022, S. Con. Res. 14, 9 a.m., 1100 Longworth and Webex.

*Next Meeting of the SENATE*

11 a.m., Wednesday, September 15

## Senate Chamber

**Program for Wednesday:** Senate will continue consideration of the nomination of Margaret Irene Strickland, to be United States District Judge for the District of New Mexico.

*Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES*

10 a.m., Friday, September 17

## House Chamber

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

## Extensions of Remarks, as inserted in this issue

## HOUSE

Axne, Cynthia, Iowa, E976  
Crow, Jason, Col., E978  
Dingell, Debbie, Mich., E977

Estes, Ron, Kans., E975  
Gallagher, Mike, Wisc., E977  
Kelly, Trent, Miss., E975, E975, E977, E978, E978  
Larson, John B., Conn., E975  
Pence, Greg, Ind., E978

Ryan, Tim, Ohio, E977  
Speier, Jackie, Calif., E976  
Welch, Peter, Vt., E976  
Wittman, Robert J., Va., E975



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