United States of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 117th CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 167 WASHINGTON, TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2021 No. 199

House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. CÁRDENAS).

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
November 16, 2021.

I hereby appoint the honorable TONY CÁRDENAS to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 4, 2021, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning-hour debate.

The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties, with time equally allocated between the parties and each Member other than the majority and minority leaders and the minority whip limited to 5 minutes, but in no event shall debate continue beyond 11:50 a.m.

REAL 21ST CENTURY GROWTH

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Connecticut (Mr. COURTNEY) for 5 minutes.

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, yesterday, November 15, at about 3 o'clock in the afternoon, President Biden signed into law the bipartisan infrastructure bill, which, for a lot of us who have been serving around here, was an incredibly gratifying and important moment in terms of really finally getting this country ahead of the curve in terms of critical investments for infrastructure.

Last Wednesday night, I held a telephone townhall on the infrastructure bill because the House had passed the measure on November 5. We had 7,000 people on the call who were either on the phone or streaming in. Lots of questions, lots of excitement. Connecticut is obviously a State that has been settled really since the origins of our Nation and has some of the oldest infrastructure in the country.

Mr. Speaker, I would note, however, that some of the questions that came in said, Well, only 10 percent of the bill is for hard infrastructure, for surface transportation. What's up with that?

And I was joined by Don Shubert, who is the executive director of the Connecticut Construction Industries Association, who was quick to jump into the call and point out the fact that if you step back and look at this bill, it is a continuation of the last infrastructure bill which passed in 2015, the FAST Act, which passed on a bipartisan basis and was signed into law by President Obama, and was extended twice by President Trump.

Again, that baseline was kind of keeping the lights on for infrastructure. It was not, however, getting us ahead of the curve in terms of the changes that are happening in other countries around the world. And with the new money that was included in the bipartisan infrastructure bill, we are seeing a huge increase, both in roads and bridges, but also in rail, also in the electric grid, also in broadband, which is now critical for any economic development for small communities to be able to tell companies and businesses that they have high speed internet.

So what does that mean in terms of the State of Connecticut? It means that the roads and the bridges—which again is a big focus—got a 32 percent increase in terms of the State's allotment, which will flow through the State's Department of Transportation.

Some of the old bridges in our State—again, the largest vehicle bridge is the Gold Star Bridge, which is part of the I–95 corridor, has been getting a pounding since it was built in 1943. The northbound lane right now, quite frankly, is so compromised that large trucks are basically not given permits to travel across that bridge. Again, it is part of the Interstate Highway System. It is a $250 million job.

This bill will make sure that that funding is there. It is a project labor agreement, so it is going to be union labor and apprenticeship programs incorporated into the work that is there.

Again, there are countless other small bridges, medium-size bridges in the district. There is a swing bridge over the Connecticut River in East Haddam, Connecticut, that was built 108 years ago that breaks down, interferes with boat traffic going up and down the Connecticut River, that now has got full funding and is slated for repairs.

Also, in terms of the rail piece, which is separate from roads and bridges, $66 billion, a big investment in the Northeast Corridor. Across the Connecticut River, there is the Old Saybrook Bridge, which is 114 years old. Anyone who sails underneath it and sees, again, how fragile the supports are for that bridge, it is screaming out for repairs. That project now will be fully funded as a result of this legislation.

The Coast Guard Academy, which is in New London, Connecticut, is going to get $53 million to repair the barracks and the dormitories. Again, anyone looking at the age of those buildings, which some of our future leaders for the Coast Guard are going to school there, is getting a long overdue upgrade. As well as a city pier in New London where the USS *Eagle*—which is the proud sort of flagship of the U.S. Coast Guard—will now be able to tie up to modern infrastructure that is there.

Printed on recycled paper.

There is a host of other smaller projects in Tolland and Windham Counties that are included in this package. Again, I would emphasize that the total funding amount is not what some of the stuff that is out there in the media in terms of small fractions for hard infrastructure. The fact is when you incorporate the FAST Act baseline that was passed in 2015, along with the bipartisan infrastructure funding on top of it, the roads and bridges is close to 40 percent of the package. It also includes increasing and boosting the electric grid; which as we convert to electric vehicle passenger traffic, as we convert to offshore wind, which is going to be transmitting voltage to the coastline, we need to have a stronger grid.

All of that is good jobs that is going to be, again, built-in, baked-in over the next five years. It is not going to create inflationary pressures because of the fact that, again, it is spread out over a period of time.

It was a great day for our country. We came together on a bipartisan basis to get this done and now we are ready for a real 21st century growth that will be beneficial to all communities large and small.

AMERICA'S ECONOMIC FIRESTORM

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas (Mr. ARRINGTON) for 5 minutes.

Mr. ARRINGTON. Mr. Speaker, I can't for the life of me understand why my Democrat colleagues insist on passing this multitrillion-dollar monstrosity of a tax-and-spend bill that not only I, but the American people believe will be an economic and societal disaster on so many levels.

Mr. Speaker, the American people have spoken in countless polls and surveys and elections, not just in Virginia, New York, and New Jersey, but in my State of Texas where House seats have flipped from Democrat to Republican for the first time ever. As recent as last week, a Democrat changed parties to Republican because they cannot explain the current policies that are destructive to the ends of recovery and support the American people's freedom and our way of life.

They said as clearly as they can: No more Big Government control over our lives. That is what they said in Virginia. No more socialist spending our country into bankruptcy. No more growing the government at the expense of our freedoms and our children's future.

Mr. Speaker, Virginia, a blue State, one-third of the electorate said the economy was their number one issue. Biden won that by 10 points. They voted for a Republican Governor. Two-thirds of the American people in recent polls have said that the Biden economic plans are bad and they have no confidence in his policies. They connect his policies with the current economic conditions. The majority of Americans attribute the inflation to Biden's failed policies, just like they do the disastrous border and the debacle in Afghanistan and in the generic ballot. The generic ballot among registered voters, there is a 10-point spread, if the elections were held today, between Democrats and Republicans. That is the highest in 40 years ever recorded.

The American people are speaking and they are crying out to their country's leaders: Relent. Relent. But they have made the connection between the policies and the disastrous effects in their lives and in the life of their country.

Enhanced employment benefits, in other words, paying people more to be on unemployment than to be at work, coupled with wasteful partisan multitrillion-dollar spending packages under the guise of COVID relief have created an economic firestorm, runaway inflation.

Real wages, 7 of the 9 months this President has been in office, have gone down. Real wages have gone down. There has been an inflation surge to the point of double-digit inflation in the last month, which have put us, over the year, at a 30-year high.

Gas prices are up 50 percent. We are almost a million jobs short of what President Biden promised as a result of that blue State bailout that he called COVID relief. This is the solution that the Democrats are offering.

Let's raise prices even more and lower wages by taxing the American people.

Let's further extend our recession by chasing jobs overseas and putting the highest tax rates in the developed world on the job creators of the United States of America.

Let's burden small businesses with higher taxes and less people willing to work.

Let's drive labor participation further down by removing the work requirement.

Let's trap more people in poverty and the cycle of dependency on government by removing the incentives to work.

Let's wipe out 20 or 30 percent of the workforce by thrusting a Big Government mandate that is unconstitutional, overreaching, and would destroy any prospects for recovery.

Mr. Speaker, this was supposed to be about income inequality, but if you read the tax bill—and I don't know how my progressive colleagues can look the American people in the eyes with a straight face and say that this is not a swampy, special-interest package of the century, because they have tax breaks for the wealthy by raising the SALT deductions. They give tax breaks to green industry, to unions, to plaintiffs' attorneys, to media corporations. That is all legitimate. That is all true.

If you look close enough, that is what this is about. Not to mention they stuffed the stocking with early Christmas presents for progressives and political allies of the Democratic Party—amnesty for 8 million people while our southern border is melting down; unionization of every employee, every employer, every State in the country; Obamacare subsidies for people making hundreds of thousands of dollars.

Mr. Speaker, the list is too long. I implore my Democrat colleagues to relent and stop this. Let's get back to work on behalf of the American people.

HONORING THE MEMORY OF BATOUL ALFADAWI

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Michigan (Ms. TLAIB) for 5 minutes.

Ms. TLAIB. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the memory of Batoul Alfadawi, a resident of Dearborn Heights in Michigan's 13th District.

Her life was tragically cut short at the age of 6 years old from a hit-and-run. Batoul was a sweet girl with a beautiful soul. She had a huge enthusiasm for life and a joyful spirit. Batoul loved learning, spending time with her family, and playing with her friends. I know her parents and six siblings will miss her immensely.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in paying tribute to the memory of Batoul, and please say a prayer for her family.

HONORING LIEUTENANT COLONEL ALEXANDER JEFFERSON

Ms. TLAIB. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in tribute to Lieutenant Colonel Alexander Jefferson whose heroic service as a Tuskegee Airman in World War II was recognized earlier this week in the rededication ceremony of Jefferson Field in our district.

I was proud to be there in his presence. It was also his 100th birthday. He is a graduate of Detroit public schools, like myself. Lieutenant Colonel Alexander Jefferson pursued a military career and completed pilot training at the Tuskegee Army Airfield.

As a fighter pilot with the Red Tail, 332nd Fighter Group 301st Fighter Squadron, his unit escorted bombers headfirst into the action, bravely providing protection from vicious enemy aircraft. They never lost a single plane.

Mr. Speaker, on August 12, 1944, Jefferson was shot down and captured by the Germans and kept as a prisoner of war for 9 months. Liberated by American forces on the 29th of April 1945 and discharged from Active Duty in 1947, he retired from the Reserves in 1969.

After serving, Lieutenant Colonel Jefferson then became a science teacher in Detroit, where he then retired in 1979. At his ceremony, my teacher in high school came up to me and said he was very proud of the accomplishment I had. He said, Guess what, Lieutenant Jefferson was my science teacher and my elementary teacher, and now seeing you up there, I know that he was part of creating that seed and creating more leadership and really strength within the city of Detroit.

Mr. Speaker, he has received numerous awards for his bravery, and I am

truly honored to recognize Lieutenant Colonel Alexander Jefferson on his celebration of service to our country. It was his 100th birthday. We sang happy birthday to him, and he danced along with many of us, even in the crisp cold in the city of Detroit, in the middle of the field.

□ 1015

RECOGNIZING HASSAN JABER

Ms. TLAIB. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize numerous contributions of Hassan Jaber to the communities of Wayne County, Michigan, as he retires after more than 40 years of service to ACCESS.

During his time in ACCESS, Hassan Jaber has been a leader in expanding its programming to include more than 100 platforms in 10 locations to assist residents across the region.

He has created partnerships locally and nationally to advocate for policy initiatives to fight bigotry, advance civil rights, and create a better quality of life for immigrants and other vulnerable populations.

I know Hassan Jaber personally. With every obstacle, he never wavered in leading with compassion and keeping the community at the center of his work.

Hassan Jaber's leadership and forward-thinking approach have solidified his legacy as a community leader. His mentorship helped me grow into the passionate advocate I am today.

Please join me in recognizing Hassan Jaber's work on behalf of residents of Michigan's 13th Congressional District and southeastern Michigan as we wish him well on the next chapter in his life.

RECOGNIZING EDWARD LONGENECKER ON HIS 100TH BIRTHDAY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas (Mr. CLOUD) for 5 minutes.

Mr. CLOUD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Edward Longenecker and wish him a happy 100th birthday.

Mr. Longenecker is a World War II veteran who has a steadfast love and devotion to God, his family, and his country.

He is from my hometown of Victoria, Texas. Today, we honor him for his service to the United States Army Air Corps as a radio operator and nose gunner on the B–24 bomber in the 451st Bomb Group, 726th Squadron.

During World War II, on July 14, 1944, he and his fellow airmen traveled to Petfurdo, Hungary, for their 29th combat mission. What they expected to be a routine mission was anything but when they began to receive anti-aircraft fire that took out two of the aircraft's engines. From the nose gunner position, he received word that they were dropping elevation very quickly. The pilot made the call urging everyone to jump. Mr. Longenecker headed to the flight deck to retrieve his parachute.

On the flight deck, he saw his ball gunner about to jump and gave him a good luck salute. Then Mr. Longenecker jumped.

Everyone who jumped before him was captured, but he landed on top of a hill and began taking on heavy fire from Yugoslav soldiers that were sympathetic to the Germans.

He made his way to a nearby forest line, crawled under a briar bush, and stayed under that bush until nightfall. That first night, he slept near a lake. The second night, he stayed in a pile of hay where he could hear a group of people playing the guitar and singing. To him, this was one of the most beautiful sounds he had heard simply because there wasn't a sign of war anywhere.

On the third day, he ran out of the wood cover and met a young boy. This boy took him to a nearby village where he ate, bathed, and rested. Eventually, Mr. Longenecker was taken to a house where an American lieutenant was waiting. Upon his safe arrival, he was informed that he had miraculously walked through an active minefield unscathed.

It is incredible to think how his life could have been cut short, but it has lasted these 100 years.

After serving in the military, Ed Longenecker became an electrical engineer and lived a long, full life, married to his wife, Marie, for 59 years until she passed in 2006. He has two daughters, five grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren. I know many of them, and they are a precious, honorable family, truly a legacy.

Edward Longenecker is a true American hero, and we are indebted to him for his great service to our Nation. It is an honor to celebrate his life today. I hope he has a wonderful 100th birthday.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF NORMA FINK ON HER 100TH BIRTHDAY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida (Mr. DEUTCH) for 5 minutes.

Mr. DEUTCH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an extraordinary trailblazer, philanthropist, and public servant in south Florida, Mrs. Norma Fink, on her 100th birthday.

Born Norma Mager, in the Bronx, New York, on November 16, 1921, Norma has spent a century giving back to those around her. In 1942, Norma graduated from New York University with a bachelor's degree in economics and a minor in geology, the only woman to graduate with that honor at the time.

Shortly after, she put her degree to work by joining the Department of War to assist with the military supply chain while her husband, Robert Fink, served in our Nation's Armed Forces during World War II.

After the war, Norma worked in her father's bakery, Mager and Throne Bread Bakery. During this time, she became enamored with jazz music and made friends with many local musicians who were involved with the civil rights movement. Inspired by their work, Norma began contributing the money she made to support civil rights initiatives in the South. This became an ongoing passion of hers.

After moving to Plantation, Florida, in 1972, Norma continued her legacy of supporting the enrichment of the community by joining the city's Parks and Recreation Department, where she still works at the age of 100.

Additionally, she began spending her time and money supporting local charities. Following the loss of her daughter, Marian, to breast cancer in 2002, Norma dedicated herself to helping others suffering from cancer.

Norma's spirit of persistence, generosity, and service to her community is an inspiration to all of us in south Florida. It is an inspiration to generations of Americans.

To honor her legacy, the city of Plantation, her home for nearly half a century, has designated Norma Fink Day in honor of the oldest and longest part-time employee in that city's history.

I join the entire south Florida community in wishing Norma Fink a happy 100th birthday surrounded by her loved ones. I thank her for her dedication to bettering the lives of everyone in south Florida.

MAKING HISTORY WITH BIPARTISAN INFRASTRUCTURE BILL

Mr. DEUTCH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the historic day yesterday in this Nation's history.

The legislation that the President signed into law was overwhelmingly bipartisan in the Senate, and it was overwhelmingly supported by the American people. Why? Because it is the largest dedicated bridge investment since the construction of the Interstate Highway System. It is the largest investment in public transit and passenger rail since the creation of Amtrak.

It expands broadband to every corner of our country so that every American has access to reliable, high-speed internet.

It secures clean water, making the largest investment in clean drinking water and wastewater infrastructure in American history.

This is what we have been clamoring for, in a bipartisan way, as long as I have been serving in this Congress. Yesterday, President Biden delivered. He did it with the bipartisan support of the Senate and the overwhelming support of the American people.

Unfortunately, in this Chamber, my colleagues on the other side view any sort of bipartisan effort like that as too difficult to support, too difficult to stand with the Republicans and Democrats in the Senate, too difficult to stand with Democrats here, and too difficult, apparently, to stand with the America people in moving forward with a massive infrastructure plan that will help strengthen every community across our country.

Mr. Speaker, I am so proud that this House joined with the Senate in sending this legislation to President Biden.

Yesterday, as I said, was a historic day as President Biden signed the infrastructure bill into law and as we move forward to the Build Back Better Act.

Again, I note for my colleagues here, this too is so popular throughout America because everyone understands that if we invest in the American people, if we take the kind of action that is necessary to lower healthcare costs and childcare costs, provide universal pre-K, and make investments to combat climate change that we will be making America more competitive on the global stage, something that my colleagues in this Chamber often talk about.

I hope that they will recognize the opportunity to do exactly that in passing the Build Back Better Act when we vote on it this week.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF BERNARD MARIE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. CLINE) for 5 minutes.

Mr. CLINE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Bernard Marie, who recently passed away at the age of 82.

As a young 5-year-old living in Normandy, France, Marie often told the story of being rushed into his basement by his grandparents in the early morning of June 6, 1944.

It was there that his family sat for 16 hours in the dark without food or water before his mother emerged from the cellar to hug an American GI after realizing their village had finally been liberated from German occupation.

Marie said that witnessing the D-Day invasion instilled in him a lifelong respect for World War II veterans, and he was forever grateful for those who secured his country's freedom.

Later in life, when he moved to the United States, he began hosting an annual luncheon to honor local World War II veterans wherever he was living to show his support for them and their families.

When he settled in Roanoke, Virginia, in 2021, he brought the event with him. These luncheons served as a place for veterans to come together and share their experiences—some for the first time.

Aside from the luncheons, Marie helped raise money for the National D-Day Memorial in Bedford. He sat at the bedside of servicemembers when they were ill. He even worked to award the French Legion of Honor medal to nearly 150 American veterans. He said that his goal was not only to honor these heroes but to ensure they were never forgotten.

I was terribly saddened to learn of Mr. Marie's passing. He meant a great deal to western Virginia, and he will not soon be forgotten.

IMPACT OF INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENT AND JOBS ACT ON NEVADA

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Nevada (Mrs. LEE) for 5 minutes.

Mrs. LEE of Nevada. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak about the tremendous impact that the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act will have on my home State of Nevada.

Nevada was ground zero for the pandemic, and its effects were especially felt by the travel and tourism industry, which employs tens of thousands of Nevadans and brings in the bulk of the State's revenue each year.

Now that President Biden has signed the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act into law, our leading industries in Nevada and Nevada families can take part in the economic opportunities and the thousands of jobs that this bill promises.

Nevada is slated to receive $2.5 billion for highway investments like the I–15 corridor between Las Vegas and LA, the I–11 corridor between Las Vegas and Phoenix, and $459 million for public transportation.

This means that not only can Nevada families get to work and school safely and more efficiently but that millions of our visitors each year can more easily experience everything that our State has to offer.

Nevada will also get a minimum of $100 million to expand access to broadband across the State, meaning that no Nevadan will be left behind.

Nevada also has been ground zero for the effects of the climate crisis as we continue to face the effects of severe drought.

With the passage of my water recycling infrastructure bill, included in this, Nevada will now be more equipped to mitigate the effects of climate change and ensure that our communities have continuous access to safe, clean drinking water for years to come.

Nevada is only able to reap all of these benefits because Congress was able to put politics aside and work together to come up with sensible solutions to create a better future for our Nation. We cannot stop there.

It is critical that we continue to work side by side to pass the Build Back Better agenda and make sure that American families don't just recover from this pandemic but that they prosper moving forward.

□ 1030

HONORING THE CAREER OF WAYNE MAHAR

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York (Mr. KATKO) for 5 minutes.

Mr. KATKO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the celebrated career of Wayne Mahar as he prepares to retire after 36 years of weather forecasting in central New York.

Wayne is one of the most recognizable and trusted weather forecasters in central New York. When planning a hike, barbecue, tailgate, or family outing, central New Yorkers have relied on Wayne to share the weather for nearly four decades.

Originally from Brunswick, Maine, Wayne Mahar began his career working for the National Weather Service. From there, he founded Precision Weather Service, a private weather consulting firm that builds forecasts for major events like the Major League Baseball All-Star Game, the Super Bowl, and red carpet events.

In 1985 Wayne joined the CNY, Central New York, broadcast team in Syracuse, becoming the first full-time meteorologist in central New York. Here he brought a new level of seriousness to the profession by utilizing computer models and hard science to make his forecasts. Through this approach Wayne became known for accuracy, reliability, and his outdoor broadcasts from the CNY Central Weather Deck.

An expert on severe weather events, Wayne was also there to deliver critical, lifesaving information to families during some of the most historic weather events in central New York, including the great blizzard of 1993 and the 1998 Labor Day storm.

Outside of forecasting, Wayne has been a prominent fixture in our community. He is an avid hockey player, hosts regular workshops for young, aspiring meteorologists, and in 2008 he founded the Priscilla Mahar Animal Welfare Foundation. The nonprofit organization was named after his late mother and champions animal welfare causes, raising over a quarter of a million dollars for local animal rescues.

For nearly four decades, families like mine have turned to Wayne Mahar when we want to know if there will be sun, rain, sleet, or just another day of lake-effect snow. While he will be dearly missed on our televisions, central New Yorkers can rest assured they will continue to see him.

When he is not spending time with his children and grandchildren, Wayne has promised he will remain an active part of our community. Personally, I am glad to hear that because I still have not had the opportunity yet to putter a few pucks at him while he stands in the hockey goal, but I am going to do that before too long.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues in the House join me in honoring Wayne Mahar for an incredible career in weather forecasting and wishing him the best in his well-deserved retirement.

REMEMBERING THE LIFE OF MAX CLELAND

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. CARTER) for 5 minutes.

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with a heavy heart to remember and honor the life of former Georgia Secretary of State and United States Senator Max Cleland. Max was a

political giant in Georgia, dedicating his life to the service of others.

A disabled war veteran of the Vietnam era, Max worked tirelessly to improve the Veterans Administration to help his fellow soldiers. Committed to helping others, Max made it his mission to help our veterans most in need and suffering from mental and physical disorders. As a pharmacist, I am able to personally appreciate his work to make lifesaving medicines more easily available.

His dedication and service to his community and country will not go unnoticed. I am thankful for Max's lifetime of dedicated service, and I know his legacy will live on forever.

My thoughts and prayers are with his family, friends, and all who knew him during this most difficult time.

OGLETHORPE SPEEDWAY PARK CLOSING

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to reflect upon the closing of the great Oglethorpe Speedway Park in Pooler, Georgia.

The Oglethorpe Speedway Park opened in March of 1951 and has hosted some of the most exciting weekends for race fans ever since. Sadly, Oglethorpe Speedway Park will be closing its operations for good.

This speedway has become a home for its employees and fans alike such as Darlene Nerich, who has worked each season and every weekend since April 1, 2000. Darlene's daughter took her senior prom pictures and had her wedding at the track so that her mother could continue her streak. Geraldine Jenkins has been attending races since 1951 when she was 14 and has hardly missed a race.

Georgians are collectively mourning the loss of this beloved landmark and the memories it holds. We are sad to see it go, but we are excited for what may come next.

REMEMBERING MONSIGNOR WILLIAM OLIVER O'NEILL

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with a heavy heart to remember and honor the life of the Reverend Monsignor William Oliver O'Neill of St. John the Baptist Cathedral in Savannah.

Reverend O'Neill served the people of Savannah for 46 years until his retirement in 2013. He served six churches in his time in Savannah and spent much of his time preserving the history of the church in the city.

Reverend O'Neill oversaw and managed the $11 million restoration of the Cathedral Basilica of St. John the Baptist in Savannah that was completed in 2000. In 2003, Reverend O'Neill successfully stopped an armed arsonist from damaging the church by telling him: Don't point that gun at me. I will knock your head off.

He removed smoldering cushions from the bishop's chair and a burning Bible from the pulpit as the arsonist looked on. Reverend O'Neill returned, intent on fighting the fire with a fire extinguisher before police stopped him and firefighters arrived.

He was the image of service to others and love for God. My thoughts and prayers are with his friends and family through this difficult time.

CELEBRATING WILLIE MAE HUBBARD-WRIGHT'S 103RD BIRTHDAY

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 103rd birthday of Willie Mae Hubbard-Wright of Liberty County.

Born on November 4, 1918, 7 days before the unofficial end of World War I, Willie Mae has been a staple in her community for many years.

During her childhood, she was a proud member of Ebenezer Presbyterian Church in Freedmen's Grove.

She attended grammar school at Dorchester Academy and graduated in 1936. After grammar school, Willie Mae became a boarder in Dorchester, where she learned to sew, a talent that would stay with her many years after her time as a boarder.

The living embodiment of motherly love, Willie Mae sewed clothes for her family and friends, making full use of the talent God had given her. We treasure Willie Mae and are happy to celebrate this momentous occasion.

Happy birthday, Willie Mae, 103 years young.

RECONCILIATION

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Kansas (Mr. MANN) for 5 minutes.

Mr. MANN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to discuss the gross misuse of a noble process called reconciliation and the President's apparent lack of concern for the well-being of rural and middle-class Americans.

The reconciliation process exists to do exactly what its name suggests—to direct Congress with a tool of compromise to reduce the national deficit with a simple majority vote in both Chambers. President Biden, Speaker PELOSI, and House Democrats are, instead, using this process to jam partisan legislation through a deadlocked Congress. This is shameless, and American taxpayers will bear the cost in both their wallets and their consciences.

The reconciliation package is chockfull of policy moves that will damage our country and compromise our integrity as a nation. Among them are the expansion of welfare without work requirements. At a time when our supply chains are in crisis and we have help wanted signs at every corner, this will only worsen the issue. Another troubling provision would give the IRS $80 billion to hire 87,000 new agents and ramp up audits on individuals and small businesses.

Just a few other terrible provisions include increasing penalties for businesses who don't comply with OSHA vaccine mandates which are an egregious Federal Government overreach, imposing new fines on the oil and gas industry, and punishing States like Kansas who have opted not to expand Medicaid.

Perhaps the worst part of the entire reconciliation package, though, is what is not included. Democrats have excluded the Hyde amendment, a longstanding bipartisan amendment that protects Americans who oppose abortion from being forced to pay for these abortions from their tax dollars.

While the President is on a tax-and-spend spree for his party's leftist wish list, the price of nearly everything is skyrocketing in this country. Americans are heading into the holiday season more financially insecure because of this administration's policies. Consumer prices have increased over 6 percent since last year—the highest rate of inflation in over 30 years. Should this massive spending package become law, Mr. Speaker, you can expect prices to keep going up.

While the White House has stated this bill will cost $1.75 trillion, the true cost of the reconciliation package could be as much as $3.98 trillion according to some models. As if adding to our Nation's already enormous debt wasn't enough, this bill will drive up inflation and end up taxing the middle class.

This bill is twice as long as the Bible, it is toxic for the American people, and it is a gross misuse of a usually noble process. I stand in opposition to it on numerous counts.

Mr. Speaker, the BBB is bad, bad, bad for America, and I urge this Congress to join me in strongly opposing it.

HONORING THE LIFE OF BARNEY BROOKS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas (Mr. PFLUGER) for 5 minutes.

Mr. PFLUGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of U.S. Air Force veteran and San Angelo native Barney Brooks who passed away on November 7, 2021, at the age of 92.

Mr. Brooks was a born pilot and often joked that he knew he was meant to fly even before the stork dropped him off.

In the Air Force, Barney served as a lieutenant colonel and combat pilot completing over 100 missions in the Korean war and 50 in the Vietnam war. Over his 23-year career, he served in Korea, Vietnam, and the Cold War, and he was stationed at multiple bases around the United States and throughout the world.

Our country owes a debt of gratitude to Barney who was brave enough to don the uniform and put his life on the line many times, as well as his family, including his beloved wife, Nancy, and five children who supported him and empowered him to charge forward in the fight for freedom.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Barney for his noble service.

RECOGNIZING PHILIP PARKS

Mr. PFLUGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life and legacy of Philip Parks of Odessa, Texas, who passed away on October 29, 2021, at the age of 76.

Mr. Parks was a devoted Christian, husband, father, and grandfather who was dedicated to the service of his family, his community, his church, and many other things, including his country.

Philip served our country valiantly in the U.S. Air Force during the Vietnam war as a linguist in Taiwan. He was a schoolteacher for over 30 years, a principal for many schools throughout the area, and an extremely active member of the First Baptist Church and other organizations, including the Rotary Club and VFW—even serving as a volunteer firefighter.

We will never know the number of lives he impacted over the course of his own life. I had the privilege of meeting Mr. Parks right here in Washington, D.C., on his last flight when he traveled here with the Permian Basin Honor Flight. What an honor it was to see the service, the dedication, and the leadership.

I am sending my deepest condolences to his beloved wife, Lois, who shared 52 years of marriage, and his children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Mr. Parks for his service.

SOUTHERN BORDER

Mr. PFLUGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask a simple question: When will this administration recognize the crisis at our southern border?

Late last night Customs and Border Protection released their record-shattering border crisis numbers. Once again, in the month of October, more than 164,000 illegal immigrants were apprehended.

This is the worst October in DHS history, and these are only the numbers of those who were apprehended, not to mention the got-aways. Drug trafficking and human trafficking is surging. It is confirmed that MS–13 gang members are crossing into the United States and hundreds of thousands—in fact, over 2.1 million—have entered this country illegally with more advancing towards our southern border right now.

Meanwhile, the administration is considering nearly half a million dollars in payments to illegal immigrants who broke the law while they are not paying contractors to build the wall and they are leaving already paid for materials in the field to rot. All this is made worse by the fact that the President is forcing our brave Border Patrol officers who are woefully understaffed and lacking the resources they need to choose between their livelihoods and a vaccine mandate. We have seen reporting by the Border Patrol that nearly half of its agents could be fired in less than a week due to the administration's November 22 COVID–19 vaccine deadline.

It has never been more clear. The President has abandoned Texas and every other border State, and he is cutting his own Border Patrol agents off at the knees. It is long past time to admit that there is a crisis at our southern border and that the men and women of the United States Border Patrol are overwhelmed and they need their Commander in Chief to support them.

This crisis is not slowing down.

Mr. President, we urge you to secure the border, to not abandon Texas, and to come to our rescue.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to direct their remarks to the Chair.

HONORING OFFICERS CHRIS OBERHEIM AND JEFFREY CREEL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Illinois (Mrs. MILLER) for 5 minutes.

Mrs. MILLER of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, some Members of this body have called to defund the police. Sadly, while crime is on the rise, we have Democrat Governors across the country who are implementing anti-police policies.

In Illinois, our Governor signed legislation to eliminate bail and put offenders right back on the street. He released dangerous inmates because of COVID and refuses to work with ICE to deport illegal immigrants. The result, as we all know, is that our neighborhoods are less safe and the job of law enforcement is more dangerous. People want and need police protection. Americans appreciate and support our police.

Tragically, this past year we lost a brave officer from Champaign, Illinois. In the line of duty, Officer Chris Oberheim was killed and Officer Jeffrey Creel, his partner, was shot three times while returning fire. He survived. Like so many law enforcement officers around our country, Officer Oberheim and Officer Creel put the people of their community first ahead of their own safety.

Officer Oberheim's life and service will not and should not be forgotten. I cannot imagine the loss and the pain that his family suffers day by day. They continue to be in my thoughts and prayers.

Misguided policies from ignorant politicians have turned Chicago into a war zone and are making our communities less safe. Criminals are allowed to steal thousands of dollars of merchandise and many are not being charged. Soft-on-crime policies embolden criminals.

I promise to always back the blue and stand with our police. May God bless our law enforcement.

□ 1045

HOUTHIS' LATEST ACT OF AGGRESSION

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. CLYDE) for 5 minutes.

Mr. CLYDE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to bring much-needed attention to the Houthis' latest act of aggression.

Back in February, President Biden naively removed the Houthis, the Iranian-backed proxy force in Yemen, from designation as a foreign terrorist organization and from the specially designated global terrorist lists.

Taking full advantage of President Biden's foolish decision and complete lack of leadership, the Houthis stormed the U.S. Embassy in Yemen last Wednesday, using the raid to take hostages and equipment. After years of brutal tactics, this latest act of hostility confirms again that the ruthless Houthis must be designated as a foreign terrorist organization.

In June, I proudly introduced legislation to do just that. H.R. 3965, the Standing Against Houthi Aggression Act, would reinstate the sanctions that the Trump administration placed on the Houthis, and redesignate the group as a foreign terrorist organization.

I am deeply concerned for the safety of the Yemeni locals who were kidnapped while protecting our embassy. And again, I call on the Biden administration to provide an immediate briefing to Congress regarding that dangerous situation.

I also implore all of my colleagues to support H.R. 3965, and I urge Speaker PELOSI to bring this legislation to the floor for immediate consideration.

We have already witnessed devastating impacts of the administration's botched Afghanistan withdrawal. We cannot allow President Biden's void in leadership to develop additional disasters in the Middle East.

In fact, at this very moment, our adversaries are defiantly gearing up to cause destruction. From China aggressively preparing for a potential invasion of Taiwan, to Russia successfully testing an anti-satellite weapon in space, numerous emerging international crises present additional leadership tests for President Biden. So far, the silence has been deafening.

For the sake of the American people and our allies, Mr. President, lead from the front.

AMERICA'S SOARING INFLATION

Mr. CLYDE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to highlight the soaring inflation that continues to burden Americans across this great Nation. There are plenty of reasons to be thankful this holiday season, but Biden's Thanksgiving tax is not one of them.

Prices of common grocery items are skyrocketing, just in time for folks to gather around the table with loved ones. The price of a 15-pound turkey is up 27 percent. Apples are up 6.7 percent. Potatoes are up 13 percent. Cranberries are up 5.2 percent. And the list goes on and on. In fact, this year's Thanksgiving is expected to be the most expensive holiday meal in history.

But it doesn't just stop at the grocery store checkout line. Consistent with months of increasing gas prices, holiday travelers will face sticker

shock at the gas pump, where the cost of a gallon of gas is up 61 percent from this time last year. Gas is up 61 percent.

Purposely moving forward with another massive multitrillion-dollar spending package, Democrats continue to ignore these very troubling inflation concerns. American workers, families, and small businesses deserve better.

In the face of a volatile economy, we should prioritize fiscal responsibility and offer solutions to the inflation crisis, not make it worse and fan the flames of inflation by injecting trillions of dollars of borrowed Federal money into the economy.

CELEBRATING MARS WRIGLEY FLOWERY BRANCH PLANT'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY

Mr. CLYDE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Mars Wrigley plant in the city of Flowery Branch, in the Ninth District of Georgia.

The plant opened back in 1971, becoming one of the very first confection factories in northern Georgia. Now, it is the manufacturing hub for the company's iconic gum brands, producing 75 percent of the chewing gum volume for the North American market.

Currently, the plant employs over 920 associates, of which 250 have been with Mars Wrigley for over 20 years. Due to their hard work, this factory is one of the fastest growing manufacturing plants in the State of Georgia, and has been recognized as such by the chamber of commerce for its impact on the Hall County community.

In fact, Mars Wrigley continues to go the extra mile by giving back to the local community, regularly volunteering in clean-ups, Christmas gift donations, and food banks.

Congratulations, Mars Wrigley, on 50 productive years in northern Georgia, and best wishes for another prolific half century.

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

RECOGNIZING AARON CLAY, TENNESSEE SECONDARY SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION'S ATHLETIC DIRECTOR OF THE YEAR

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. BURCHETT) for 5 minutes.

Mr. BURCHETT. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Aaron Clay, who was named the Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association's Athletic Director of the Year.

Aaron Clay is the athletics director at the Washburn School. He graduated from Washburn in 1997. His brother, Greg, hired him shortly after graduating to help the school's basketball team.

Since returning to coach the basketball team, Director Clay led several of Washburn's athletic teams to success. He coached two basketball teams to the substate tournament, won two district titles in basketball, and sent a cross-country student athlete to the State championship meet for five straight years.

Mr. Speaker, under Director Clay's leadership, the school recently completed a new gymnasium. Away from athletics, Director Clay also leads Washburn's academic curriculum as an assistant principal. In his academic role, he once again teamed up with his brother, Greg, who is Washburn's principal.

The TSSAA Athletic Director of the Year award celebrates an athletic director who builds up students on and off the field and, clearly, he does this, Mr. Speaker.

Director Clay's work throughout his career as a school administrator and athletic director positively influenced hundreds of Washburn students. Our community is proud of the impact he has had on young people.

Congratulations, Director Clay, and keep up the good work.

HUGE VICTORY FOR INDIVIDUAL FREEDOM

Mr. BURCHETT. Mr. Speaker, individual freedom just scored a huge victory. Last weekend, a court of appeals ruled what we already know. Joe Biden overstepped his authority with his vaccine mandate. No more jobs will be threatened by the administration over coronavirus vaccination status, for now.

I applaud those who stood up to Biden's vaccine mandate in court. But the fight isn't over, Mr. Speaker. It is clearly not over. Biden's far-left Justice Department is plotting a legal assault to revive the mandate. Those of us who value personal liberty cannot be content with one court ruling.

More action is necessary, Mr. Speaker.

My bill, the Keeping our COVID–19 Heroes Employed Act, which is sponsored in the Senate by Senator MARSHA BLACKBURN, also from Tennessee, would further protect American workers by forbidding certain employers from firing unvaccinated employees.

We need to ban Biden's vaccine mandate because it is unconstitutional, Mr. Speaker, but also because of the crippling effect it will have on our economy.

For example, supply chain jobs will be lost if Biden's vaccine mandate takes effect. A labor shortage in the supply chains means it takes longer to move products to America's storefronts, Mr. Speaker. The costs of keeping up with demand is passed to consumers in the form of higher prices.

If Biden gets his way, it will devastate our struggling economy and steal paychecks from hardworking Americans, Mr. Speaker. Congress can't wait for the Biden administration's next attack on the unvaccinated. Let's protect the civil liberties of the workers by passing the Keeping our COVID–19 Heroes Employed Act, Mr. Speaker.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until noon today.

Accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 54 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1200

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker at noon.

PRAYER

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

Equip us, O Lord, this day with the full armor You provide, that we would be confident to stand for whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right and pure.

May these, Your divine intentions, be the principles we strive to preserve this day. In everything we do, with Your steadfast love as our foundation, may we stand unwavering.

Gird us then with the belt of truth, the breastplate of righteousness. Prepare us to give testimony to Your peace and to hold high a defense of faith in Your gracious plan.

Protect us with the covering of Your deliverance and attune our hearts to the piercing insight of Your word.

May Your confidence in us not be in vain, but may we prove worthy in wielding the power of Your mercy.

Then may all those who seek to undermine decency, who rejoice in rancor and capitalize on conflict, may they all fall defenseless before Your throne of grace.

For it is only in Your grace that we find hope and by the power of Your name are we able to pray.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from New York (Mr. ESPAILLAT) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. ESPAILLAT led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

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

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

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

CALLING FOR FULL RESTORATION OF BUFFALO RIVER

(Mr. HIGGINS of New York asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Madam Speaker, the $1.2 trillion infrastructure bill signed into law yesterday reveals the power of this moment and the importance of momentum.

Madam Speaker, 50 years ago, the Buffalo River was declared biologically dead and ecologically destroyed. Through the work of the Buffalo Niagara Waterkeeper and their partners, we made a plan and made progress passing the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative. Now with new infrastructure funding, new life for the Buffalo River is closer than ever.

Today, I am calling on the Environmental Protection Agency for a full restoration of the Buffalo River and for a date-certain action plan to delist the river as an area of concern.

This project restores our natural environment, and it makes more viable other projects like The Riverline and the DL&W terminal. It also leverages a settlement reached this week to provide river access to the Kaisertown neighborhood and new public access along Buffalo's City Ship Canal.

The power of this law will lead us to a logical conclusion, connecting our community to resources long denied and to improve our life quality now and into the future.

RECOGNIZING PIRI KATZ ON HER 94TH BIRTHDAY

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

Mrs. STEEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 94th birthday of a truly inspirational figure in our Orange County community, Piri Katz. Piri Katz is a Holocaust survivor.

At just 15, Piri and her family were taken by Nazis on the eve of Passover. After spending months in concentration camps, where her family was murdered, she was liberated by American soldiers in May 1945. No one can imagine the horrors she and others who lived through this tragedy experienced and the strength it took just to survive.

In September 1949, she came to America and built her own American Dream. She made a beautiful life for herself here. Piri has four kids and eight grandkids that she is so proud of.

Piri's story is inspiring and should remind all of us to never take our freedom for granted.

Happy 94th birthday, Piri.

HONORING THE LATIN AMERICAN WOMEN WRITERS PROJECT

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

Mr. ESPAILLAT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor 26 incredibly talented Latina women in the field of literature that I had the pleasure of meeting this morning.

These women are a huge part of the Latin American Women Writers Project. They represent the best in our community, the leaders that stand tall today to inspire our youth and our entire community.

Their efforts to ensure inclusion and representation in journalism, creative writing, and storytelling, and sharing these ideas with us here today, are commendable. They are laying the groundwork, Mr. Speaker, to uplift and inspire the next generation of Latina writers.

I hope that the discussion we had today will continue onward throughout our communities and across this great Nation and that their work will continue to inspire many in our communities, particularly the next generation.

They have used their voices to share their stories with our families. Mr. Speaker, I welcome them.

BIDEN INFLATION HIGHEST IN 40 YEARS

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, the Bureau of Labor Statistics reports that the October Consumer Price Index has increased 6.2 percent in a year with Biden inflation. Annualized, this means inflation is going to be 7.4 percent, which would make it the highest rate since 1982, the highest rate of inflation in over 40 years.

At the same time, in 7 of the last 9 months, real wages have fallen and workers lost 2.6 percent of their salaries by the end of the first Biden year. Biden and the Democrats are accelerating inflation with insane spending bills, which now total over $5 trillion.

Democrat elite think they are smarter than anyone, and they think Democrat voters are ignorant to believe $5 trillion in spending costs zero dollars. You pay with Biden inflation.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, who successfully protected America for 20 years as the global war on terrorism continues moving from the Afghanistan safe haven to America.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF NOHEMA GRABER

(Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of a wonderful woman from my district who dedicated her life to the betterment of her community by educating the next generation.

On November 2, 2021, Fairfield lost a beloved member of their community, Nohema Graber. Born in Mexico, Nohema later moved to Iowa, where her love for education drove her to pursue a career in teaching. She would eventually go on to teach Spanish at Fairfield High School.

When reading stories about Nohema's kind and caring spirit, I came across one that really warmed my heart, and I would like to share it.

When a dear friend of Nohema's son was diagnosed with a brain tumor 12 years ago, Nohema would pray with her friend every single day. Her son, now healthy, was among the countless members of the Fairfield community to attend Nohema's vigil.

I send my prayers out to the friends and family of Nohema Graber, as well as the students and faculty of Fairfield High School, as they mourn this tragic loss.

RECOGNIZING LEE McMILLAN ON HIS 90TH BIRTHDAY

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

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Lee McMillan, of Ashe County, who will be celebrating his 90th birthday this Saturday.

I have been blessed to know Lee for many years, and I know that he has helped build the foundation that the North Carolina Republican Party stands upon today.

His 23 years of service to the United States Navy, after his graduation from the Naval Academy, and his tireless work in promoting conservative values on the local and State level are nothing short of admirable.

Lee is also the proud owner of Shatley Springs Inn and Restaurant located in the high country, a local landmark that has received national recognition since 1958.

To me, Lee is a perfect representation of the best that Ashe County and western North Carolina have to offer.

Thank you, Lee, and happy birthday.

SPENDING TRILLIONS WILL WORSEN INFLATION

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

Mr. BERGMAN. Mr. Speaker, in Michigan's First District, we are hunkering down for the usual long but beautiful winter season. We enjoy it, and we prepare for it.

This year, that preparation is much more complicated. The supply chain crisis, labor shortages, and inflation have made our gas and groceries that much more expensive at a time when we can't necessarily afford it at that working-family level.

In my district, we are truly feeling the negative impacts of this administration's failed policies. The White

House and congressional Democrats seem to be living in a different reality, telling us that the President's agenda ''will not add to inflationary pressure.''

Mr. Speaker, the real risk here would be passing the Democrat's multitrillion-dollar tax and spend package. My colleagues in the House seem to be turning a blind eye to what Americans are actually experiencing.

Make no mistake, spending trillions, while punishing the middle class and job creators, will make inflation worse.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to oppose this legislation.

RECOGNIZING NATIONAL FAMILY CAREGIVER MONTH

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

Mr. LAHOOD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of National Family Caregiver Month.

More than 95 percent of individuals with dementia also have one or more chronic conditions. Individuals with dementia rely heavily on their family members or other caregivers to provide time, transportation, and other health services, which can be economically and emotionally challenging for a family.

In Illinois alone, we have over 381,000 caregivers for people living with dementia, and 53.5 percent of them have their own chronic health conditions.

During National Family Caregiver Month, it is important to recognize the dedication and sacrifice that families and caregivers provide for their loved ones.

My legislation, the Comprehensive Care for Alzheimer's Act, provides additional support to dementia patients and caregivers. The bill would direct the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation to implement a dementia care model to test comprehensive care management services and would make a big impact on the lives of people living with dementia and their caregivers.

As I travel throughout Illinois, dementia care and Alzheimer's advocates continue to share their caregiving stories with me. Mr. Speaker, I ask for support of this bill.

□ 1215

INVESTMENTS IN THE NATIVE HAWAIIAN COMMUNITY

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

Mr. KAHELE. Mr. Speaker, as a native Hawaiian, I am excited to highlight how the Build Back Better Act will benefit the native Hawaiian community and all of the original indigenous peoples, the first peoples of these nations, across the United States.

The Build Back Better Act will strengthen our collective indigenous communities through investments in culturally relevant healthcare, housing and community development, professional development for indigenous languages and early childhood educators, accelerator programs for small businesses, and funding for native Hawaiian healthcare systems.

These programs further the trust responsibility from the United States Government to indigenous communities.

The Build Back Better Act also creates opportunities for Federal consultation on land use planning, development, and infrastructure projects—something our indigenous communities have requested for years.

That is why we must pass the Build Back Better Act and add its investments to the initiatives we just passed in the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act. The Build Back Better Act supports our indigenous communities and creates opportunity for indigenous peoples while ensuring that America's richest citizens pay their fair share.

Mahalo, Mr. Speaker.

SOUTHERN BORDER CRISIS

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

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to discuss the dangerous situation at our southern border.

Since President Biden took office, there have been over 1.4 million illegal border crossings. These record-high apprehensions keep increasing with no end in sight, and now a new caravan of migrants is headed through Mexico to our southern border, as we speak.

Instead of addressing what has become a humanitarian, health, and national security problem, this administration and congressional Democrats keep announcing plans that will only exacerbate the problem.

For example, the administration has discussed paying illegal immigrants settlement payments of up to $450,000, and the spending package being pushed through this Chamber includes amnesty for up to 10 million illegal immigrants and up to $100 billion in taxpayer-funded benefits for them.

These irresponsible proposals and dangerous open border policies will continue to fuel the crisis and encourage more illegal activity at the border. We must secure our borders and ensure that the rule of law applies to everyone.

HONORING FALLEN HEROES

(Mrs. KIM of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. KIM of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor our 13 fallen servicemembers who made the ultimate sacrifice to save the lives of Americans and allies in Afghanistan at the Kabul Airport at the end of August.

These brave men and women, including southern California marines Lance Corporal Dylan Merola, Lance Corporal Kareem Nikoui, and Corporal Hunter Lopez, were young—many in their twenties—and incredibly brave. They valiantly put their lives on the line for others. Their courage and heroism in the face of danger will never be forgotten.

I am proud that the House of Representatives came together to honor their memory and posthumously award these fallen heroes a well-deserved Congressional Gold Medal.

Mr. Speaker, we remember their names and their stories always, and we continue to rally with our new Gold Star families.

RECOGNIZING THE THOMAS FAMILY OF MEYERSDALE, PENNSYLVANIA, AND THEIR ACTS OF KINDNESS

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

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Thomas family of Meyersdale, Pennsylvania, who tragically lost their son, Trevor, a student athlete who played baseball at Allegany College of Maryland and at Penn State.

In the face of that loss, the Thomas family has responded with love and compassion for their community. In honor of their son's commitment to serving others, the Thomas family printed small cards that encouraged their neighbors to help others through acts of kindness.

Those cards have inspired incredible gestures of generosity in our community. The acts of kindness were wide-ranging. From preparing care packages for the homeless to donating blood to handing out doughnuts and even delivering flowers to strangers, members of the community looked to see what they could do to help one another.

Together, the people of Somerset County are working to keep Trevor's memory alive through their acts of service for one another.

On each card that the family has distributed is a simple mantra that defined the way that Trevor lived his life. It is a mantra that we should all aspire to: Be somebody who makes everybody feel like somebody.

ENDING EXPLOITATION OF VETERANS

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

Mr. CAWTHORN. Mr. Speaker, freedom is born through the sacrifice of patriots. We occupy this Chamber today and walk free among our countrymen because generation after generation of liberty-minded warriors surrendered their lives to the conviction that America was worth defending. Their

blood, their sweat, and their sacrifice are the currency for our freedom.

Their sacrifice must never be exploited. I am honored to bring before this Chamber today legislation that ends the exploitation of veterans' finances and taxpayer dollars. A loophole exists in the GI Bill that allows some public flight schools to charge exorbitant amounts of money to veterans and taxpayers for veterans' tuition.

My legislation, the Fly Vets Act, not only stops this loophole dead in its tracks, but it empowers veterans and drastically expands their benefits. It allows them to pay for flight training through accelerated payments and allows them to double the monetary cap on both tuition and fees per year. This bill does not cut benefits in any way. It gives power back to our heroes in uniform.

I thank the many VSOs who support this legislation, along with Congresswoman UNDERWOOD for encompassing this legislation in her bill and working with me across party lines to ensure that the exploitation of veterans and taxpayers ends today.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. MALINOWSKI). Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which the yeas and nays are ordered.

The House will resume proceedings on postponed questions at a later time.

VA ELECTRONIC HEALTH RECORD TRANSPARENCY ACT OF 2021

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4591) to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to submit to Congress periodic reports on the costs of the Department of Veterans Affairs Electronic Health RECORD Modernization program, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 4591

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 ''VA Electronic Health Record Transparency Act of 2021''.

SEC. 2. REPORTS ON COSTS, PERFORMANCE METRICS, AND OUTCOMES OF DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS ELECTRONIC HEALTH RECORD MODERNIZATION PROGRAM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 503 of the Veterans Benefits and Transition Act of 2018 (Public Law 115–407; 38 U.S.C. 5701 note prec.) is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsection (e) as subsection (f);

(2) by inserting after subsection (d) the following new subsection (e):

''(e) QUARTERLY REPORTS.—

''(1) REPORTS ON COSTS OF EHRM PROGRAM.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of the VA Electronic Health Record Transparency Act of 2021, and every 30 days after the last day of each fiscal quarter thereafter until the termination date specified in paragraph (3), the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall submit to the Committees on Veterans' Affairs of the Senate and House of Representatives a report on the costs of the Electronic Health Record Modernization program of the Department of Veterans Affairs. Each such report shall include, for the period covered by the report and for the total period beginning on the date of the enactment of the VA Electronic Health Record Transparency Act of 2021 and ending on the date of the submittal of the report, a description of all actual expenses of, and driven by, such program, including any such expenses paid using—

''(A) any funds appropriated for the Department of Veterans Affairs, for any source or account, expended by any organizational element of the Department or by the Federal Electronic Health Record Modernization Office for the Electronic Health Record Modernization Program;

''(B) any funds, from any source or account, expended by any organizational element of the Department for physical or technology infrastructure modifications, enhancements, improvements, or expansions at a facility of the Department necessitated by, or related or pertaining to, the Electronic Health Record Modernization Program; and

''(C) any funds, from any source or account, expended by any organizational element of the Department or by the Federal Electronic Health Record Modernization Office for consultants, support contractors, or experts related or pertaining to the Electronic Health Record Modernization Program.

''(2) REPORTS ON PERFORMANCE METRICS AND OUTCOMES.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of the VA Electronic Health Record Transparency Act of 2021, and every 30 days after the last day of each fiscal quarter thereafter until the termination date specified in paragraph (3), the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall submit to the Committees on Veterans' Affairs of the Senate and House of Representatives a report on the performance metrics and outcomes of the Electronic Health Record Modernization Program. Each such report shall include, for the period covered by the report—

''(A) a list of the quality, performance, safety, or value metrics, key performance indicators, and other diagnostic or evaluation criteria in use to assess the Electronic Health Record Modernization Program and the electronic health record system, in general and at individual facilities, with respect to veterans, employees of the Department, and Departmental operations;

''(B) an explanation of any change to any of such metrics, indicators, and criteria compared to the metrics, indicators, and criteria included in any previous report submitted under this paragraph;

''(C) the data supporting or demonstrating each such metric, indicator, and criteria compared to the data supporting or demonstrating such metric, indicator, or criteria as included in the previous report submitted under this paragraph; and

''(D) a list of patient safety reports, incidents, alerts, or disclosures at each facility of the Department where the electronic health record system has been implemented.

''(3) TERMINATION DATE.—The requirement to submit a report under paragraph (1) shall terminate on the date that is 90 days after the date on which the Secretary submits to the Committees on Veterans' Affairs of the Senate and House of Representatives certification that the Electronic Health Record Modernization program has been fully implemented.''; and

(3) in subsection (f), as redesignated by paragraph (1), by adding at the end the following new paragraphs:

''(3) The term 'electronic health record system' means the electronic health record system implemented pursuant to the Electronic Health Record Modernization Program.

''(4) The term 'Federal Electronic Health Record Management Office' means the office established under section 1635(b) of the Wounded Warrior Act (title XVI of Public Law 110–181; 10 U.S.C. 1071 note).

''(5) The term 'facility of the Department' includes a joint facility of the Department of Veterans Affairs and the Department of Defense.''.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. TAKANO) and the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. BOST) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and to insert extraneous material on H.R. 4591, as amended.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 4591, the VA Electronic Health Record Transparency Act of 2021, as amended.

The Department of Veterans Affairs has struggled to produce reliable cost estimates and reporting on the infrastructure needs associated with its $16 billion electronic health record modernization project. This bill is a good governance measure which will enable Congress to conduct better oversight and hold VA accountable for its spending.

It is essential that we ensure that taxpayer funds meant to serve veterans are being used properly and that VA is maintaining detailed records of its IT and physical infrastructure expenditures. We owe that to the veterans who get their care from VA and to the American taxpayer.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to support H.R. 4591, as amended, which was unanimously supported in committee.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 4591, as amended, the VA Electronic Health Record Transparency Act.

Since the very beginning of the Electronic Health Record Modernization, or the EHRM, program, this committee has been requesting accurate and up-to-date lifecycle cost estimates from VA. Despite our requests, VA has never provided a credible lifecycle cost estimate. VA's cost estimates could not withstand even the most basic scrutiny.

This bill would require quarterly reports on the costs of the EHRM program. It would also capture the roughly $5 billion of costs the Inspector General found were unaccounted for and any other costs that VA has not been including.

Of course, cost is not everything. The electronic health record program needs to help the VA medical staff better care for veterans. That is why this bill would also require VA to report on performance and safety metrics. These data points will allow us to evaluate the program and determine whether it is making VA medical centers safer, faster, and better.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud of the bipartisan work of the Technology Modernization Subcommittee, and I am also pleased to be the original cosponsor of this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage all of my colleagues to support H.R. 4591, as amended, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. MRVAN), who is my good friend and a member of the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs and chairman of the Subcommittee on Technology Modernization.

Mr. MRVAN. Mr. Speaker, I thank Chairman TAKANO for yielding me time.

Mr. Speaker, earlier this year the VA Office of the Inspector General released two separate reports highlighting VA's failure to conduct reliable lifecycle cost estimates for its Electronic Health Record Modernization program.

Specifically, the IG repeatedly found unreliable and incomplete estimates for infrastructure upgrades and costs as well as inadequate reporting of those costs.

Given the size and scope of the EHRM program, the lack of accurate cost estimates hampers VA's ability to provide Congress with an accurate picture of the cost and scale of efforts to modernize IT and physical infrastructure at VA medical centers.

This piece of legislation will address these issues. It requires VA to look at all costs across VHA, OIT, and any other programs for any amount expended on the EHRM program, including for infrastructure projects and contractors that were not part of the original contract. This legislation also requires VA to provide the committee with reports on performance metrics and outcomes.

I thank Chairman TAKANO and Ranking Member BOST for their leadership and for cosponsoring this legislation as well as all of the other cosponsors and the committee members who have truly made this a bipartisan effort.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage my colleagues to support this bill.

□ 1230

Mr. BOST. Mr. Speaker, I encourage all of my colleagues to support this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I ask all of my colleagues to join me in passing H.R. 4591, the VA Electronic Health Record Transparency Act of 2021, as amended, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. TAKANO) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4591, as amended.

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

The title of the bill was amended so as to read: ''A bill to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to submit to Congress periodic reports on the costs, performance metrics, and outcomes of the Department of Veterans Affairs Electronic Health Record Modernization program.''.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

VITAL ASSESSMENT ACT

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5516) to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to submit to Congress a report on the Veterans Integration to Academic Leadership program of the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5516

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 ''VITAL Assessment Act''.

SEC. 2. VETERANS INTEGRATION TO ACADEMIC LEADERSHIP PROGRAM OF THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS.

(a) REPORT.—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall submit to the Committees on Veterans' Affairs of the House of Representatives and the Senate a report on the Veterans Integration to Academic Leadership program of the Department of Veterans Affairs. The report shall include the following:

(1) The number of medical centers of the Department, institutions of higher learning, non-college degree programs, and student veterans supported by the program, and relevant trends since the program began.

(2) The staff and resources allocated to the program, and relevant trends since the program began.

(3) An assessment of the outcomes and effectiveness of the program in—

(A) supporting student veterans;

(B) connecting student veterans to needed services of the Department or services provided by non-Department entities;

(C) addressing the mental health needs of student veterans;

(D) lowering the suicide risk of student veterans; and

(E) helping student veterans achieve educational goals.

(4) An assessment of barriers to expanding the program and how the Secretary intends to address such barriers.

(5) An assessment of whether the program should be expanded outside of the Office of Mental Health and Suicide Prevention to support students veterans with needs unrelated to mental health or suicide.

(b) UNIFORM BEST PRACTICES, GOALS, AND MEASURES.—The Secretary shall establish best practices, goals, and measures for the Veterans Integration to Academic Leadership program of the Department that are uniform among the medical centers of the Department.

(c) OUTREACH.—The Secretary shall conduct outreach among the Armed Forces, veterans service organizations, institutions of higher learning, and non-college degree programs with respect to the Veterans Integration to Academic Leadership program of the Department.

(d) ASSESSMENT.—The Secretary shall assess the feasibility and advisability of including the suicide rate for student veterans in the National Veteran Suicide Prevention Annual Report of the Office of Mental Health and Suicide Prevention of the Department.

(e) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) The term ''institution of higher learning'' has the meaning given that term in section 3452 of title 38, United States Code.

(2) The term ''student veteran'' means the following:

(A) A veteran or member of the Armed Forces using educational assistance under any of the following provisions of law:

(i) Chapter 30, 31, 32, or 33 of title 38, United States Code, or chapter 1606 or 1607 of title 10, United States Code.

(ii) Section 116 of the Harry W. Colmery Veterans Educational Assistance Act of 2017 (Public Law 115–48; 38 U.S.C. 3001 note).

(iii) Section 8006 of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (Public Law 117–2; 38 U.S.C. 3001 note prec.).

(B) A veteran who is enrolled in an institution of higher learning or other training program, without regard to whether the veteran is using educational assistance specified in subparagraph (A).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. TAKANO) and the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. BOST) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and to insert extraneous material on H.R. 5516, as amended.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 5516, the VITAL Assessment Act, as amended, which is sponsored by our newest House Veterans' Affairs Committee member, Congressman ELLZEY.

This bill requires that VA submit a report on the Department's Veterans Integration to Academic Leadership, or VITAL program. VITAL is designed to support student veterans in their academic settings, and it is a key component of VA's work to ensure that veterans thrive after completing their military service.

VITAL is a longtime program at VA, and this report will provide a timely

opportunity to examine outcomes for student veterans and academic institutions supported by VA.

I urge my colleagues to vote ''yes'' on H.R. 5516, the VITAL Assessment Act, as amended, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 5516, as amended, the VITAL Assessment Act.

This bill is sponsored by, as was said, our newest member of the Veterans' Affairs Committee, Congressman JAKE ELLZEY. With this bill, he is fulfilling the promise he made on the campaign trail to put the needs of our fellow veterans front and center. His bill will make a number of improvements to the VA's Veterans Integration to Academic Learning, or the VITAL program.

VITAL provides mental health support to student veterans on college campuses. Preventing veteran suicide and supporting veterans as they transition out of the military are two of our committee's highest goals, and this bill would get us closer to realizing both of them.

I urge every Member to support H.R. 5516, as amended, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers and I am prepared to close. I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BOST. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. ELLZEY), the main sponsor of this legislation.

Mr. ELLZEY. Mr. Speaker, I thank Ranking Member BOST for yielding time.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to be addressing the House today as we are just days removed from Veterans Day, when our Nation recognizes those who honorably served to protect our precious, God-given liberties and freedoms. We have a duty and responsibility to help the veterans of our Armed Forces who have fought to preserve our freedoms and liberties.

In 2011, VA launched the Veterans Integration to Academic Leadership program, or the VITAL program, to provide mental health services to student veterans on college campuses.

Hundreds of thousands of veterans attend college every year. They often have difficulty adjusting from the military to an academic campus culture and relating to nonveteran peers.

As someone who has personally gone through the transition back to civilian life, I can say my experiences in combat and leadership were vastly different than the experiences of my fellow students. I was much older than my fellow students; much older. I was no longer surrounded by my fellow warriors; and I was a stranger in a strange academic land. For these reasons, I understand why the VITAL program is so important.

Since its inception in 2011, it has grown to support student veterans at 183 locations. VITAL program services are locally managed, staffed, and evaluated by VA medical centers working with area schools, which allows for independence and flexibility. It connects student veterans with needed care and services, and helps prevent veteran suicide.

The VITAL Assessment Act will ensure critical information about the VITAL program is gathered, improvements are made, and will help provide mental healthcare and support to student veterans.

This act adds accountability and transparency. It will require the VA to report to Congress about the program's management, operations, and effectiveness in support of student veterans' mental health and educational goals.

It also requires the VA to use information gathered to create best new practices, goals, and performance measures for the program.

In conclusion, I thank the many veterans' groups supporting this bill.

I am grateful to House Committee on Veterans' Affairs Ranking Member BOST for being an original cosponsor of this bill.

And I thank Chairman TAKANO for supporting this bill and speaking favorably during the committee hearing; Health Subcommittee Chair BROWNLEY, and the members of the Veterans' Affairs Committee for their unanimous support of this bill.

This will help student veterans achieve their goals and dreams. And just as the VITAL program has a proven record of saving lives, this bill will further improve the program and help save even more lives of veterans.

I ask all Members of the House to please support H.R. 5516.

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I am prepared to close, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BOST. Mr. Speaker, I am prepared to close. I encourage all of my colleagues to support this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I ask all of my colleagues to join me in passing H.R. 5516, as amended, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. TAKANO) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 5516, as amended.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

BURN PIT REGISTRY ENHANCEMENT ACT

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2433) to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to take actions necessary to ensure that certain individuals may update the burn pit registry with a registered individual's cause of death, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2433

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 ''Burn Pit Registry Enhancement Act''.

SEC. 2. BURN PIT REGISTRY UPDATES.

(a) INDIVIDUALS ELIGIBLE TO UPDATE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall take actions necessary to ensure that the burn pit registry may be updated with the cause of death of a deceased registered individual by—

(A) an individual designated by such deceased registered individual; or

(B) if no such individual is designated, an immediate family member of such deceased registered individual.

(2) DESIGNATION.—The Secretary shall provide, with respect to the burn pit registry, a process by which a registered individual may make a designation for purposes of paragraph (1)(A).

(b) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) The term ''burn pit registry'' means the registry established under section 201 of the Dignified Burial and Other Veterans' Benefits Improvement Act of 2012 (Public Law 112–260; 38 U.S.C. 527 note).

(2) The term ''immediate family member'', with respect to a deceased individual, means—

(A) the spouse, parent, brother, sister, or adult child of the individual;

(B) an adult person to whom the individual stands in loco parentis; or

(C) any other adult person—

(i) living in the household of the individual at the time of the death of the individual; and

(ii) related to the individual by blood or marriage.

(3) The term ''registered individual'' means an individual registered with the burn pit registry.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. TAKANO) and the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. BOST) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and to insert extraneous material on H.R. 2433.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise to support the passage of Representative RUIZ's Burn Pit Registry Enhancement Act.

As the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs and our Senate counterparts close in on providing much-needed, comprehensive assistance to veterans exposed to burn pits and other airborne hazards, this measure from Dr. RUIZ is an important step in the right direction.

As VA continues to study the effects that burn pit and other airborne hazard

exposures have on our veterans, the collection of data is critical. Without data, important patterns are not identified, and decisive conclusions cannot be made.

This bill ensures that VA researchers and their partners will have more information to evaluate as they strive toward final determinations on issues and additional presumptive service-connected conditions.

VA's burn pit registry is for veterans and servicemembers who may have been exposed to airborne hazards caused by open burn pits while deployed in support of Operations Desert Storm, Desert Shield, New Dawn, Iraqi Freedom, or Enduring Freedom. Through this registry, veterans may report on their symptoms or illnesses, providing researchers with invaluable information used to determine potential links between veterans' exposures and their current health conditions.

The Burn Pit Registry Enhancement Act will strengthen this registry by authorizing a designee of a registered veteran or an immediate family member to update the registry with the veteran's cause of death.

While this additional information can no longer assist those who sadly pass away as a potential consequence of burn pit exposure, their cause of death data may someday assist their fellow veterans. This will be an honorable and incredibly valuable last act of service.

So, Mr. Speaker, I strongly support the passage of the Burn Pit Registry Enhancement Act, H.R. 2433, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 2433, the Burn Pit Registry Enhancement Act. This bill is cosponsored by Congressmen RAUL RUIZ from California and BRAD WENSTRUP from Ohio. Dr. RUIZ and Dr. WENSTRUP are co-chairs of the House Burn Pit Caucus. I thank them for their work on this bill and continued advocacy on behalf of the veterans exposed to burn pits.

Many servicemembers and veterans are grappling with serious health conditions that they believe are the result of the burn pit exposures. That is why Congress required VA to create an Airborne Hazards and Open Burn Pit Registry in 2013.

The registry was intended to provide a forum for servicemembers and veterans to document their burn pit exposures and health status so that the VA could better target research and outreach. The registry continues to be an important tool for veterans worried about burn pit and other toxic or environmental exposures.

Last Congress, two important stakeholders, Burn Pits 360 and VFW, recommended family members be allowed to update the registry in the event of the death of a servicemember or veteran listed on it. This would ensure that the registry contains a more complete picture of the possible effects of burn pit exposure. This bill would do that.

When a servicemember or a veteran listed in the registry passes away, it would allow an immediate family member to report their death and cause of death to the registry.

As ranking member, improving the care and benefits provided to veterans who have experienced toxic exposure continues to be one of my top priorities. There have been bipartisan bills introduced in the House and Senate this Congress. One of those bills is my bill, the TEAM Act.

And last week, VA announced some new initiatives aimed at improving the presumptive process for toxic-exposed veterans. I still have many outstanding questions about that announcement, and am concerned by the stalled legislative efforts of the Democrat-controlled Congress.

Toxic-exposed veterans are sick and dying. We cannot let burn pits, PFAS, or particulate matters become this generation's Agent Orange. We cannot fail to take proactive action on behalf of the future generations of warfighters.

I hope that we can soon come together in the House and the Senate in a bipartisan manner to take meaningful, fiscally responsible, and scientifically sound action to address toxic exposures. In the meantime, I am pleased to support this bill today, and hope it has the support of all of my colleagues.

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

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers. I am prepared to close, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BOST. Mr. Speaker, I am prepared to close. I encourage all of my colleagues to support this piece of legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I ask all of my colleagues to join me in passing H.R. 2433, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. TAKANO) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2433.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

□ 1245

VA ASSESSMENT BY INDEPENDENT MEASURES ACT

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4626) to amend title 38, United States Code, to require an independent assessment of health care delivery systems and management processes of the Department of Veterans Affairs be conducted once every 10 years, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 4626

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 ''VA Assessment by Independent Measures Act'' or the ''VA AIM Act''.

SEC. 2. REQUIREMENT FOR ONGOING INDEPENDENT ASSESSMENTS OF HEALTH CARE DELIVERY SYSTEMS AND MANAGEMENT PROCESSES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS.

(a) ONGOING ASSESSMENTS.—Chapter 17 of title 38, United States Code, is amended by inserting after section 1704 the following new section:

''§ 1704A. Independent assessments of health care delivery systems and management processes

''(a) INDEPENDENT ASSESSMENTS.—Not less frequently than once every 10 years, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall enter into one or more contracts with a private sector entity or entities described in subsection (d) to conduct an independent assessment of the hospital care, medical services, and other health care furnished by the Department of Veterans Affairs. Such assessment shall address each of the following:

''(1) Current and projected demographics and unique health care needs of the patient population served by the Department.

''(2) The accuracy of models and forecasting methods used by the Department to project health care demand, including with respect to veteran demographics, rates of use of health care furnished by the Department, the inflation of health care costs, and such other factors as may be determined relevant by the Secretary.

''(3) The reliability and accuracy of models and forecasting methods used by the Department to project the budgetary needs of the Veterans Health Administration and how such models and forecasting methods inform budgetary trends.

''(4) The authorities and mechanisms under which the Secretary may furnish hospital care, medical services, and other health care at Department and non-Department facilities, including through Federal and private sector partners and at joint medical facilities, and the effect of such authorities and mechanisms on eligibility and access to care.

''(5) The organization, workflow processes, and tools used by the Department to support clinical staffing, access to care, effective length-of-stay management and care transitions, positive patient experience, accurate documentation, and subsequent coding of inpatient services.

''(6) The efforts of the Department to recruit and retain staff at levels necessary to carry out the functions of the Veterans Health Administration and the process used by the Department to determine staffing levels necessary for such functions.

''(7) The staffing level at each medical facility of the Department and the productivity of each health care provider at the medical facility, compared with health care industry performance metrics, which may include the following:

''(A) An assessment of the case load of, and number of patients treated by, each health care provider at such medical facility during an average week.

''(B) An assessment of the time spent by each such health care provider on matters other than the case load of the health care provider, including time spent by the health care provider as follows:

''(i) At a medical facility that is affiliated with the Department.

''(ii) Conducting research.

''(iii) Training or supervising other health care professionals of the Department.

''(8) The information technology strategies of the Department with respect to furnishing and managing health care, including an identification of any weaknesses or opportunities with respect to the technology used by the Department, especially those strategies with respect to clinical documentation of hospital care, medical services, and other health care, including any clinical images and associated textual reports, furnished by the Department in Department or non-Department facilities.

''(9) Business processes of the Veterans Health Administration, including processes relating to furnishing non-Department health care, insurance identification, third-party revenue collection, and vendor reimbursement, including an identification of mechanisms as follows:

''(A) To avoid the payment of penalties to vendors.

''(B) To increase the collection of amounts owed to the Department for hospital care, medical services, or other health care provided by the Department, for which reimbursement from a third party is authorized and to ensure that such amounts collected are accurate.

''(C) To increase the collection of any other amounts owed to the Department with respect to hospital care, medical services, or other health care and to ensure that such amounts collected are accurate.

''(D) To increase the accuracy and timeliness of Department payments to vendors and providers.

''(E) To reduce expenditures while improving the quality of care furnished.

''(10) The purchase, distribution, and use of pharmaceuticals, medical and surgical supplies, medical devices, and health care-related services by the Department, including the following:

''(A) The prices paid for, standardization of, and use by, the Department with respect to the following:

''(i) Pharmaceuticals.

''(ii) Medical and surgical supplies.

''(iii) Medical devices.

''(B) The use by the Department of group purchasing arrangements to purchase pharmaceuticals, medical and surgical supplies, medical devices, and health care-related services.

''(C) The strategy and systems used by the Department to distribute pharmaceuticals, medical and surgical supplies, medical devices, and health care-related services to Veterans Integrated Service Networks and medical facilities of the Department.

''(11) The process of the Department for carrying out construction and maintenance projects at medical facilities of the Department and the medical facility leasing program of the Department.

''(12) The competency of Department leadership with respect to culture, accountability, reform readiness, leadership development, physician alignment, employee engagement, succession planning, and performance management.

''(13) The effectiveness of the authorities and programs of the Department to educate and train health personnel pursuant to section 7302 of this title.

''(14) The conduct of medical and prosthetic research of the Department.

''(15) The provision of Department assistance to Federal agencies and personnel involved in responding to a disaster or emergency.

''(16) Such additional matters as may be determined relevant by the Secretary.

''(b) TIMING.—The private sector entity or entities carrying out an assessment pursuant to subsection (a) shall complete such assessment not later than one year after entering into the contract described in such paragraph.

''(c) DATA.—To the extent practicable, the private sector entity or entities carrying out an assessment pursuant to subsection (a) shall make use of existing data that has been compiled by the Department, including data that has been collected for—

''(1) the performance of quadrennial market assessments under section 7330C of this title;

''(2) the quarterly publication of information on staffing and vacancies with respect to the Veterans Health Administration pursuant to section 505 of the VA MISSION Act of 2018 (Public Law 115–182; 38 U.S.C. 301 note); and

''(3) the conduct of annual audits pursuant to section 3102 of the Johnny Isakson and David P. Roe, M.D. Veterans Health Care and Benefits Improvement Act of 2020 (Public Law 116–315; 38 U.S.C. 1701 note).

''(d) PRIVATE SECTOR ENTITIES DESCRIBED.—A private sector entity described in this subsection is a private entity that—

''(1) has experience and proven outcomes in optimizing the performance of the health care delivery systems of the Veterans Health Administration and the private sector and in health care management; and

''(2) specializes in implementing large-scale organizational and cultural transformations, especially with respect to health care delivery systems.

''(e) PROGRAM INTEGRATOR.—(1) If the Secretary enters into contracts with more than one private sector entity under subsection (a) with respect to a single assessment under such subsection, the Secretary shall designate one such entity that is predominately a health care organization as the program integrator.

''(2) The program integrator designated pursuant to paragraph (1) shall be responsible for coordinating the outcomes of the assessments conducted by the private sector entities pursuant to such contracts.

''(f) REPORTS.—(1) Not later than 60 days after completing an assessment pursuant to subsection (a), the private sector entity or entities carrying out such assessment shall submit to the Secretary of Veterans Affairs and the Committees on Veterans' Affairs of the House of Representatives and the Senate a report on the findings and recommendations of the private sector entity or entities with respect to such assessment. Such report shall include an identification of the following:

''(A) Any changes with respect to the matters included in such assessment since the date that is the later of the following:

''(i) The date on which the independent assessment under section 201 of the Veterans Access, Choice, and Accountability Act of 2014 (Public Law 113–146; 38 U.S.C. 1701 note) was completed.

''(ii) The date on which the last assessment under subsection (a) was completed.

''(B) Any recommendations regarding matters to be covered by subsequent assessments under subsection (a), including any additional matters to include for assessment or previously assessed matters to exclude.

''(2) Not later than 30 days after receiving a report under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall publish such report in the Federal Register and on a publicly accessible internet website of the Department.

''(3) Not later than 90 days after receiving a report under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall submit to the Committees on Veterans' Affairs of the House of Representatives and the Senate a report outlining the feasibility, and advisability, of implementing the recommendations made by the private sector entity or entities in such report received, including an identification of the timeline, cost, and any legislative authorities necessary for such implementation.''.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENTS.—The table of sections at the beginning of such chapter is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 1704 the following new item:

''1704A. Independent assessments of health care delivery systems and management processes.''.

(c) DEADLINE FOR INITIAL ASSESSMENT.—The initial assessment under section 1704A of title 38, United States Code, as added by subsection (a), shall be completed by not later than December 31, 2025.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. TAKANO) and the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. BOST) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and to insert extraneous material on H.R. 4626, as amended.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 4626, as amended, the VA Assessment by Independent Measures Act, or VA AIM Act.

This bill would require the Department of Veterans Affairs to contract with one or more private-sector entities to conduct independent assessments of its healthcare delivery systems and management processes once every 10 years.

This bill would make permanent an independent assessment process that is nearly identical to the one that was mandated by the Veterans Access, Choice, and Accountability Act of 2014.

Among other things, the review would examine VA patient demographics and healthcare needs now and in the future; the accuracy and reliability of the models used to project VA's healthcare budget; veterans' access to healthcare through community providers and other Federal facilities; VA's healthcare appointment scheduling processes; and VA's process for determining its staffing needs and recruiting and retaining clinical staff.

I am pleased that Ranking Member BOST and Representative BERGMAN were open to incorporating my feedback when this bill was considered by our committee this summer. We added a provision to the bill that requires VA to submit to Congress a report outlining the feasibility and advisability of implementing any recommendations made through these independent assessments. This will help us hold the Department accountable for improving its delivery of the healthcare benefits our Nation's veterans have earned.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 4626, as amended, the VA AIM Act, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 4626, as amended, the VA Assessment by Independent Measures Act, or AIM Act.

The AIM Act is sponsored by my friend and fellow Marine Corps veteran, General JACK BERGMAN. General BERGMAN is the ranking member of the Subcommittee on Health, and I thank him for his dedication to ensuring that the VA is providing good care for each one of our Nation's veterans.

The AIM Act would require an independent assessment of the VA healthcare system once every decade, starting in the year 2025.

When the VA was in the midst of a nationwide access and accountability crisis in 2014, Congress passed the Choice Act to help right the ship. The Choice Act included a provision requiring an independent assessment of the VA healthcare system. That led to many of the reforms that are occurring across the VA system today. Establishing a mechanism for regular independent assessments will ensure that the VA continues to improve in the decades ahead.

I appreciate Chairman TAKANO and his staff for working with me and General BERGMAN while the AIM Act was pending in committee. I hope that this bill will have the same level of bipartisan support today.

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

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers. I am prepared to close, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BOST. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. BERGMAN).

Mr. BERGMAN. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to rise today in support of my bill, H.R. 4626, as amended, the Department of Veterans Affairs Assessment by Independent Measures Act, or AIM Act.

When it comes to bureaucracies, I have never believed that maintaining the status quo is an acceptable path forward. In fact, it is an impossible path forward.

The world is constantly in a state of change. The way American men and women defend freedom around the world, and the way those same men and women seek care when they come home, is constantly changing as well. The VA healthcare system must change, too, or it will never fulfill its obligations to all of our veterans.

That is where the AIM Act comes in. The AIM Act would require an independent assessment of the operations and management of the VA healthcare system once every decade, beginning in 2025.

The independent assessment framework in the AIM Act is modeled after the independent assessment that was required in the Choice Act, which was signed into law in 2014 following the nationwide VA access and accountability crisis that saw some veterans literally dying on VA facilities' waiting lists.

That independent assessment was completed in 2015, and the findings and recommendations it contained directly underpinned many of the necessary improvements that have occurred in the VA healthcare system since then.

The AIM Act would ensure that this successful model is not a one-and-done but instead regularly recurs to ensure that the VA keeps improving for veterans long into the future.

I am grateful for the support the AIM Act has received from veterans service organizations, particularly the Veterans of Foreign Wars, the Wounded Warrior Project, and the Minority Veterans of America.

I am also grateful for the bipartisan support the AIM Act received in the Veterans' Affairs Committee. I thank all of my colleagues for that. I hope that there will be a similar show of bipartisan support for the bill today. My fellow veterans have earned it.

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I am prepared to close, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BOST. Mr. Speaker, I encourage all of my colleagues to support this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I ask all of my colleagues to join me in passing this important piece of legislation, H.R. 4626, as amended, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. TAKANO) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4626, as amended.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

PROTECTIONS FOR STUDENT VETERANS ACT

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5603) to amend title 38, United States Code, to establish protections for a member of the Armed Forces who leaves a course of education, paid for with certain educational assistance, to perform certain service, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5603

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 ''Protections for Student Veterans Act''.

SEC. 2. ESTABLISHMENT OF PROTECTIONS FOR A MEMBER OF THE ARMED FORCES WHO LEAVES A COURSE OF EDUCATION, PAID FOR WITH CERTAIN EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE, TO PERFORM CERTAIN SERVICE.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—Chapter 36 of title 38, United States Code, amended by inserting after section 3691 the following new section:

''§ 3691A. Withdrawal or leave of absence from certain education

''(a) IN GENERAL.—

''(1) WITHDRAWAL OR LEAVE OF ABSENCE.—A covered member may, after receiving orders to enter a period of covered service, withdraw or take a leave of absence from covered education.

''(2) PROHIBITION ON ADVERSE ACTION.—The institution concerned may not take any adverse action against a covered member on the basis that such covered member withdraws or takes a leave of absence under paragraph (1). Adverse actions include the following:

''(A) The assignment of a failing grade to a covered member for covered education.

''(B) The reduction of the grade point average of a covered member for covered education.

''(C) The characterization of any absence of a covered member from covered education as unexcused.

''(D) The assessment of any financial penalty against a covered member.

''(b) WITHDRAWAL.—If a covered member withdraws from covered education under subsection (a), the institution concerned shall refund all tuition and fees (including payments for housing) for the academic term from which the covered servicemember withdraws.

''(c) LEAVE OF ABSENCE.—If a covered member takes a leave of absence from covered education under subsection (a), the institution concerned shall—

''(1) assign a grade of 'incomplete' (or equivalent) to the covered member for covered education for the academic term from which the covered member takes such leave of absence; and

''(2) to the extent practicable, permit the covered member, upon completion of the period covered service, to complete such academic term.

''(d) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

''(1) The term 'covered education' means a course of education—

''(A) at an institution of higher education; and

''(B) paid for with educational assistance furnished under a law administered by the Secretary.

''(2) The term 'covered member' means a member of the Armed Forces (including the reserve components) enrolled in covered education.

''(3) The term 'covered service' means—

''(A) active service or inactive-duty training, as such terms are defined in section 101 of title 10; or

''(B) State active duty, as defined in section 4303 of this title.

''(4) The term 'institution concerned' means, with respect to a covered member, the institution of higher education where the covered member is enrolled in covered education.

''(5) The term 'institution of higher education' has the meaning given such term in section 101 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001).

''(6) The term 'period of covered service' means the period beginning on the date on which a covered member enters covered service and ending on the date on which the covered member is released from covered service or dies while in covered service.''.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents at the beginning of such chapter is

amended by inserting after the item relating to section 3691 the following new item:

''3691A.Withdrawal or leave of absence from certain education.''.

SEC. 3. IMPROVEMENTS TO ASSISTANCE PROVIDED FOR CERTAIN FLIGHT TRAINING AND OTHER PROGRAMS OF EDUCATION.

(a) USE OF ENTITLEMENT FOR PRIVATE PILOT'S LICENSES.—Section 3034(d) of title 38, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1) by striking the semicolon and inserting the following: ''and is required for the course of education being pursued (including with respect to a dual major, concentration, or other element a degree); and'';

(2) by striking paragraph (2); and

(3) by redesignating paragraph (3) as paragraph (2).

(b) ACCELERATED PAYMENTS FOR FLIGHT TRAINING.—Section 3313 of such title is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

''(m) ACCELERATED PAYMENTS FOR CERTAIN FLIGHT TRAINING.—

''(1) PAYMENTS.—An individual enrolled in a program of education pursued at an institution of higher learning in which flight training is required to earn the degree being pursued (including with respect to a dual major, concentration, or other element of such a degree) may elect to receive accelerated payments of amounts for tuition and fees determined under subsection (c). The amount of each accelerated payment shall be an amount equal to twice the amount for tuition and fee so determined under such subsection, but the total amount of such payments may not exceed the total amount of tuition and fees for the program of education. The amount of monthly stipends shall be determined in accordance with such subsection (c) and may not be accelerated under this paragraph.

''(2) EDUCATIONAL COUNSELING.—An individual may make an election under paragraph (1) only if the individual receives educational counseling under section 3697A(a) of this title.

''(3) CHARGE AGAINST ENTITLEMENT.—The number of months of entitlement charged an individual for accelerated payments made pursuant to paragraph (1) shall be determined at the rate of two months for each month in which such an accelerated payment is made.''.

(c) FLIGHT TRAINING AT PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS.—Subsection (c)(1)(A) of such section 3313 is amended—

(1) in clause (i)—

(A) by redesignating subclauses (I) and (II) as items (aa) and (bb), respectively;

(B) by striking ''In the case of a program of education pursued at a public institution of higher learning'' and inserting ''(I) Subject to subclause (II), in the case of a program of education pursued at a public institution of higher learning not described in clause (ii)(II)(bb)''; and

(C) by adding at the end the following new subclause:

''(II) In determining the actual net cost for in-State tuition and fees pursuant to subclause (I), the Secretary may not pay for tuition and fees relating to flight training.''; and

(2) in clause (ii)—

(A) in subclause (I), by redesignating items (aa) and (bb) as subitems (AA) and (BB), respectively;

(B) in subclause (II), by redesignating items (aa) and (bb) as subitems (AA) and (BB), respectively;

(C) by redesignating subclauses (I) and (II) as items (aa) and (bb), respectively;

(D) by striking ''In the case of a program of education pursued at a non-public or foreign institution of higher learning'' and inserting ''(I) In the case of a program of education described in subclause (II)''; and

(E) by adding at the end the following new subclause:

''(II) A program of education described in this subclause is any of the following:

''(aa) A program of education pursued at a non-public or foreign institution of higher learning.

''(bb) A program of education pursued at a public institution of higher learning in which flight training is required to earn the degree being pursued (including with respect to a dual major, concentration, or other element of such a degree).''.

(d) CERTAIN PROGRAMS OF EDUCATION CARRIED OUT UNDER CONTRACT.—Section 3313(c)(1)(A)(ii)(II) of title 38, United States Code, as added by subsection (c)(2)(E), is amended by adding at the end the following new item:

''(cc) A program of education pursued at a public institution of higher learning in which the public institution of higher learning enters into a contract or agreement with an entity (other than another public institution of higher learning) to provide such program of education or a portion of such program of education.''.

(e) APPLICATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided by paragraph (2), the amendments made by this section shall apply with respect to a quarter, semester, or term, as applicable, commencing on or after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(2) SPECIAL RULE FOR CURRENT STUDENTS.—In the case of an individual who, as of the date of the enactment of this Act, is using educational assistance under chapter 33 of title 38, United States Code, to pursue a course of education that includes a program of education described in item (bb) or (cc) of section 3313(c)(1)(A)(ii)(II) of title 38, United States Code, as added by subsections (c) and (d), respectively, the amendment made by such subsection shall apply with respect to a quarter, semester, or term, as applicable, commencing on or after the date that is two years after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 4. DETERMINATION OF BUDGETARY EFFECTS.

The budgetary effects of this Act, for the purpose of complying with the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010, shall be determined by reference to the latest statement titled ''Budgetary Effects of PAYGO Legislation'' for this Act, submitted for printing in the Congressional Record by the Chairman of the House Budget Committee, provided that such statement has been submitted prior to the vote on passage.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. TAKANO) and the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. BOST) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and insert extraneous material on H.R. 5603, as amended.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 5603, as amended, the Protections for Student Veterans Act, introduced by Representative UNDERWOOD.

This bill amends the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act, which provides broad protections for Active Duty, reservist, and National Guard servicemembers during deployments.

H.R. 5603, as amended, enhances protections for members of the Armed Forces who must suspend their education to fulfill military orders.

Many States, including Illinois and Washington, have stronger student protections for servicemembers than those that exist at the Federal level. There are currently few Federal protections for members of the armed services who are enrolled in higher education when they receive Active Duty orders. These servicemembers can be held liable to repay tuition and may also receive failing or incomplete grades as a result of suspending their education for military duty.

I hope we can all agree that this is an unfair penalty to those members of the Armed Forces who are preparing for their future through education while also serving our country.

The protections proposed in this bill would cover unexpected withdrawals due to military orders and can provide restoration of benefits and reimbursements for classes.

This bill takes the best practices from around the country to make sure student veterans aren't left with debts or incomplete classes outside their control due to military orders.

This legislation is supported by numerous VSOs, including Student Veterans of America.

I thank Speaker PELOSI and Leader HOYER for bringing this legislation to the floor, and I urge the rest of my colleagues to support this legislation to protect GI Bill benefits for servicemembers fulfilling their duty to our country.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 5603, as amended, the Protections for Student Veterans Act.

This bill would protect student veterans who have to withdraw from a course of education under the GI Bill if they are called up for Active Duty or for training. This change would protect students from receiving a poor grade or an incomplete while they are doing their job to protect this country.

The change proposed in this bill is needed, and it has my full support.

I am also pleased that this bill, as amended, includes the text of Congressman CAWTHORN's bill, H.R. 4874, the Fly Vets Act. His bill would close a longstanding loophole that allows public flight training schools to charge an unlimited amount in tuition and fees for GI Bill students.

This bill would allow students to utilize a revolutionary accelerated tuition and fee model that would provide twice the amount of tuition and fees per

month for 2 months of eligibility. This is commonsense legislation that would protect both the student veteran and the taxpayer.

I thank Congressman CAWTHORN for his hard work on this bill. I also thank Congressmen WENSTRUP and LEVIN for their work on this bill in previous Congresses. I hope that this year we can get this needed change across the finish line.

While we are talking about the GI Bill, I would like to take a few minutes to discuss another matter. At least at the start of the pandemic, we worked on a bipartisan effort to ensure that student veterans' GI Bill housing allowance payments are not cut when their in-person classes converted to online learning due to COVID–19. The current authorization expires on December 21, 2021.

Chairman TAKANO and Congressman TRONE are advocating for a bill that extends this protection, but it is not paid for. Instead, it relies on emergency spending to cover the more than $200 million mandatory score associated with the bill. I believe that is too high of a cost to consider through emergency spending and must insist that we offset the extension.

To that end, I introduced a bill that would achieve the policy objective but pay for the cost of the bill with a regularly used offset.

My bill also includes changes that are needed to ensure that GI Bill students can attend foreign schools. It would also give U.S. schools time to comply with the new reporting requirements passed last Congress.

A coalition of 18 higher education groups has advocated for these changes for several months and support my proposal. They understand that if these changes are not made soon, many schools will be forced to stop accepting students who are using the GI Bill.

I understand the chairman has recently received a letter from the chancellor of the University of California at Riverside, who agrees that this proposal must be offset.

Chancellor Kim A. Wilcox wrote that by passing the bill without an offset, we would be ''no closer to a resolution on this critical issue.''

The letter goes on to say that passing a bill out of the House without an offset ''will jeopardize UCR's ability to continue to serve our veteran students.''

The chancellor also stated that this fall UC Riverside supported hundreds of military-connected students, including about 179 veterans who could be impacted by inaction.

Unless I am mistaken, UC Riverside is in Chairman TAKANO's district.

Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD the letter from Chancellor Wilcox.

UC RIVERSIDE,
OFFICE OF THE CHANCELLOR,
Riverside, CA, November 12, 2021.

Hon. MARK TAKANO,
U.S. Representative,
Washington, DC.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE TAKANO: I understand that you are planning to bring H.R. 5545, the Responsible Education Mitigating Options and Technical Extensions (REMOTE) Act, up for a vote in the House next week. The bill includes critical technical corrections to address unintended consequences stemming from several provisions in the Isakson Roe Act and the Training in High-Demand Roles to Improve Veteran Employment (THRIVE) Act that went into effect on August 1, 2021. The bill would also extend certain COVID-related flexibilities granted to the Secretary of the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) in the wake of the pandemic.

As the bill is currently written, however, it does not include an offset for the approximately $200 million cost for the extension of COVID–19 flexibilities. I am deeply concerned that without the inclusion of an offset, the bill will not be able to pass the Senate by unanimous consent and we will be no closer to a resolution on this critical issue.

During the Fall of 2021, UC Riverside served 179 Veterans, 37 Reservists, 11 National Guard, and 15 Active Duty self-identified members of the U.S. military branches. Designated as a ''Military Spouse Friendly'' campus, UCR served over 350 dependents, and have utilized over $6M in Veterans benefits.

Without an offset for the extension of COVID–19 flexibilities, it will jeopardize UCR's ability to continue to serve our Veteran Students, due to the compliance issues that require fixes. I would also urge you to include language to modify VA's current ''rounding out'' rule to ensure that more veterans can maintain full-time benefits during the last term of their program.

I respectfully request that your staff work to pass bipartisan legislation next week that addresses these concerns and can be quickly passed through both chambers and signed into law.

Sincerely,

KIM A. WILCOX,
Chancellor.

□ 1300

Mr. BOST. At our full committee markup 2 weeks ago, I urged Chairman TAKANO to work with me and our Senate colleagues to find a way forward on the offset issue on a bipartisan basis.

However, last week I was told that Congressman TRONE's bill would be on the slate of bills, but the cost would not be offset. I registered my concern and was glad to see that the un-offset bill will not be considered under suspension of the rules today.

I do understand, however, that the majority intends to take Congressman TRONE's bill to the Rules Committee the week after next and pass it out of the House un-offset through a rule.

Let me be clear, I support the policy, but I believe the cost of the bill must be offset. Schools like UC Riverside clearly agree with me. Even if the Democrats are able to get Congressman TRONE's un-offset bill through the House—and that is a big ''if''—I don't believe that they can pass it in the Senate by unanimous consent.

It is the responsibility of the leaders of our committee to solve this issue so that the bill can quickly make it to the President's desk. Although the chairman may not like it, my approach is the only way to get this done in time to help students in a fiscally responsible manner.

The higher education community has told us that this extension needs to be enacted by Thanksgiving. I think we can see that under the majority's current plan, the deadline will be missed. After Thanksgiving we have only 9 legislative days left before these protections expire. We are simply running out of time.

I do not have a preference for whether we take up my bill or amend Congressman TRONE's bill to include the offset, but I urge the chairman to come back to reality and stop playing political games with it so that we can ensure that student veterans are protected in a fiscally sound manner.

At the very least, I would advise the chairman not to let this inaction impact thousands of student veterans across the country, including the 179 right there in his own district.

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

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

I am distressed that the ranking member has chosen this particular moment to inject comments about the REMOTE Act, sponsored by the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. TRONE), and to imply that there is obstruction in taking action to help our veterans, our student veterans, with their housing allowances—which we took action on during the pandemic, which still we are not completely out of yet. I would argue that we are still in a national emergency. We are seeing COVID infections rise in Europe, and we are seeing vaccine resistance and hesitancy in many parts of the country, which still necessitate the need for a policy which allows for student veterans to still get their housing allowances while they are taking classes virtually.

I will remind the minority that three times under the Trump administration, we passed something like the REMOTE Act, the authority to allow student veterans to receive their housing allowances while taking virtual classes. They were not in residence at the school where they would do in-person learning. We allowed this three times under emergency spending. Why? Because emergency spending fits the moment. And it still fits the moment. This nonsense about we have to pay for something that should be an emergency is nonsense.

I recall times on this floor when we had Members arguing that we should not pay for the damage done for hurricanes in one State because it didn't happen to the rest of the States, that we need to find a pay-for for hurricane damage in this country and for certain other kinds of natural disasters.

A pandemic is a type of natural disaster. In this case, it has killed 700,000 Americans. I would argue that we saved lives, and we relieved a lot of suffering of our veterans who would have been turned out in the streets if we did not give them this housing allowance.

And now at the eleventh hour when we intended to bring Representative TRONE's bill to the floor, suddenly we had to meet a pay-for demand of the

minority, and to set a precedent for future disasters that we would have to have this very argument.

Instead of the precedent being that we spend emergency funds for emergency situations, we now are in a situation where the minority is arguing a ridiculous ideological argument about how we pay for things during a time of a national emergency.

I am disappointed that the minority has brought up its objections and also sought to use my University of California, Riverside as part of this pawn. I just received a message from my chancellor correcting the position that they took on their public letter. They are the only university to submit such a detailed letter regarding the pay-for. No other university has sought to take that position. I have questions as to how my university reached a point where they issued such a letter so that it could be used on the floor. I now have a correction that was issued to me just hours before.

This is about America's veterans, and this is about serving America's veterans during an emergency situation in which 700,000 Americans have already died. I want to keep those veterans safe. I want to keep them in housing. And, yes, I believe it is appropriate to keep the precedent of using emergency funding and not have this silly political gamesmanship over the pay-for.

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

Mr. BOST. Mr. Speaker, paying for something and doing the job that we are supposed to be doing here is not political gamesmanship.

I said in my statement that I believe that we must continue to provide for these veterans, but it is our fiduciary duty to do it in the correct way. That is what I am asking for. I am also asking for it because that way we know it will move through the Senate and work in a bipartisan, bicameral manner to try to move it forward.

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

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume. I will just reply that it is political gamesmanship. I hate seeing universities used as pawns in this game. I hate seeing our student veterans being used as pawns.

What is at stake here is the principle, the precedent that this Congress will pay for emergencies out of emergency funding. The need to help our veterans, who must take their classes remotely, pay for their housing because of the national emergency that we are still in, is part of a precedent that we need to preserve.

This is not a political game to me. This is about protecting our veterans. This is about protecting our Nation in the future.

The idea that when a national disaster, whether it occurs in the form of a hurricane, an earthquake, or some other calamity like a pandemic that has killed 700,000 Americans, that the principle stands that that is an emergency and that we as a Nation stand together as one American from whatever State we are in to help an American in another State, even though that disaster didn't happen in that State. But this disaster was omnipresent throughout our country. I don't understand the logic.

Mr. Speaker, I am prepared to close, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BOST. Mr. Speaker, I encourage all of my colleagues to support the underlying bill that was discussed. I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I ask all my colleagues to join me in passing this very important legislation, H.R. 5603, as amended, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. TAKANO) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 5603, as amended.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

PROTECTING MOMS WHO SERVED ACT OF 2021

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 796) to codify maternity care coordination programs at the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 796

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 ''Protecting Moms Who Served Act of 2021''.

SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) MATERNAL MORTALITY.—The term ''maternal mortality'' means a death occurring during pregnancy or within a one-year period after pregnancy that is caused by pregnancy-related or childbirth complications, including suicide, overdose, or other death resulting from a mental health or substance use disorder attributed to or aggravated by pregnancy-related or childbirth complications.

(2) POSTPARTUM.—The term ''postpartum'', with respect to an individual, means the one-year period beginning on the last day of the pregnancy of the individual.

(3) PREGNANCY-ASSOCIATED DEATH.—The term ''pregnancy-associated death'' means the death of a pregnant or postpartum individual, by any cause, that occurs during pregnancy or within one year following pregnancy, regardless of the outcome, duration, or site of the pregnancy.

(4) PREGNANCY-RELATED DEATH.—The term ''pregnancy-related death'' means the death of a pregnant or postpartum individual that occurs during pregnancy or within one year following pregnancy from a pregnancy complication, a chain of events initiated by pregnancy, or the aggravation of an unrelated condition by the physiologic effects of pregnancy.

(5) RACIAL AND ETHNIC MINORITY GROUP.—The term ''racial and ethnic minority group'' has the meaning given that term in section 1707(g)(1) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 300u–6(g)(1)).

(6) SEVERE MATERNAL MORBIDITY.—The term ''severe maternal morbidity'' means a health condition, including a mental health condition or substance use disorder, attributed to or aggravated by pregnancy or childbirth that results in significant short-term or long-term consequences to the health of the individual who was pregnant.

SEC. 3. SUPPORT BY DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS OF MATERNITY CARE COORDINATION.

(a) PROGRAM ON MATERNITY CARE COORDINATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall carry out the maternity care coordination program described in Veterans Health Administration Directive 1330.03.

(2) TRAINING AND SUPPORT.—In carrying out the program under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall provide to community maternity care providers training and support with respect to the unique needs of pregnant and postpartum veterans, particularly regarding mental and behavioral health conditions relating to the service of those veterans in the Armed Forces.

(b) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—There is authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary $15,000,000 for fiscal year 2022 for the program under subsection (a)(1).

(2) SUPPLEMENT NOT SUPPLANT.—Amounts authorized under paragraph (1) are authorized in addition to any other amounts authorized for maternity health care and coordination for the Department of Veterans Affairs.

(c) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) COMMUNITY MATERNITY CARE PROVIDERS.—The term ''community maternity care providers'' means maternity care providers located at non-Department facilities who provide maternity care to veterans under section 1703 of title 38, United States Code, or any other law administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

(2) NON-DEPARTMENT FACILITIES.—The term ''non-Department facilities'' has the meaning given that term in section 1701 of title 38, United States Code.

SEC. 4. REPORT ON MATERNAL MORTALITY AND SEVERE MATERNAL MORBIDITY AMONG PREGNANT AND POSTPARTUM VETERANS.

(a) GAO REPORT.—Not later than two years after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Veterans' Affairs of the House of Representatives, and make publicly available, a report on maternal mortality and severe maternal morbidity among pregnant and postpartum veterans, with a particular focus on racial and ethnic disparities in maternal health outcomes for veterans.

(b) MATTERS INCLUDED.—The report under subsection (a) shall include the following:

(1) To the extent practicable—

(A) the number of pregnant and postpartum veterans who have experienced a pregnancy-related death or pregnancy-associated death in the most recent 10 years of available data;

(B) the rate of pregnancy-related deaths per 100,000 live births for pregnant and postpartum veterans;

(C) the number of cases of severe maternal morbidity among pregnant and postpartum veterans in the most recent year of available data;

(D) an assessment of the racial and ethnic disparities in maternal mortality and severe

maternal morbidity rates among pregnant and postpartum veterans;

(E) identification of the causes of maternal mortality and severe maternal morbidity that are unique to veterans, including post-traumatic stress disorder, military sexual trauma, and infertility or miscarriages that may be caused by service in the Armed Forces;

(F) identification of the causes of maternal mortality and severe maternal morbidity that are unique to veterans from racial and ethnic minority groups and such other at-risk populations as the Comptroller General considers appropriate;

(G) identification of any correlations between the former rank of veterans and their maternal health outcomes;

(H) the number of veterans who have been diagnosed with infertility by a health care provider of the Veterans Health Administration each year in the most recent five years, disaggregated by age, race, ethnicity, sex, marital status, and geographical location;

(I) the number of veterans who have received a clinical diagnosis of unexplained infertility by a health care provider of the Veterans Health Administration each year in the most recent five years; and

(J) an assessment of the extent to which the rate of incidence of clinically diagnosed infertility among veterans compare or differ to the rate of incidence of clinically diagnosed infertility among the civilian population.

(2) An assessment of the barriers to determining the information required under paragraph (1) and recommendations for improvements in tracking maternal health outcomes among pregnant and postpartum veterans who—

(A) have health care coverage through the Department;

(B) are enrolled in the TRICARE program (as defined in section 1072 of title 10, United States Code);

(C) have employer-based or private insurance;

(D) are enrolled in the Medicaid program under title XIX of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396 et seq.);

(E) are eligible to receive health care furnished by—

(i) the Indian Health Service;

(ii) Tribal health programs; or

(iii) urban Indian organizations; or

(F) are uninsured.

(3) Recommendations for legislative and administrative actions to increase access to mental and behavioral health care for pregnant and postpartum veterans who screen positively for maternal mental or behavioral health conditions.

(4) Recommendations to address homelessness, food insecurity, poverty, and related issues among pregnant and postpartum veterans.

(5) Recommendations on how to effectively educate maternity care providers on best practices for providing maternity care services to veterans that addresses the unique maternal health care needs of veteran populations.

(6) Recommendations to reduce maternal mortality and severe maternal morbidity among pregnant and postpartum veterans and to address racial and ethnic disparities in maternal health outcomes for each of the groups described in subparagraphs (A) through (F) of paragraph (2).

(7) Recommendations to improve coordination of care between the Department and non-Department facilities for pregnant and postpartum veterans, including recommendations to improve—

(A) health record interoperability; and

(B) training for the directors of the Veterans Integrated Service Networks, directors of medical facilities of the Department, chiefs of staff of such facilities, maternity care coordinators, and staff of relevant non-Department facilities.

(8) An assessment of the authority of the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to access maternal health data collected by the Department of Health and Human Services and, if applicable, recommendations to increase such authority.

(9) To the extent applicable, an assessment of potential causes of or explanations for lower maternal mortality rates among veterans who have health care coverage through the Department of Veterans Affairs compared to maternal mortality rates in the general population of the United States.

(10) Any other information the Comptroller General determines appropriate with respect to the reduction of maternal mortality and severe maternal morbidity among pregnant and postpartum veterans and to address racial and ethnic disparities in maternal health outcomes for veterans.

(c) DEFINITIONS.—In this section, the terms ''Tribal health program'' and ''urban Indian organization'' have the meanings given those terms in section 4 of the Indian Health Care Improvement Act (25 U.S.C. 1603).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. TAKANO) and the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. BOST) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and insert extraneous material on S. 796.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of S. 796, the Protecting Moms Who Served Act of 2021, sponsored by Senator TAMMY DUCKWORTH. The House companion to this bill, H.R. 958, was championed by the gentlewoman from Illinois (Ms. UNDERWOOD) and unanimously passed the House this past May.

The Protecting Moms Who Served Act of 2021 will codify the maternity care coordination program that the Veterans Health Administration first established in 2012 and updated in a November 2020 policy directive. This will help ensure that veterans across the Nation receive high-quality, culturally competent healthcare throughout their pregnancies and immediately afterward.

The majority of veterans' maternity care is delivered by a contracted network of non-VA community providers. However, many veterans have coexisting medical or mental health conditions for which they receive ongoing care from VA providers. This means it is absolutely critical to ensure pregnant veterans' care is coordinated among all healthcare professionals involved in it. Such information sharing is crucial for patient safety and positive health outcomes—for parents and newborns.

In addition to codifying VA's maternity care coordination program, S. 796 will require the Department to provide training for community providers on the unique needs of pregnant and postpartum veterans and on behavioral health conditions related to service in the Armed Forces.

Today, women veterans are the fastest growing cohort in the veteran population, and more than 40 percent of women veterans using VA healthcare are of reproductive age. Black women serve in higher numbers and represent nearly one-third of women using VA for their healthcare.

In the population at large, Black, American Indian, and Alaska Native moms die from pregnancy-related complications at approximately three times the rate of White, Latina, Asian American, and Pacific Islander women, regardless of income or education levels.

However, little is known about whether pregnant and postpartum veterans have better, worse, or equal rates of maternal mortality compared to nonveterans. That is why S. 796 also mandates a U.S. Government Accountability Office study on maternal mortality and morbidity among pregnant and postpartum veterans, with a particular focus on racial and ethnic disparities in maternal health outcomes for veterans.

Last year, approximately 6,000 veterans using VA became new moms. Moms who have served our Nation exemplify strength and resilience. Supporting moms means ensuring gender equity, and that begins with healthcare equity. I therefore ask my colleagues to join me in supporting final passage of S. 796, the Protecting Moms Who Served Act of 2021.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of S. 796, the Protecting Moms Who Served Act.

This bill would require VA to improve the care that is provided to veterans who are pregnant. More and more women are volunteering to serve in the military and seeking services from VA as veterans.

As they grow their families, VA must provide them with high-quality, easy-to-access, pre- and postpartum care.

Strengthening services to women veterans is one of my priorities as the lead Republican on this committee, and I am proud to help do that by supporting this bill today.

I thank Illinois Senator TAMMY DUCKWORTH for sponsoring this bill on behalf of our fellow veterans. I urge my colleagues to support it today.

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

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers. I am prepared to close, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BOST. Mr. Speaker, I encourage my colleagues to support this bill. I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I ask all of my colleagues to join me in passing this important piece of legislation, S. 796, the Protecting Moms Who Served Act of 2021, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. ADAMS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak in strong support of the bipartisan legislation, Protecting Moms Who Served Act.

But before I do, I want to thank Congresswoman LAUREN UNDERWOOD for her leadership on this bill. I would also like to thank Senator DUCKWORTH and Representatives JULIA BROWNLEY, GUS BILIRAKIS, and BRIAN FITZPATRICK for their co-leadership.

Together, Congresswoman UNDERWOOD and I are the co-founders and co-chairs of the Black Maternal Health Caucus, as well as lead sponsors of the Momnibus—comprehensive legislation that addresses every dimension of the maternal health crisis in the United States.

And it gives me great joy to say that the Protecting Moms Who Served Act will be the first bill of the Momnibus to pass in Congress.

The United States continues to have the highest maternal mortality rates in the developed world. Women and birthing people of color die during or after pregnancy at 3 to 4 times the rates of their White counterparts.

For the nearly 2 million women Veterans, maternal health outcomes are not any better. Pregnant and postpartum women who served face unique maternal health risks that deserve our attention.

For example, the risk of pregnancy complications may be higher for women Veterans receiving maternity care through Veterans Affairs, since these women frequently have multiple medical conditions that can increase pregnancy complications.

Furthermore, it is suggested that military deployment may increase the risk of post-traumatic stress disorder or PTSD. A post-traumatic stress disorder diagnosis can increase the risk of spontaneous pre-term birth, preeclampsia, or gestational diabetes.

Women Veterans with more symptoms of PTSD or moral injury like shame, guilt, or demoralization, are also at greater risk for postpartum depression in the three years following the end of their military service.

More specifically a study on the impacts of PTSD or moral injury, found that one in two women Veterans who became pregnant during the study, had a negative pregnancy outcome.

These outcomes include postpartum depression or anxiety, miscarriage, obstetrical medical conditions, emergency c-sections, the baby's need for intensive care post-delivery, preterm birth, stillbirth, and ectopic or tubal pregnancy.

Our women Veterans have upheld their duty to serve and protect and, we as Members of Congress must do the same.

The Protecting Moms Who Served Act bill will codify and strengthen the Department of Veterans Affairs maternity care coordination programs to ensure Veterans receive the high-quality maternal health care and support they have earned.

This is a noteworthy advancement since maternity care coordination programs are associated with improved maternal and birth outcomes, increased use of beneficial health services, and decreased costs, especially among women with chronic or pregnancy-related physical or mental health conditions, or social vulnerabilities.

Additionally, this bill will commission the first-ever comprehensive study of America's maternal health crisis among women Veterans, with a particular emphasis on racial and ethnic disparities.

This study is needed to provide further understanding of the maternal health challenges experienced among women who served.

On May 12th, this legislation passed the house with unanimous bipartisan support.

Today, we are here to vote once more and finally send this bill to the President's desk, changing the lives of millions of women Veterans and their children.

Let's remember that strong and supportive healthcare for birthing people supports the future of our Nation by investing in the well-being of children and families.

And today's vote ensures a healthcare system for women Veterans that will offer the best maternal care available.

I am proud to see our progress towards ending maternal mortality and disparities among our moms who served. I look forward to continuing to address these issues in Congress as we examine and discuss the maternal mortality and morbidity issues that threaten our Nation.

To all my colleagues—lets pass the Protecting Moms Who Served Act for our women Veterans, their children, and their families.

What we do here today will live beyond our time in Congress and impact generations of women who serve.

It is time we make sure that Veterans, who have done so much for our country, receive the support and resources they need.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. TAKANO) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, S. 796.

The question was taken.

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

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

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

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

□ 1315

STUDENT VETERANS COUNSELING CENTERS ELIGIBILITY ACT

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4233) to amend title 38, United States Code, to furnish Vet Center readjustment counseling and related mental health services to veterans and members of the Armed Forces using certain educational assistance benefits.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 4233

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 ''Student Veterans Counseling Centers Eligibility Act''.

SEC. 2. EXPANSION OF VET CENTER SERVICES.

(a) VETERANS AND MEMBERS USING EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE BENEFITS.—Section 1712A of title 38, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by striking ''clauses (i) through (vi)'' both places it appears and inserting ''clauses (i) through (vii)'';

(2) by striking ''in clause (vii)'' both places it appears and inserting ''in clause (viii)'';

(3) in subsection (a)(1)(C)—

(A) by redesignating clause (vii) as clause (viii); and

(B) by inserting after clause (vi) the following new clause:

''(vii) Any veteran or member of the Armed Forces pursuing a course of education using covered educational assistance benefits.''; and

(4) in subsection (h), by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(6) The term 'covered educational assistance benefits' means educational assistance benefits provided pursuant to—

''(A) chapters 30, 31, 32, or 33 of this title;

''(B) chapters 1606 or 1607 of title 10;

''(C) section 116 of the Harry W. Colmery Veterans Educational Assistance Act of 2017 (Public Law 115–48; 38 U.S.C. 3001 note); or

''(D) section 8006 of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (Public Law 117–2; 38 U.S.C. 3001 note prec.).''.

(b) GAO REPORT.—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit to the Committees on Veterans' Affairs of the House of Representatives and the Senate a report assessing—

(1) the mental health needs of veterans pursuing a course of education using covered educational assistance benefits (as defined in section 1712A(h)(6) of title 38, United States Code, as added by subsection (a)); and

(2) the efforts of the Department of Veterans Affairs to address such mental health needs.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. TAKANO) and the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. BOST) each will control 20 minutes.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and to insert extraneous material on H.R. 4233.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 4233, the Student Veterans Counseling Centers Eligibility Act from Congressman MURPHY.

We all know that student veterans may face challenges as they begin this new phase of their lives following military service, and we want them to be able to seek and find support at vet centers.

We also encourage VA to continue monitoring the need for increased funding, staffing, and resources for vet centers as a result of demand for these services.

I urge all of my colleagues to vote ''yes'' on H.R. 4233, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 4233, the Student Veterans Counseling Centers Eligibility Act.

This bill would allow student veterans to access readjustment counseling and peer support services at vet centers.

Student veterans have unique needs and stressors. This bill would help them get the support they require to thrive in school and in their post-military lives.

I am grateful to my good friend and committee colleague, Dr. GREG MURPHY, for introducing this bill. I thank him for his leadership on behalf of student veterans, and I am confident this bill would benefit them for generations to come.

Mr. Speaker, I urge every one of my colleagues to support H.R. 4233 today.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. MURPHY), the sponsor of this bill.

Mr. MURPHY of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of my bipartisan bill, H.R. 4233, the Student Veterans Counseling Centers Eligibility Act.

The issue to which I will speak is exceedingly personal to me and my district, as I represent close to 90,000 veterans, most of whom are or will be receiving benefits via the Post-9/11 GI Bill or the Montgomery GI Bill.

The transition from Active Duty to civilian life can be challenging for some of our servicemembers. It can be tremendously difficult for many of our servicemembers to return to education after sacrificing so much for our Nation abroad. This is especially true for older and nontraditional student veterans.

A few months ago, alongside Ranking Member BOST, I had the privilege of introducing the Student Veterans Counseling Centers Eligibility Act. It passed out of the Veterans' Affairs Committee with a unanimous vote.

Our Nation's veterans represent the very best among us here in the United States, but many serve at great personal cost. A recent RAND study reported that 20 percent of veterans on the GI Bill experience feelings of depression or PTSD. That 20 percent amounts to over 170,000 veterans, which is almost double the number I mentioned previously of the veterans I represent in my district.

As one can imagine, serving as a member of our Armed Forces can be extremely stressful. Too often, we see the tragedy of our veterans losing their battle with mental health issues when returning from service. A very tragic and somber fact is that the VA currently estimates 18 veterans a day commit suicide. In fact, 46 percent of our military students report suicidal thoughts compared to only 6 percent of their nonmilitary peers.

If we can provide mental health services to assist just a single veteran who is struggling, then I believe it is our sworn duty to do so. We have the opportunity now with the Student Veterans Counseling Centers Eligibility Act.

Education poses one of the most beneficial yet stressful areas of transition for our veterans. The intention of this bill is to aid more of our veterans who are readjusting to civilian lives while providing overdue access to vital mental health resources.

Helping veterans succeed in their education and civilian lives is one of the most important ways we can thank them for their service.

I have spoken with some of these student veterans. I have heard their stories. These student veterans have had to wait weeks to even months for a mental health appointment if their mental health crisis was not deemed urgent. Unfortunately, many of our veterans do not have the luxury of weeks or months to wait to see a mental health provider.

Furthermore, private mental health can be inaccessible for those not utilizing the benefits of the GI Bill. An average therapy session could cost between $60 to $120, with the higher end reaching over $250 per session. Even with health insurance, premiums often can be $50 per session.

The Student Veterans Counseling Centers Eligibility Act would provide expanded counseling and mental health services to those student veterans through the VA's Readjustment Counseling Centers, known as vet centers.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mr. BOST. Mr. Speaker, I yield the gentleman an additional 30 seconds.

Mr. MURPHY of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I am extremely honored and proud to sponsor this bill, and I am grateful to Ranking Member BOST for his support as an original cosponsor and to all of my Republican and Democratic colleagues who have come together to support this very critical bipartisan legislation.

I am also thankful to the Student Veterans of America for their support.

I ask all Members for bipartisan support.

Mr. BOST. Mr. Speaker, I encourage all of my colleagues to support this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I ask all of my colleagues to join me in passing H.R. 4233, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. TAKANO) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4233.

The question was taken.

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

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

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

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

BRINGING REGISTERED APPRENTICESHIPS TO VETERANS EDUCATION ACT

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 147) to amend titles 10 and 38, United States Code, to make certain improvements to transitional services for separating members of the Armed Forces and educational assistance under laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 147

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 ''Bringing Registered Apprenticeships to Veterans Education Act'' or the ''BRAVE Act''.

SEC. 2. EDUCATION FOR SEPARATING MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES REGARDING REGISTERED APPRENTICESHIPS.

Section 1144(b)(1) of title 10, United States Code, is amended by inserting ''(including apprenticeship programs registered under the Act of August 16, 1937 (50 Stat. 664; commonly referred to as the 'National Apprenticeship Act') and approved under chapters 30 through 36 of title 38)'' after ''employment opportunities''.

SEC. 3. WEBSITES REGARDING APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAMS.

(a) WEBSITE UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF SECRETARY OF LABOR.—The Assistant Secretary of Labor for Veterans' Employment and Training, in coordination with the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, shall establish a user-friendly website (or update an existing website) that is available to the public on which veterans can find information about apprenticeship programs registered under the Act of August 16, 1937 (50 Stat. 664; commonly referred to as the ''National Apprenticeship Act'') and approved under chapters 30 through 36 of title 38, United States Code. Such information shall be searchable and sortable by occupation and location, and include, with regard to each such program, the following:

(1) A description, including any cost to a veteran.

(2) Contact information.

(3) Whether the program has been endorsed by a veterans service organization or nonprofit organization that caters to veterans.

(4) Whether the program prefers to hire veterans.

(5) Each certification or degree an individual earns by completing the program.

(b) COORDINATION WITH OTHER WEBSITE.—The Assistant Secretary shall update all information regarding programs for veterans listed on apprenticeship.gov (or any successor website) to include the information specified under subsection (a).

SEC. 4. DETERMINATION OF BUDGETARY EFFECTS.

The budgetary effects of this Act, for the purpose of complying with the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010, shall be determined by reference to the latest statement titled ''Budgetary Effects of PAYGO Legislation'' for this Act, submitted for printing in the Congressional Record by the Chairman of the House Budget Committee, provided that such statement has been submitted prior to the vote on passage.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. TAKANO) and the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. BOST) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and to insert extraneous material on H.R. 147, as amended.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 147, the Bringing Registered Apprenticeships to Veterans Education Act, or BRAVE Act, as amended.

This bill increases access to information regarding registered apprenticeships for veterans. Registered apprenticeships are an important component of our workforce system. They provide on-the-job training with an employer that teaches workers the practical and theoretical skills they need to succeed in a field, all while earning a paycheck.

The Department of Labor validates registered apprenticeships to ensure that participants are receiving high-quality instruction and training.

At the end of their program, apprentices receive a national, industry-recognized credential in their field.

This bill would require the Department of Labor to improve access to registered apprenticeships for transitioning servicemembers and veterans by maintaining a searchable website that connects them with employer programs that are endorsed by VSOs and other veteran-specific groups.

Registered apprenticeships provide a unique pathway into in-demand, high-quality jobs, and the BRAVE Act will make it easier for veterans to learn and earn when training for their careers.

This legislation is supported by numerous VSOs, including Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America, Veterans of Foreign Wars, and Paralyzed Veterans of America.

I thank Speaker PELOSI and Leader HOYER for bringing this legislation to the floor, and I urge the rest of my colleagues to support this legislation to improve employability for veterans through apprenticeships.

I also thank Chairman ADAM SMITH of the House Armed Services Committee, who has agreed to forgo committee action on H.R. 147, as amended, so that it can be considered on the floor today.

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

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS,
Washington, DC, November 15, 2021.

Hon. ADAM SMITH,
Chairman, Committee on Armed Services, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SMITH: I write concerning H.R. 147 as amended, the Bringing Registered Apprenticeships to Veterans Education Act or the BRAVE Act. I appreciate your willingness to work cooperatively on this legislation.

I acknowledge that provisions of the bill fall within the jurisdiction of the Committee on Armed Services under House Rule X, and that your Committee will forgo action on H.R. 147 to expedite floor consideration. I further acknowledge that the inaction of your Committee with respect to the bill does not waive any future jurisdictional claim over the matters contained in the bill that fall within your jurisdiction. I will also support the appointment of Committee on Armed Services conferees during any House-Senate conference convened on this legislation.

Lastly, I will ensure that our exchange of letters is included in the Congressional Record during floor consideration of the bill. Thank you again for your cooperation regarding the legislation. I look forward to continuing to work with you as the measure moves through the legislative process.

Sincerely,

MARK TAKANO,
Chairman.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES,
Washington, DC, November 15, 2021.

Hon. MARK TAKANO,
Chairman, Committee on Veterans' Affairs, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. TAKANO: I write concerning H.R. 147 as amended, the Bringing Registered Apprenticeships to Veterans Education Act or the BRAVE Act. As a result of your having consulted with us on provisions within H.R. 147 that fall within the Rule X jurisdiction of the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, I forego any further consideration of this bill so that it may proceed expeditiously to the House floor for consideration.

The Committee on Armed Services takes this action with our mutual understanding that by foregoing consideration of H.R. 147 at this time, we do not waive any jurisdiction over subject matter contained in this or similar legislation and that our committee will be appropriately consulted and involved as this bill or similar legislation moves forward so that we may address any remaining issues in our jurisdiction. Further, I request your support for the appointment of conferees from the Committee on Armed Services during any House-Senate conference convened on this or related legislation.

Please place a copy of this letter and your response acknowledging our jurisdictional interest into the Congressional Record during consideration of the measure on the House floor. Thank you for the cooperative spirit in which you have worked regarding this matter and others between our respective committees.

Sincerely,

ADAM SMITH,
Chairman.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 147, as amended, the BRAVE Act.

Every year, nearly 200,000 servicemen and -women transition out of Active Duty and into the civilian sector.

This bill would require the Department of Defense to provide information on apprenticeship programs to separating servicemembers who are practicing in the Transition Assistance Program.

The BRAVE Act would also require the Department of Labor to establish a website that includes information on national apprenticeships and those approved for the GI Bill benefits so it is readily available to the transitioning servicemembers.

Last month's unemployment numbers showed that while the unemployment rate for nonveterans decreased, the unemployment rate for veterans increased slightly. This is concerning, and I am hopeful that improving the way that we provide information to our veterans about available apprenticeships may provide veterans with more opportunity for great jobs.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all Members to support H.R. 147, as amended, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. NORCROSS), my good friend and the author of this legislation. Congressman NORCROSS serves on the House Armed Services Committee; Education and Labor Committee; and the Science, Space, and Technology Committee.

Mr. NORCROSS. Mr. Speaker, I thank the chairman for yielding.

This is National Apprenticeship Week, and what better time for the passage of H.R. 147, the BRAVE Act.

I am a product of a registered apprenticeship program and the father of a veteran.

The Bringing Registered Apprenticeships to Veterans Education Act, or the BRAVE Act, would help those returning veterans find good-paying jobs and careers.

When we send our servicemembers to war, we train them and equip them, and we give them the skills they need to protect and defend the United States. We do this because we want them to succeed wherever they are needed, be it on the battlefield or rendering humanitarian assistance around the world. They deserve the same level of support when they leave the service and transition back to civilian life.

One of the best ways to help our vets transition is by providing them meaningful work opportunities or careers. Registered apprenticeships are one of the best ways, if not the best way, in the history of the United States for people to gain those skills. Registered apprenticeships allow the returning soldier to earn while they learn in-demand skills that are so desperately needed for family-sustaining careers.

Ninety-two percent of those who complete a registered apprenticeship program stay employed, and the average salary for graduates is $72,000. That is nearly $20,000 more than the average college graduate, with no student debt.

The BRAVE Act will connect veterans to these resources, helping them to transition to fulfilling civilian careers.

It is fitting that the vote for the BRAVE Act takes place during National Apprenticeship Week.

I urge all of my colleagues to support our veterans in their pursuit of a good career and a good-paying job by voting for the BRAVE Act.

Mr. BOST. Mr. Speaker, I encourage all of my colleagues to support this

bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I ask all of my colleagues to join me in passing H.R. 147, as amended, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. TAKANO) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 147, as amended.

The question was taken.

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

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

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

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

□ 1330

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON UNITED STATES OUTLYING AREAS AND FREELY ASSOCIATED STATES

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3730) to amend title 38, United States Code, to establish in the Department of Veterans Affairs an Advisory Committee on United States Outlying Areas and Freely Associated States, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3730

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

SECTION 1. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON UNITED STATES OUTLYING AREAS AND FREELY ASSOCIATED STATES.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT OF ADVISORY COMMITTEE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter III of chapter 5 of title 38, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

"§ 548. Advisory Committee on United States Outlying Areas and Freely Associated States

''(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary shall establish an advisory committee, to be known as the 'Advisory Committee on United States Outlying Areas and Freely Associated States', to provide advice and guidance to the Secretary on matters relating to covered veterans.

''(b) DUTIES.—The duties of the Committee shall be the following:

''(1) To advise the Secretary on matters relating to covered veterans, including how the Secretary can improve the programs and services of the Department to better serve such veterans.

''(2) To identify for the Secretary evolving issues of relevance to covered veterans.

''(3) To propose clarifications, recommendations, and solutions to address issues raised by covered veterans.

''(4) To provide a forum for covered veterans, veterans service organizations serving covered veterans, and the Department to discuss issues and proposals for changes to regulations, policies, and procedures of the Department.

''(5) To identify priorities for and provide advice to the Secretary on appropriate strategies for consultation with veterans service organizations serving covered veterans.

''(6) To encourage the Secretary to work with other departments and agencies of the Federal Government and Congress to ensure covered veterans are provided the full benefits of their status as covered veterans.

''(7) To highlight contributions of covered veterans in the Armed Forces.

''(8) To conduct other duties as determined appropriate by the Secretary.

''(c) MEMBERSHIP.—(1) The Committee shall be comprised of 15 voting members appointed by the Secretary.

''(2) In appointing members pursuant to paragraph (1), the Secretary shall ensure the following:

''(A) At least one member is appointed to represent covered veterans in each of the following areas:

''(i) American Samoa.

''(ii) Guam.

''(iii) Puerto Rico.

''(iv) The Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

''(v) The Virgin Islands of the United States.

''(vi) The Federated States of Micronesia.

''(vii) The Republic of the Marshall Islands.

''(viii) The Republic of Palau.

''(B) Not fewer than half of the members appointed are covered veterans, unless the Secretary determines that an insufficient number of qualified covered veterans are available.

''(C) Each member appointed resides in an area specified in subparagraph (A).

''(3) In appointing members pursuant to paragraph (1), the Secretary may consult with any Member of Congress who represents an area specified in paragraph (2)(A).

''(d) TERMS; VACANCIES.—(1) A member of the Committee shall be appointed for a term of two years.

''(2) Not later than 180 days after receiving notice of a vacancy in the Committee, the Secretary shall fill the vacancy in the same manner as the original appointment.

''(e) MEETING FORMAT AND FREQUENCY.—(1) Except as provided in paragraph (2), the Committee shall meet in-person with the Secretary not less frequently than twice each year and hold monthly conference calls as necessary.

''(2) Meetings held under paragraph (1) may be conducted virtually during a public health emergency declared by the Secretary of Health and Human Services pursuant to section 319 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 247d) or any renewal of such declaration.

''(f) ADDITIONAL REPRESENTATION.—(1) Representatives of relevant departments and agencies of the Federal Government may attend meetings of the Committee and provide information to the Committee.

''(2) One representative of the Department shall attend each meeting of the Committee.

''(3) Representatives attending meetings under this subsection—

''(A) shall not be considered voting members of the Committee; and

''(B) may not receive additional compensation for services performed with respect to the Committee.

''(g) SUBCOMMITTEES.—(1) The Committee may establish subcommittees.

''(2) The Secretary may, in consultation with the Committee, appoint a member to a subcommittee established under paragraph (1) who is not a member of the Committee.

''(3) A subcommittee established under paragraph (1) may enhance the function of the Committee, but may not supersede the authority of the Committee or provide direct advice or work products to the Secretary.

''(h) REPORTS.—(1) Not less frequently than once each year, the Committee shall submit to the Secretary and the appropriate committees of Congress a report containing such recommendations as the Committee may have for legislative or administrative action.

''(2) Not later than 90 days after the date on which the Secretary receives a report under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a written response to the report after—

''(A) giving the Committee an opportunity to review such written response; and

''(B) including in such written response any comments the Committee considers appropriate.

''(3) Not less frequently than once every two years, the Committee shall submit to the Secretary and the appropriate committees of Congress a report describing the activities of the Committee during the previous two years.

''(4) The Secretary shall make publicly available on an internet website of the Department—

''(A) each report the Secretary receives under paragraph (1);

''(B) each written response the Secretary submits under paragraph (2); and

''(C) each report the Secretary receives under paragraph (3).

''(i) COMMITTEE PERSONNEL MATTERS.—A member of the Committee shall be allowed travel expenses, including per diem in lieu of subsistence, at rates authorized for an employee of an agency under subchapter I of chapter 57 of title 5 while away from the home or regular place of business of the member in the performance of the duties of the Committee.

''(j) CONSULTATION.—In carrying out this section, the Secretary shall consult with veterans service organizations serving covered veterans.

''(k) FEDERAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE ACT EXEMPTION.—Section 14 of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App.) shall not apply to the Committee.

''(l) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

''(1) The term 'appropriate committees of Congress' means—

''(A) the Committee on Veterans' Affairs of the House of Representatives; and

''(B) the Committee on Veterans' Affairs of the Senate.

''(2) The term 'Committee' means the Advisory Committee on United States Outlying Areas and Freely Associated States established under subsection (a).

''(3) The term 'covered veteran' means a veteran residing in an area specified in subsection (c)(2)(A).

''(4) The term 'veterans service organization serving covered veterans' means any organization that—

''(A) serves the interests of covered veterans;

''(B) has covered veterans in substantive and policymaking positions within the organization; and

''(C) has demonstrated experience working with covered veterans.''.

(2) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections at the beginning of chapter 5 of such title is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 547 the following new item:

''548. Advisory Committee on United States Outlying Areas and Freely Associated States.''.

(b) DEADLINE FOR ESTABLISHMENT.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall establish the advisory

committee required by section 548 of title 38, United States Code, as added by subsection (a)(1) of this section.

(c) DEADLINE FOR INITIAL APPOINTMENTS.—Not later than 90 days after the date on which the Secretary establishes the advisory committee required by such section 548, the Secretary shall appoint the members of such advisory committee.

(d) INITIAL MEETING.—Not later than 120 days after the date on which the Secretary establishes the advisory committee required by such section 548, such advisory committee shall hold its first meeting.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. TAKANO) and the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. BOST) each will control 20 minutes.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and to insert extraneous material on H.R. 3730, as amended.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I support this legislation, H.R. 3730, sponsored by Mr. SABLAN and Mrs. RADEWAGEN, which would create an advisory committee on veterans living in outlying areas and freely associated States, including island territories.

The advisory committee would have a variety of members, including experts from the covered geographic areas. The Secretary will be able to consult regularly with, and receive the input of, this advisory committee regarding the administration of benefits and VA programs. Once established, the advisory committee will report annually on the needs of the covered veterans and provide much-needed recommendations.

This bipartisan legislation is supported by the American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Minority Veterans of America, Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 3730, to create a VA advisory committee on better serving veterans' needs in the territories. For a number of Congresses, Congresswoman RADEWAGEN, Congresswoman GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN, Congressman SABLAN, and other delegates from the territories have honorably served their veterans and constituents.

Committee staff has traveled with many of our delegates and colleagues to the Northern Mariana Islands, American Samoa, and Puerto Rico. We have seen firsthand the disparities and the difficulties that their veterans face when trying to access healthcare and benefits from the VA.

The combination of limited transportation options, the lack of local resources, the overlapping Federal agency jurisdictions, and the complexities around VA care in neighboring foreign nations make the territories different from the rest of the Nation and difficult to work in.

Unfortunately, the challenges that the veterans in the territories face always seem to slide down to the bottom of VA's priority list.

While I am generally skeptical of new advisory committees, I believe the voices of the veterans in the territories are not being heard, and I share Congresswoman RADEWAGEN's and Congressman SABLAN's goal of elevating their needs.

For those reasons, I support the bill, and I encourage my colleagues to do the same.

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

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from the Northern Mariana Islands (Mr. SABLAN), my good friend and valued member of the Committee on Veteran Affairs, who serves on the Health Subcommittee.

Mr. SABLAN. Mr. Speaker, my bipartisan legislation, H.R. 3730, creates a VA advisory committee for marginalized veterans living in the Marianas, the other United States insular areas, and in the freely associated States. Veterans in my district, especially, and in the other insular areas, too, face barriers to VA services no vet should be forced to endure.

In Northern Marianas, there are no VA clinics and no Vet Centers.

Veterans in my district sometimes fly 3,700 miles to Hawaii or over 6,000 miles to California to access VA services. And that is why my bill, establishing a committee to educate the Secretary on the obstacles insular area veterans face, is so important.

Each U.S. insular area and each of the freely associated States would have a seat on the advisory committee. Each would be able to describe the barriers their veterans face in receiving VA services.

Establishing an advisory committee will not solve every logistical problem for veterans who live in geographically remote areas of America, but at least those veterans on the margins will have a way to communicate directly with the Secretary of Veterans Affairs. And when the Secretary hears about the barriers to service these insular veterans face, maybe, just maybe, change will occur.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the Minority Veterans of America, the Veterans of Foreign Wars, American Legion, and the Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America for their support of this bipartisan bill, H.R. 3730.

I also thank Chairman TAKANO, Ranking Member BOST, Congresswoman RADEWAGEN, and my fellow members of the Committee on Veterans Affairs for their unanimous support to report my bill favorably to the House of Representatives.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to support H.R. 3730 to give marginalized veterans in the insular areas a voice in the Department of Veterans Affairs.

Mr. BOST. Mr. Speaker, I encourage my colleagues to support this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I ask all my colleagues to join me in passing H.R. 3730, as amended, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. TAKANO) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3730, as amended.

The question was taken.

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

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

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

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

HOMELAND PROCUREMENT REFORM ACT

Mr. CORREA. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2915) to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 regarding the procurement of certain items related to national security interests for Department of Homeland Security frontline operational components, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2915

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 ''Homeland Procurement Reform Act'' or the ''HOPR Act''.

SEC. 2. REQUIREMENTS TO BUY CERTAIN ITEMS RELATED TO NATIONAL SECURITY INTERESTS ACCORDING TO CERTAIN CRITERIA.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subtitle D of title VIII of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 391 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''SEC. 836. REQUIREMENTS TO BUY CERTAIN ITEMS RELATED TO NATIONAL SECURITY INTERESTS.

''(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

''(1) COVERED ITEM.—The term 'covered item' means any of the following:

''(A) Footwear provided as part of a uniform.

''(B) Uniforms.

''(C) Holsters and tactical pouches.

''(D) Patches, insignia, and embellishments.

''(E) Chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear protective gear.

''(F) Body armor components intended to provide ballistic protection for an individual, consisting of 1 or more of the following:

''(i) Soft ballistic panels.

''(ii) Hard ballistic plates.

''(iii) Concealed armor carriers worn under a uniform.

''(iv) External armor carriers worn over a uniform.

''(G) Any other item of clothing or protective equipment as determined appropriate by the Secretary.

''(2) FRONTLINE OPERATIONAL COMPONENT.—The term 'frontline operational component' means any of the following organizations of the Department:

''(A) U.S. Customs and Border Protection.

''(B) U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

''(C) The United States Secret Service.

''(D) The Transportation Security Administration.

''(E) The Coast Guard.

''(F) The Federal Protective Service.

''(G) The Federal Emergency Management Agency.

''(H) The Federal Law Enforcement Training Centers.

''(I) The Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency.

''(b) REQUIREMENTS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall ensure that any procurement of a covered item for a frontline operational component meets the following criteria:

''(A) To the maximum extent possible, not less than one-third of funds obligated in a specific fiscal year for the procurement of such covered items shall be covered items that are manufactured or supplied in the United States by entities that qualify as small business concerns, as such term is described under section 3 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 632).

''(B) Each contractor with respect to the procurement of such a covered item, including the end-item manufacturer of such a covered item—

''(i) is an entity registered with the System for Award Management (or successor system) administered by the General Services Administration; and

''(ii) is in compliance with ISO 9001:2015 of the International Organization for Standardization (or successor standard) or a standard determined appropriate by the Secretary to ensure the quality of products and adherence to applicable statutory and regulatory requirements.

''(C) Each supplier of such a covered item with an insignia (such as any patch, badge, or emblem) and each supplier of such an insignia, if such covered item with such insignia or such insignia, as the case may be, is not produced, applied, or assembled in the United States, shall—

''(i) store such covered item with such insignia or such insignia in a locked area;

''(ii) report any pilferage or theft of such covered item with such insignia or such insignia occurring at any stage before delivery of such covered item with such insignia or such insignia; and

''(iii) destroy any such defective or unusable covered item with insignia or insignia in a manner established by the Secretary, and maintain records, for three years after the creation of such records, of such destruction that include the date of such destruction, a description of the covered item with insignia or insignia destroyed, the quantity of the covered item with insignia or insignia destroyed, and the method of destruction.

''(2) WAIVER.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—In the case of a national emergency declared by the President under the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1601 et seq.) or a major disaster declared by the President under section 401 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5170), the Secretary may waive a requirement in subparagraph (A), (B) or (C) of paragraph (1) if the Secretary determines there is an insufficient supply of a covered item that meets the requirement.

''(B) NOTICE.—Not later than 60 days after the date on which the Secretary determines a waiver under subparagraph (A) is necessary, the Secretary shall provide to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate and the Committee on Homeland Security, the Committee on Oversight and Reform, and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives notice of such determination, which shall include—

''(i) identification of the national emergency or major disaster declared by the President;

''(ii) identification of the covered item for which the Secretary intends to issue the waiver; and

''(iii) a description of the demand for the covered item and corresponding lack of supply from contractors able to meet the criteria described in subparagraph (B) or (C) of paragraph (1).

''(c) PRICING.—The Secretary shall ensure that covered items are purchased at a fair and reasonable price, consistent with the procedures and guidelines specified in the Federal Acquisition Regulation.

''(d) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this section and annually thereafter, the Secretary shall provide to the Committee on Homeland Security, the Committee on Oversight and Reform, and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives, and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate a briefing on instances in which vendors have failed to meet deadlines for delivery of covered items and corrective actions taken by the Department in response to such instances.

''(e) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This section applies with respect to a contract entered into by the Department or any frontline operational component on or after the date that is 180 days after the date of enactment of this section.''.

(b) STUDY.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 18 months after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall submit to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives a study of the adequacy of uniform allowances provided to employees of frontline operational components (as defined in section 836 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002, as added by subsection (a)).

(2) REQUIREMENTS.—The study conducted under paragraph (1) shall—

(A) be informed by a Department-wide survey of employees from across the Department of Homeland Security who receive uniform allowances that seeks to ascertain what, if any, improvements could be made to the current uniform allowances and what, if any, impacts current allowances have had on employee morale and retention;

(B) assess the adequacy of the most recent increase made to the uniform allowance for first year employees; and

(C) consider increasing by 50 percent, at minimum, the annual allowance for all other employees.

(c) ADDITIONAL REPORT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall provide a report with recommendations on how the Department of Homeland Security could procure additional items from domestic sources and bolster the domestic supply chain for items related to national security to—

(A) the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate; and

(B) the Committee on Homeland Security, the Committee on Oversight and Reform, and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives.

(2) CONTENTS.—The report required under paragraph (1) shall include the following:

(A) A review of the compliance of the Department of Homeland Security with the requirements under section 604 of title VI of division A of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (6 U.S.C. 453b) to buy certain items related to national security interests from sources in the United States.

(B) An assessment of the capacity of the Department of Homeland Security to procure the following items from domestic sources:

(i) Personal protective equipment and other items necessary to respond to a pandemic such as that caused by COVID–19.

(ii) Helmets that provide ballistic protection and other head protection and components.

(iii) Rain gear, cold weather gear, and other environmental and flame resistant clothing.

(d) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents in section 1(b) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (Public Law 107–296; 116 Stat. 2135) is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 835 the following:

''Sec. 836. Requirements to buy certain items related to national security interests.''.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. CORREA) and the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. VAN DREW) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. CORREA. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on this measure.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 2915, the Homeland Procurement Reform Act, or better known as HOPR Act. I am proud to have introduced this bipartisan legislation to reform the way the Department of Homeland Security purchases uniforms and protective equipment for its personnel.

My bill seeks to improve the quality of uniforms and equipment issued to frontline DHS personnel by requiring, to the maximum extent possible, that at least one-third of the funds be used to purchase goods manufactured by American small businesses in America.

Today, DHS has more than 60,000 men and women in uniform, but fewer than half of those uniforms are actually manufactured in the United States.

Furthermore, in response to the concerns expressed by frontline personnel about how quickly they exhaust their annual uniform allowances, this bill directs DHS to study the adequacy of uniform allowances for those serving on the front lines.

My bill also strengthens supply chain security for uniforms by mandating locked storage, reports of stolen goods, and the destruction of defective items for any item bearing official DHS insignia not manufactured in the United States.

In response to supply chain shortages that we have been seeing recently during this pandemic, my bill also requires the Department to assess how to get more items related to national security from domestic sources.

This provision is targeted at such items as personal protective equipment, or PPE, which we all know has

been quite scarce at points during this pandemic. Simply put, this bill is good for Homeland Security, good for Americans, and good for American businesses.

H.R. 2915 is endorsed by the Warrior Protection and Readiness Coalition and passed out of the committee unanimously.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support the Homeland Procurement Reform Act, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in favor of the HOPR Act, H.R. 2915.

Mr. Speaker, I commend my colleague, Mr. CORREA, for his continued leadership on this issue to help bolster our domestic supply chains.

This bill requires that, to the maximum extent possible, at least one-third of the funds obligated for the procurement of the Department of Homeland Security uniforms and gear covered by the HOPR Act be used to purchase goods manufactured by entities that qualify as United States small businesses.

Additionally, this bill directs the Secretary of Homeland Security to conduct a study of the adequacy of uniform allowances provided to Department frontline personnel to determine what improvements can be made to current uniform allowances, including increasing allowances.

Mr. Speaker, I urge Members to join me in supporting H.R. 2915, and I yield back the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, if enacted, H.R. 2915 will simultaneously serve the frontline personnel who protect our homeland and support the domestic industrial base, especially small businesses.

Most importantly, as noted in the committee report, it is our expectation that, once this measure is enacted into law, DHS implement it in a manner that supports small business domestic manufacturing.

To that end, DHS is expected to prioritize buying from small businesses that manufacture the item here in the United States over purchasing foreign-manufactured goods supplied by a small business.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud of the bipartisan work that went into creating this legislation that is cosponsored by my Republican colleague, Mr. BRIAN MAST of Florida. I also appreciate the efforts of Senator SHAHEEN of New Hampshire, who introduced the Senate companion of this bill, which the Senate Committee on Homeland Security ordered to be favorably reported this year.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. CORREA) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2915, as amended.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

□ 1345

DHS ACQUISITION REVIEW BOARD ACT OF 2021

Mr. CORREA. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5652) to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to establish the Acquisition Review Board in the Department of Homeland Security, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5652

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 ''DHS Acquisition Review Board Act of 2021''.

SEC. 2. ACQUISITION REVIEW BOARD.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subtitle D of title VIII of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 391 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

''SEC. 836. ACQUISITION REVIEW BOARD.

''(a) IN GENERAL.—There is established in the Department an Acquisition Review Board (in this section referred to as the 'Board') to support the Under Secretary for Management in managing the Department's acquisitions.

''(b) COMPOSITION.—

''(1) CHAIR.—The Under Secretary for Management shall serve as chair of the Board.

''(2) OVERSIGHT.—The Under Secretary for Management may designate an employee of the Department to oversee the operations of the Board.

''(3) PARTICIPATION.— The Under Secretary for Management shall ensure participation by other relevant Department officials with responsibilities related to acquisitions as permanent members of the Board, including the following:

''(A) The Chair of the Joint Requirements Council.

''(B) The Chief Financial Officer.

''(C) The Chief Human Capital Officer.

''(D) The Chief Information Officer.

''(E) The Chief Procurement Officer.

''(F) The Chief Readiness Support Officer.

''(G) The Chief Security Officer.

''(H) The Director of the Office of Test and Evaluation.

''(I) Other relevant senior Department officials, as designated by the Under Secretary for Management.

''(c) MEETINGS.—The Board shall meet regularly for purposes of evaluating the progress and status of an acquisition program. The Board shall convene at the Under Secretary for Management's discretion, and at such time as—

''(1) a new acquisition program is initiated;

''(2) a major acquisition program—

''(A) requires authorization to proceed from one acquisition decision event to another throughout the acquisition life-cycle;

''(B) is in breach of its approved acquisition program baseline; or

''(C) requires additional review, as determined by the Under Secretary for Management; or

''(3) a non-major acquisition program requires review, as determined by the Under Secretary for Management.

''(d) RESPONSIBILITIES.—The responsibilities of the Board are as follows:

''(1) Determine the appropriate acquisition level and acquisition decision authority for new acquisition programs based on the estimated eventual total expenditure of each such program to satisfy the mission need of the Department over the life-cycle of such acquisition regardless of funding source.

''(2) Determine whether a proposed acquisition has met the requirements of key phases of the acquisition life-cycle framework and is able to proceed to the next phase and eventual full production and deployment.

''(3) Oversee whether a proposed acquisition's business strategy, resources, management, and accountability is executable and is aligned with the mission and strategic goals of the Department.

''(4) Support the person with acquisition decision authority for an acquisition in determining the appropriate direction for such acquisition at key acquisition decision events.

''(5) Conduct systematic reviews of acquisitions to ensure that such acquisitions are progressing in accordance with best practices and in compliance with the most recently approved documents for such acquisitions' current acquisition phases.

''(6) Review the acquisition documents of each major acquisition program, including the acquisition program baseline and documentation reflecting consideration of trade-offs among cost, schedule, and performance objectives, to ensure the reliability of underlying data.

''(7) Ensure that practices are adopted and implemented to require consideration of trade-offs among cost, schedule, and performance objectives as part of the process for developing requirements for major acquisition programs prior to the initiation of the second acquisition decision event, including, at a minimum, the following practices:

''(A) Department officials responsible for acquisition, budget, and cost estimating functions are provided with the appropriate opportunity to develop estimates and raise cost and schedule concerns before performance objectives are established for capabilities when feasible.

''(B) Full consideration is given to possible trade-offs among cost, schedule, and performance objectives for each alternative.

''(e) DOCUMENTATION.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The chair of the Board shall ensure that all actions and decisions made pursuant to the responsibilities of the Board under subsection (d) are documented in an acquisition decision memorandum that includes—

''(A) a summary of the action at issue or purpose for convening a meeting under subsection (c);

''(B) the decision with respect to actions discussed during such meeting;

''(C) the rationale for such a decision, including justifications for any such decision made to allow acquisition programs to deviate from the acquisition management policy of the Department;

''(D) any assigned items for further action; and

''(E) the signature of the chair verifying the contents of such memorandum.

''(2) SUBMISSION OF MEMORANDUM.—Not later than seven days after the date on which the acquisition decision memorandum is signed by the chair pursuant to paragraph (1)(E), the chair shall submit to the Secretary, the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives, and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate a copy of such memorandum.

''(f) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

''(1) ACQUISITION.—The term 'acquisition' has the meaning given such term in section 131 of title 41, United States Code.

''(2) ACQUISITION DECISION AUTHORITY.—The term 'acquisition decision authority' means the authority, held by the Secretary to—

''(A) ensure acquisition programs are in compliance with Federal law, the Federal Acquisition Regulation, and Department acquisition management directives;

''(B) review (including approving, pausing, modifying, or cancelling) an acquisition program through the life-cycle of such program;

''(C) ensure that acquisition program managers have the resources necessary to successfully execute an approved acquisition program;

''(D) ensure appropriate acquisition program management of cost, schedule, risk, and system performance of the acquisition program at issue, including assessing acquisition program baseline breaches and directing any corrective action for such breaches; and

''(E) ensure that acquisition program managers, on an ongoing basis, monitor cost, schedule, and performance against established baselines and use tools to assess risks to an acquisition program at all phases of the life-cycle of such program to avoid and mitigate acquisition program baseline breaches.

''(3) ACQUISITION DECISION EVENT.—The term 'acquisition decision event', with respect to an acquisition program, means a predetermined point within each of the acquisition phases at which the acquisition decision authority determines whether such acquisition program shall proceed to the next acquisition phase.

''(4) ACQUISITION DECISION MEMORANDUM.—The term 'acquisition decision memorandum' means the official documented record of decisions, including the rationale for such decisions and any assigned actions, for the acquisition at issue, as determined by the person exercising acquisition decision authority for such acquisition.

''(5) ACQUISITION PROGRAM BASELINE.—The term 'acquisition program baseline', with respect to an acquisition program, means a summary of the cost, schedule, and performance parameters, expressed in standard, measurable, quantitative terms, which must be satisfied to accomplish the goals of such program.

''(6) BEST PRACTICES.—The term 'best practices', with respect to acquisition, means a knowledge-based approach to capability development that includes—

''(A) identifying and validating needs;

''(B) assessing alternatives to select the most appropriate solution;

''(C) clearly establishing well-defined requirements;

''(D) developing realistic cost estimates and schedules that account for the entire life-cycle of such an acquisition ;

''(E) securing stable funding that matches resources to requirements before initiating such development;

''(F) demonstrating technology, design, and manufacturing maturity before initiating production of the item that is the subject of such acquisition;

''(G) using milestones and exit criteria or specific accomplishments that demonstrate the attainment of knowledge to support progress;

''(H) regularly assessing and managing risks to achieving requirements and cost and schedule goals;

''(I) adopting and executing standardized processes with known success across programs;

''(J) establishing an adequate workforce that is qualified and sufficient to perform necessary functions; and

''(K) integrating the capabilities described in subparagraphs (A) through (J).

''(7) MAJOR ACQUISITION PROGRAM.—The term 'major acquisition program' means—

''(A) a Department capital asset, service, or hybrid acquisition program that is estimated by the Secretary to require an eventual total expenditure of at least $300 million (based on fiscal year 2022 constant dollars) over its life-cycle cost; or

''(B) a program identified by the Under Secretary for Management as a program of special interest.

''(8) NON-MAJOR ACQUISITION PROGRAM.—The term 'non-major acquisition program' means a Department capital asset, service, or hybrid acquisition program that is estimated by the Secretary to require an eventual total expenditure of less than $300,000,000 (based on fiscal year 2022 constant dollars) over its life-cycle.''.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents in section 1(b) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 101 et seq.) is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 835 the following new item:

''Sec. 836. Acquisition Review Board.''.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. CORREA) and the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. VAN DREW) each will control 20 minutes.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. CORREA. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on this measure.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, each year, the Department of Homeland Security spends billions of dollars on its major acquisition programs to execute its most critical missions. It acquires systems vital to homeland security, including those used to screen travelers, enhance cybersecurity, and improve disaster response.

However, over the past decade, the Government Accountability Office, or GAO, has repeatedly raised alarms regarding DHS' management of its acquisition programs.

Earlier this year, the GAO reviewed 24 major acquisition programs that DHS is pursuing. Ten had been in breach of their cost or schedule goals, or both, at some point during fiscal year 2020.

Given the complexity of DHS' acquisition programs, it is critical that there be a standing oversight body to give major acquisition programs the attention they deserve. At DHS, the Acquisition Review Board is just that body.

H.R. 5652, the DHS Acquisition Review Board Act of 2021, seeks to strengthen the role of the Acquisition Review Board, or ARB, to improve acquisition outcomes at DHS.

The ARB is charged with reviewing major acquisition programs for proper management, oversight, accountability, and alignment with DHS' strategic functions.

The ARB can intercede when it identifies a program with significant cost, schedule, or performance issues and drive a course correction or even terminate such a program.

Passage of H.R. 5652 will help stabilize oversight within DHS when it comes to major acquisitions, which, according to GAO, is a high-risk activity, by codifying the Board into law.

Most importantly, the bill also authorizes the Board to not only review major acquisitions but also to review certain acquisitions that are valued below $300 million but are critical to the Department's success.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support the DHS Acquisition Review Board Act, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of my bill, H.R. 5652, the DHS Acquisition Review Board Act of 2021.

The Department of Homeland Security invests billions of dollars each year in its major acquisitions. These programs include buying IT systems to help secure our border, Coast Guard cutters to increase marine safety, and tools to help TSA screen travelers more efficiently. These acquisitions, and others, enable the Department to execute its many critical missions.

In fiscal year 2021 alone, DHS planned to spend more than $7 billion on its major acquisition programs, and ultimately, the Department plans to spend more than $200 billion over the programs' entire life cycles.

However, the Government Accountability Office, GAO, and the DHS Office of the Inspector General, OIG, have reported on the longstanding challenges DHS faces in managing its major acquisition programs, which began with the inception of the Department and continue to this day.

For example, in January 2021, GAO reported that of the 24 major acquisition programs it audited, 10 had been in breach of their cost or scheduled goals, or both, at some point during fiscal year 2020.

Also, in 2018, the OIG reported that DHS components have an ongoing tendency to acquire systems before they adequately define their requirements or develop performance measures. We cannot allow this to continue.

Given these challenges and the significant level of DHS investment in these programs, it is important for Congress to ensure that the proper oversight structures are in place. That is exactly what this bill intends to do.

This bill amends the Homeland Security Act to include the DHS Acquisition Review Board, which has already been formed by the Department.

The bill outlines specific responsibilities and parameters for the Board, which it exercises today, including its membership and how often the Board should meet, such as at certain key points in the programs' life cycles.

The Board is held at the Department level and is chaired by the acquisition

decision authority—normally, the Under Secretary for Management or a designee—and consists of individuals who manage DHS' mission objectives, resources, and contracts.

The Board's primary oversight role is to review major acquisition programs for proper management, oversight, accountability, and alignment with the Department's strategic functions.

The Board keeps acquisition programs accountable to the Department, Congress, and the American taxpayer, most importantly, by doing the following.

First, it ensures that the Department considers tradeoffs between cost, schedule, and performance before approving a program to proceed to the next phase of acquisition.

Second, it determines whether programs are using acquisition best practices.

Third, it requires senior DHS leaders to review the programs' progress and see that the program requirements are being met as they should.

This bill also requires the Board to document the actions and the decisions that it makes, including rationale for its decisions, which are then submitted to the Committee on Homeland Security in the House and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs in the Senate.

In conclusion, this bill simply proposes to codify better oversight, management, and accountability of the Department's acquisitions.

Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague, Congresswoman DEMINGS, for reaching across the aisle and cosponsoring this commonsense bill with me. I also thank Ranking Member KATKO and Representatives GARBARINO, HIGGINS, and MILLER-MEEKS for cosponsoring this bill as well.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 5652, and I yield back the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 5652 strengthens the Acquisition Review Board, one very important mechanism within DHS that can help ensure that acquisition programs are delivered on time and on budget, and in-line with DHS missions.

A version of this bill passed the House in both the 115th and 116th Congresses, and I thank the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. VAN DREW) for sponsoring the legislation in this Congress.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support the DHS Acquisition Review Board Act, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. CORREA) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 5652.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

TSA REACHING ACROSS NATIONALITIES, SOCIETIES, AND LANGUAGES TO ADVANCE TRAVELER EDUCATION ACT

Ms. TITUS. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5574) to require the TSA to develop a plan to ensure that TSA material disseminated in major airports can be better understood by more people accessing such airports, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5574

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 ''TSA Reaching Across Nationalities, Societies, and Languages to Advance Traveler Education Act'' or the ''TRANSLATE Act''.

SEC. 2. PLAN.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Administrator of the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) shall submit to the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate a plan to ensure that TSA material disseminated in major airports can be better understood by more people accessing such airports.

(b) CONTENTS.—The plan required under subsection (a) shall include the following:

(1) An identification of the most common languages other than English that are the primary languages of individuals that travel through or work in each major airport.

(2) A plan to improve—

(A) TSA materials to communicate information in languages identified pursuant to paragraph (1); and

(B) the communication of TSA material to individuals with vision or hearing impairments or other possible barriers to understanding such material.

(c) CONSIDERATIONS.—In developing the plan required under subsection (a), the Administrator of the TSA, acting through the Office of Civil Rights and Liberties, Ombudsman, and Traveler Engagement of the TSA, shall take into consideration data regarding the following:

(1) International enplanement.

(2) Local populations surrounding major airports.

(d) IMPLEMENTATION.—Not later than 180 days after the submission of the plan required under subsection (a), the Administrator of the TSA shall implement such plan.

(e) GAO REVIEW.—Not later than one year after the implementation pursuant to subsection (d) of the plan required under subsection (a), the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit to the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate a review of such implementation.

(f) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) AIRPORT.—The term ''airport'' has the meaning given such term in section 40102 of title 49, United States Code.

(2) MAJOR AIRPORTS.—The term ''major airports'' means Category X and Category I airports.

(3) NON-TRAVELING INDIVIDUAL.—The term ''non-traveling individual'' has the meaning given such term in section 1560.3 of title 49, Code of Federal Regulations.

(4) TSA MATERIAL.—The term ''TSA material'' means signs, videos, audio messages, websites, press releases, social media postings, and other communications published and disseminated by the Administrator of the TSA in Category X and Category I airports for use by both traveling and non-traveling individuals.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Nevada (Ms. TITUS) and the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. VAN DREW) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Nevada.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. TITUS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on this measure.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of my bill, H.R. 5574, known as the TRANSLATE Act.

Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague, Congressman VAN TAYLOR of Texas, for once again joining me in introducing this legislation, which will ease TSA's security processing at our Nation's major airports.

The TRANSLATE Act is bipartisan legislation building upon the Transportation Security Administration's ongoing efforts to increase access for non-English speakers, and for those with vision and hearing impairments, as they navigate the security screening process.

It does this by directing TSA to analyze common languages other than English that are spoken by both our international travelers as well as those who reside in the nearby community and then develop and execute a plan to disseminate security information in those languages to ease the screening process.

I represent the heart of Las Vegas Valley, including McCarran International Airport, which is one of the Nation's busiest airports, welcoming passengers from around the country and around the world who come to enjoy all that southern Nevada has to offer.

Navigating our air system can be stressful enough—if you travel back and forth, you know what I mean—for even the most well-seasoned traveler. Removing potential language barriers to ease TSA processing is not only beneficial for those travelers but also for the general public rushing to catch their flights.

Southern Nevada's community is rich in diversity. One of every three Clark County residents speaks a language other than English at home. Nationwide, that number is just over one out of every five residents. Yet, much of what TSA communicates to travelers and transportation workers through signs, announcements, videos, and online content is in English.

Let's be clear. You shouldn't have to worry about missing a plane at an airport in the U.S. just because you don't speak English. Making travel and security information easier to understand for non-English speakers and for those with vision and hearing impairments will help create a more comfortable and efficient airport experience for residents and visitors alike.

Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleagues on the Committee on Homeland Security for their unanimous support of this legislation last month and the chairman for his assistance in getting this passed.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to support the passage of the TRANSLATE Act, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today for H.R. 5574, the TRANSLATE Act.

According to the United States Census Bureau, approximately 67 million U.S. residents speak a language other than English at home. This legislation requires TSA to ensure that its communications materials in airports are in the primary languages of individuals who travel through and work in our country's airports.

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

□ 1400

Ms. TITUS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Mr. Speaker, our Nation's airports connect Americans to one another and to the rest of the world. But for travelers who do not primarily speak English or who experience hearing or vision difficulties, the TSA screening process can be challenging and result in delays for all the other travelers who are standing in line.

By requiring TSA to make its signage and announcement more accessible to passengers at major airports, my bill will bring much-needed inclusivity and efficiency to the whole travel experience. I know we all appreciate seeing signs in English when we are traveling abroad. U.S. airports should be just as welcoming and reflect the diversity of our constituents and the travelers who visit our cities.

So, once again, Mr. Speaker, I encourage my colleagues to vote for H.R. 5574, as amended, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BOWMAN). The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Nevada (Ms. TITUS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 5574, as amended.

The question was taken.

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

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

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

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

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 1 minute p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1445

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. BOWMAN) at 2 o'clock and 45 minutes p.m.

PROTECTING MOMS WHO SERVED ACT OF 2021

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 796) to codify maternity care coordination programs at the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. TAKANO) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 414, nays 9, not voting 10, as follows:

[Roll No. 374]

YEAS—414

Adams
Aderholt
Aguilar
Allen
Allred
Amodei
Armstrong
Arrington
Auchincloss
Axne
Babin
Bacon
Baird
Balderson
Banks
Barr
Barragán
Bass
Beatty
Bentz
Bera
Bergman
Beyer
Bice (OK)
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Blumenauer
Blunt Rochester
Bonamici
Bost
Bourdeaux
Bowman
Boyle, Brendan F.
Brady
Brooks
Brown (MD)
Brown (OH)
Brownley
Buchanan
Buck
Bucshon
Budd
Burchett
Burgess
Bush
Bustos
Butterfield
Calvert
Cammack
Carbajal
Cárdenas
Carey
Carl
Carson
Carter (GA)
Carter (LA)
Carter (TX)
Cartwright
Case
Casten
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Cawthorn
Chabot
Cheney
Chu
Cicilline
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Cleaver
Cline
Cloud
Clyburn
Clyde
Cohen
Cole
Comer
Connolly
Cooper
Correa
Costa
Courtney
Craig
Crawford
Crenshaw
Crist
Crow
Cuellar
Curtis
Davids (KS)
Davidson
Davis, Danny K.
Davis, Rodney
Dean
DeFazio
DeGette
DeLauro
DelBene
Delgado
Demings
DeSaulnier
DesJarlais
Deutch
Diaz-Balart
Dingell
Doggett
Donalds
Doyle, Michael F.
Duncan
Dunn
Ellzey
Emmer
Escobar
Eshoo
Espaillat
Estes
Evans
Fallon
Feenstra
Ferguson
Fischbach
Fitzgerald
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Fletcher
Fortenberry
Foster
Foxx
Frankel, Lois
Franklin, C. Scott
Fulcher
Gaetz
Gallagher
Gallego
Garamendi
Garbarino
Garcia (CA)
García (IL)
Garcia (TX)
Gibbs
Gimenez
Golden
Gomez
Gonzales, Tony
Gonzalez (OH)
Gonzalez, Vicente
Gooden (TX)
Gosar
Gottheimer
Granger
Graves (LA)
Graves (MO)
Green (TN)
Green, Al (TX)
Griffith
Grijalva
Grothman
Guest
Guthrie
Hagedorn
Harder (CA)
Harris
Harshbarger
Hartzler
Hayes
Hern
Herrell
Higgins (LA)
Higgins (NY)
Hill
Himes
Hinson
Hollingsworth
Horsford
Houlahan
Hoyer
Hudson
Huffman
Huizenga
Issa
Jackson
Jackson Lee
Jacobs (CA)
Jacobs (NY)
Jayapal
Jeffries
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (LA)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson (SD)
Johnson (TX)
Jones
Jordan
Joyce (OH)
Joyce (PA)
Kahele
Kaptur
Katko
Keating
Keller
Kelly (IL)
Kelly (MS)
Kelly (PA)
Khanna
Kildee
Kilmer
Kim (CA)
Kim (NJ)
Kind
Kinzinger
Kirkpatrick
Krishnamoorthi
Kustoff
LaHood
LaMalfa
Lamb
Lamborn
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latta
LaTurner
Lawrence
Lawson (FL)
Lee (CA)
Lee (NV)
Leger Fernandez
Lesko
Letlow
Levin (CA)
Levin (MI)
Lieu
Lofgren
Long
Lowenthal
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Luria
Lynch
Mace
Malinowski
Malliotakis
Maloney, Carolyn B.
Maloney, Sean
Mann
Manning
Massie
Mast
Matsui
McBath
McCarthy
McCaul
McClain
McCollum
McEachin
McGovern
McHenry
McKinley
McNerney
Meeks
Meijer
Meng
Meuser
Mfume
Miller (IL)
Miller (WV)
Miller-Meeks
Moolenaar
Mooney
Moore (AL)
Moore (UT)
Moore (WI)
Morelle
Moulton
Mrvan
Mullin
Murphy (FL)
Murphy (NC)
Nadler
Napolitano
Neguse
Nehls
Newhouse
Newman
Norcross
Nunes
O'Halleran
Obernolte
Ocasio-Cortez
Omar
Owens
Palazzo
Pallone
Palmer
Panetta
Pascrell
Payne
Pence
Perlmutter
Peters
Pfluger
Pingree
Pocan
Porter
Posey
Pressley
Price (NC)
Quigley
Raskin
Reed
Reschenthaler
Rice (NY)
Rice (SC)
Rodgers (WA)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rose
Ross
Rouzer
Roybal-Allard
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Rush
Rutherford
Ryan
Salazar
Sánchez
Sarbanes
Scalise
Scanlon
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schneider
Schrader
Schrier
Schweikert
Scott (VA)
Scott, Austin
Scott, David
Sessions
Sewell
Sherman
Sherrill
Simpson
Sires
Slotkin
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (WA)
Smucker
Soto
Spanberger
Spartz
Speier
Stansbury
Stanton
Stauber
Steel
Stefanik
Steil
Steube
Stevens
Stewart
Strickland
Suozzi
Swalwell
Takano
Taylor
Tenney
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thompson (PA)
Tiffany
Timmons
Titus
Tlaib
Tonko
Torres (CA)
Torres (NY)
Trahan
Trone
Turner
Underwood
Upton
Valadao
Van Drew
Van Duyne
Vargas
Veasey
Velázquez
Wagner
Walberg
Walorski
Waltz
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watson Coleman
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Welch
Wenstrup
Westerman
Wexton
Wild
Williams (GA)
Williams (TX)
Wilson (FL)

Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Womack
Yarmuth
Young
Zeldin

NAYS—9

Biggs
Boebert
Good (VA)
Greene (GA)
Hice (GA)
McClintock
Norman
Rosendale
Roy

NOT VOTING—10

Bishop (NC)
Gohmert
Herrera Beutler
Kuster
Loudermilk
Neal
Pappas
Perry
Phillips
Vela

□ 1524

Mr. BIGGS changed his vote from ''yea'' to ''nay.''

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

MEMBERS RECORDED PURSUANT TO HOUSE RESOLUTION 8, 117TH CONGRESS

Auchincloss (Clark (MA))
Blumenauer (Beyer)
Carter (LA) (Kahele)
DeFazio (Brown (MD))
García (IL) (Ocasio-Cortez)
Grijalva (Stanton)
Horsford (Allred)
Kirkpatrick (Stanton)
Lawson (FL) (Evans)
Lesko (Joyce (PA))
Lowenthal (Beyer)
Matsui (Thompson (CA))
McEachin (Wexton)
Pascrell (Pallone)
Payne (Pallone)
Porter (Wexton)
Pressley (Bowman)
Rice (NY) (Murphy (FL))
Roybal-Allard (McCollum)
Ruiz (Aguilar)
Rush (Quigley)
Swalwell (Gomez)
Underwood (Casten)
Wilson (FL) (Hayes)
Yarmuth (Beyer)

STUDENT VETERANS COUNSELING CENTERS ELIGIBILITY ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BERA). Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4233) to amend title 38, United States Code, to furnish Vet Center readjustment counseling and related mental health services to veterans and members of the Armed Forces using certain educational assistance benefits, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. TAKANO) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 420, nays 4, not voting 9, as follows:

[Roll No. 375]

YEAS—420

Adams
Aderholt
Aguilar
Allred
Amodei
Armstrong
Arrington
Auchincloss
Axne
Babin
Bacon
Baird
Balderson
Banks
Barr
Barragán
Bass
Beatty
Bentz
Bera
Bergman
Beyer
Bice (OK)
Biggs
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NC)
Blumenauer
Blunt Rochester
Boebert
Bonamici
Bost
Bourdeaux
Bowman
Boyle, Brendan F.
Brady
Brooks
Brown (MD)
Brown (OH)
Brownley
Buchanan
Buck
Bucshon
Budd
Burchett
Burgess
Bush
Bustos
Butterfield
Calvert
Cammack
Carbajal
Cárdenas
Carey
Carl
Carson
Carter (GA)
Carter (LA)
Carter (TX)
Cartwright
Case
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Cawthorn
Chabot
Cheney
Chu
Cicilline
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Cleaver
Cline
Cloud
Clyburn
Clyde
Cohen
Cole
Comer
Connolly
Cooper
Correa
Costa
Courtney
Craig
Crawford
Crenshaw
Crist
Crow
Cuellar
Curtis
Davids (KS)
Davidson
Davis, Danny K.
Davis, Rodney
Dean
DeFazio
DeGette
DeLauro
DelBene
Delgado
Demings
DeSaulnier
DesJarlais
Deutch
Diaz-Balart
Dingell
Doggett
Donalds
Doyle, Michael F.
Duncan
Dunn
Ellzey
Emmer
Eshoo
Espaillat
Estes
Evans
Fallon
Feenstra
Ferguson
Fischbach
Fitzgerald
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Fletcher
Fortenberry
Foster
Foxx
Frankel, Lois
Franklin, C. Scott
Fulcher
Gaetz
Gallagher
Gallego
Garamendi
Garbarino
Garcia (CA)
Gibbs
Gimenez
Gohmert
Golden
Gomez
Gonzales, Tony
Gonzalez (OH)
Gonzalez, Vicente
Good (VA)
Gooden (TX)
Gosar
Gottheimer
Granger
Graves (LA)
Graves (MO)
Green (TN)
Green, Al (TX)
Greene (GA)
Griffith
Grijalva
Grothman
Guest
Guthrie
Hagedorn
Harder (CA)
Harris
Harshbarger
Hartzler
Hayes
Hern
Herrell
Herrera Beutler
Hice (GA)
Higgins (LA)
Higgins (NY)
Hill
Himes
Hinson
Hollingsworth
Horsford
Houlahan
Hoyer
Hudson
Huffman
Huizenga
Issa
Jackson
Jackson Lee
Jacobs (CA)
Jacobs (NY)
Jayapal
Jeffries
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (LA)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson (SD)
Johnson (TX)
Jones
Joyce (OH)
Joyce (PA)
Kahele
Kaptur
Katko
Keating
Keller
Kelly (IL)
Kelly (MS)
Kelly (PA)
Khanna
Kildee
Kilmer
Kim (CA)
Kim (NJ)
Kind
Kinzinger
Kirkpatrick
Krishnamoorthi
Kustoff
LaHood
LaMalfa
Lamb
Lamborn
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latta
LaTurner
Lawrence
Lawson (FL)
Lee (CA)
Lee (NV)
Leger Fernandez
Lesko
Letlow
Levin (CA)
Levin (MI)
Lieu
Lofgren
Long
Lowenthal
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Luria
Lynch
Mace
Malinowski
Malliotakis
Maloney, Carolyn B.
Maloney, Sean
Mann
Manning
Massie
Mast
Matsui
McBath
McCarthy
McCaul
McClain
McClintock
McCollum
McEachin
McGovern
McHenry
McKinley
McNerney
Meeks
Meijer
Meng
Meuser
Mfume
Miller (IL)
Miller (WV)
Miller-Meeks
Moolenaar
Mooney
Moore (AL)
Moore (UT)
Moore (WI)
Morelle
Moulton
Mrvan
Mullin
Murphy (FL)
Murphy (NC)
Nadler
Napolitano
Neguse
Nehls
Newhouse
Newman
Norcross
Norman
Nunes
O'Halleran
Obernolte
Ocasio-Cortez
Omar
Owens
Palazzo
Pallone
Palmer
Panetta
Pascrell
Payne
Pence
Perlmutter
Peters
Pfluger
Phillips
Pingree
Pocan
Porter
Posey
Pressley
Price (NC)
Quigley
Raskin
Reed
Reschenthaler
Rice (NY)
Rice (SC)
Rodgers (WA)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rose
Rosendale
Ross
Roy
Roybal-Allard
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Rush
Rutherford
Ryan
Salazar
Sánchez
Sarbanes
Scalise
Scanlon
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schneider
Schrader
Schrier
Schweikert
Scott (VA)
Scott, Austin
Scott, David
Sessions
Sewell
Sherman
Sherrill
Simpson
Sires
Slotkin
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (WA)
Smucker
Soto
Spanberger
Spartz
Speier
Stansbury
Stanton
Stauber
Steel
Stefanik
Steil
Steube
Stevens
Stewart
Strickland
Suozzi
Swalwell
Takano
Taylor
Tenney
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thompson (PA)
Tiffany
Timmons
Titus
Tlaib
Tonko
Torres (CA)
Torres (NY)
Trahan
Trone
Turner
Underwood
Upton
Valadao
Van Drew
Van Duyne
Vargas
Veasey
Velázquez
Wagner
Walberg
Walorski
Waltz
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watson Coleman
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Welch
Wenstrup
Westerman
Wexton
Wild
Williams (GA)
Williams (TX)
Wilson (FL)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Womack
Yarmuth
Young
Zeldin

NAYS—4

Casten
Escobar
García (IL)
Garcia (TX)

NOT VOTING—9

Allen
Jordan
Kuster
Loudermilk
Neal
Pappas
Perry
Rouzer
Vela

□ 1541

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated for:

Mr. ALLEN. Mr. Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall No. 375.

MEMBERS RECORDED PURSUANT TO HOUSE RESOLUTION 8, 117TH CONGRESS

Auchincloss (Clark (MA))
Blumenauer (Beyer)
Carter (LA) (Kahele)
DeFazio (Brown (MD))
García (IL) (Ocasio-Cortez)
Grijalva (Stanton)
Herrera Beutler (Rodgers (WA))
Horsford (Allred)
Kirkpatrick (Stanton)
Lawson (FL) (Evans)
Lesko (Joyce (PA))
Lowenthal (Beyer)
Matsui (Thompson (CA))
McEachin (Wexton)
Pascrell (Pallone)
Payne (Pallone)
Phillips (Jacobs (CA))
Porter (Wexton)
Pressley (Bowman)
Rice (NY) (Murphy (FL))
Roybal-Allard (McCollum)
Ruiz (Aguilar)
Rush (Quigley)
Swalwell (Gomez)
Underwood (Casten)
Wilson (FL) (Hayes)
Yarmuth (Beyer)

BRINGING REGISTERED APPRENTICESHIPS TO VETERANS EDUCATION ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 147) to amend titles 10 and 38, United States Code, to make certain improvements to transitional services for separating members of the Armed Forces and educational assistance under laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes, as amended, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. TAKANO) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 427, nays 0, not voting 6, as follows:

[Roll No. 376]

YEAS—427

Adams
Aderholt
Aguilar
Allen
Allred
Amodei
Armstrong
Arrington
Auchincloss
Axne
Babin
Bacon
Baird
Balderson
Banks
Barr
Barragán
Bass
Beatty
Bentz
Bera
Bergman
Beyer
Bice (OK)
Biggs
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NC)
Blumenauer
Blunt Rochester
Boebert
Bonamici
Bost
Bourdeaux
Bowman
Boyle, Brendan F.
Brady
Brooks
Brown (MD)
Brown (OH)
Brownley
Buchanan
Buck
Bucshon
Budd
Burchett
Burgess
Bush
Bustos
Butterfield
Calvert
Cammack
Carbajal
Cárdenas
Carey
Carl
Carson
Carter (GA)
Carter (LA)
Carter (TX)
Cartwright
Case
Casten
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Cawthorn
Chabot
Chu
Cicilline
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Cleaver
Cline
Cloud
Clyburn
Clyde
Cohen
Cole
Comer
Connolly
Cooper
Correa
Costa
Courtney
Craig
Crawford
Crenshaw
Crist
Crow
Cuellar
Curtis
Davids (KS)
Davidson
Davis, Danny K.
Davis, Rodney
Dean
DeFazio
DeGette
DeLauro
DelBene
Delgado
Demings
DeSaulnier
DesJarlais
Deutch
Diaz-Balart
Dingell
Doggett
Donalds
Doyle, Michael F.
Duncan
Dunn
Ellzey
Emmer
Escobar
Eshoo
Espaillat
Estes
Evans
Fallon
Feenstra
Ferguson
Fischbach
Fitzgerald
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Fletcher
Fortenberry
Foster
Foxx
Frankel, Lois
Franklin, C. Scott
Fulcher
Gaetz
Gallagher
Gallego
Garamendi
Garbarino
Garcia (CA)
García (IL)
Garcia (TX)
Gibbs
Gimenez
Gohmert
Golden
Gomez
Gonzales, Tony
Gonzalez (OH)
Gonzalez, Vicente
Good (VA)
Gooden (TX)
Gosar
Gottheimer
Granger
Graves (LA)
Graves (MO)
Green (TN)
Green, Al (TX)
Greene (GA)
Griffith
Grijalva
Grothman
Guest
Guthrie
Hagedorn
Harder (CA)
Harris
Harshbarger
Hartzler
Hayes
Hern
Herrell
Herrera Beutler
Hice (GA)
Higgins (LA)
Higgins (NY)
Hill
Himes
Hinson
Hollingsworth
Horsford
Houlahan
Hoyer
Hudson
Huffman
Huizenga
Issa
Jackson
Jackson Lee
Jacobs (CA)
Jacobs (NY)
Jayapal
Jeffries
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (LA)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson (SD)
Johnson (TX)
Jones
Jordan
Joyce (OH)
Joyce (PA)
Kahele
Kaptur
Katko
Keating
Keller
Kelly (IL)
Kelly (MS)
Kelly (PA)
Khanna
Kildee
Kilmer
Kim (CA)
Kim (NJ)
Kind
Kinzinger
Kirkpatrick
Krishnamoorthi
Kustoff
LaHood
LaMalfa
Lamb
Lamborn
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latta
LaTurner
Lawrence
Lawson (FL)
Lee (CA)
Lee (NV)
Leger Fernandez
Lesko
Letlow
Levin (CA)
Levin (MI)
Lieu
Lofgren
Long
Lowenthal
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Luria
Lynch
Mace
Malinowski
Malliotakis
Maloney, Carolyn B.
Maloney, Sean
Mann
Manning
Massie
Mast
Matsui
McBath
McCarthy
McCaul
McClain
McClintock
McCollum
McEachin
McGovern
McHenry
McKinley
McNerney
Meeks
Meijer
Meng
Meuser
Mfume
Miller (IL)
Miller (WV)
Miller-Meeks
Moolenaar
Mooney
Moore (AL)
Moore (UT)
Moore (WI)
Morelle
Moulton
Mrvan
Mullin
Murphy (FL)
Murphy (NC)
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Neguse
Nehls
Newhouse
Newman
Norcross
Norman
Nunes
O'Halleran
Obernolte
Ocasio-Cortez
Omar
Owens
Palazzo
Pallone
Palmer
Panetta
Pascrell
Payne
Pence
Perlmutter
Peters
Pfluger
Phillips
Pingree
Pocan
Porter
Posey
Pressley
Price (NC)
Quigley
Raskin
Reed
Reschenthaler
Rice (NY)
Rice (SC)
Rodgers (WA)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rose
Rosendale
Ross
Rouzer
Roy
Roybal-Allard
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Rush
Rutherford
Ryan
Salazar
Sánchez
Sarbanes
Scalise
Scanlon
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schneider
Schrader
Schrier
Schweikert
Scott (VA)
Scott, Austin
Scott, David
Sessions
Sewell
Sherman
Sherrill
Simpson
Sires
Slotkin
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (WA)
Smucker
Soto
Spanberger
Spartz
Speier
Stansbury
Stanton
Stauber
Steel
Stefanik
Steil
Steube
Stevens
Stewart
Strickland
Suozzi
Swalwell
Takano
Taylor
Tenney
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thompson (PA)
Tiffany
Timmons
Titus
Tlaib
Tonko
Torres (CA)
Torres (NY)
Trahan
Trone
Turner
Underwood
Upton
Valadao
Van Drew
Van Duyne
Vargas
Veasey
Velázquez
Wagner
Walberg
Walorski
Waltz
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watson Coleman
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Welch
Wenstrup
Westerman
Wexton
Wild
Williams (GA)
Williams (TX)
Wilson (FL)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Womack
Yarmuth
Young
Zeldin

NOT VOTING—6

Cheney
Kuster
Loudermilk
Pappas
Perry
Vela

□ 1600

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

The title of the bill was amended so as to read: ''A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to make certain improvements to services and benefits for veterans and separating members of the Armed Forces with respect to apprenticeship programs, and for other purposes.''.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

MEMBERS RECORDED PURSUANT TO HOUSE RESOLUTION 8, 117TH CONGRESS

Auchincloss (Clark (MA))
Blumenauer (Beyer)
Carter (LA) (Kahele)
DeFazio (Brown (MD))
García (IL) (Ocasio-Cortez)
Grijalva (Stanton)
Herrera Beutler (Rodgers (WA))
Horsford (Allred)
Kirkpatrick (Stanton)
Lawson (FL) (Evans)
Lesko (Joyce (PA))
Lowenthal (Beyer)
Matsui (Thompson (CA))
McEachin (Wexton)
Pascrell (Pallone)
Payne (Pallone)
Phillips (Jacobs (CA))
Porter (Wexton)
Pressley (Bowman)
Rice (NY) (Murphy (FL))
Roybal-Allard (McCollum)
Ruiz (Aguilar)
Rush (Quigley)
Swalwell (Gomez)
Underwood (Casten)
Wilson (FL) (Hayes)
Yarmuth (Beyer)

CELEBRATING THE RELEASE OF DANNY FENSTER

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

Mr. LEVIN of Michigan. Madam Speaker, I am thrilled to celebrate the release of my constituent, journalist Danny Fenster, who was unjustly detained for 5½ months by the military junta in Burma.

I want to extend a heartfelt thank you to all those involved in securing Danny's release, including: Governor Bill Richardson; our incredible diplomats in Burma, led by Ambassador Tom Vajda; Special Presidential Envoy for Hostage Affairs, or SPEHA, Ambassador Roger Carstens; the State Department, from Tony Blinken on down; Chairman GREGORY MEEKS, and all of my colleagues in the House who stepped up.

My heart is full for Danny's family. His parents, Buddy and Rose, his brother, Bryan, his amazing cousins, they have all shown such resilience, determination, and creativity throughout this difficult journey.

I am so grateful for the powerful outpouring of support across Michigan and this entire country. Our communities rallied together to support Danny and the Fenster family. And now, by sticking together and keeping the faith, we have brought Danny home.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A message in writing from the President of the United States was communicated to the House by Mr. Adrian Swann, one of his secretaries.

BIDEN'S BORDER CRISIS

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

Mr. STAUBER. Madam Speaker, since Joe Biden took office, over 1.6 million illegals have been apprehended at our southern border. In fact, over 164,000 illegal immigrants were apprehended at the southern border just in October alone, marking the worst October in the history of the Department of Homeland Security.

And if you think Biden's border crisis is bad right now, it is about to get a whole lot worse. Included in Congressional Democrats' multitrillion-dollar socialist wish list is billions of dollars to green light illegal immigrant amnesty requests.

And recently, we learned that the Biden administration is contemplating paying illegal immigrants who broke our laws up to $450,000 each. To put this number into perspective, $450,000 is nine times the median income for the household in the district that I represent. To even consider these payouts is an insult to Americans who go to work every day and pay their taxes.

Madam Speaker, these policies are the definition of insanity, and it is no surprise that the majority of Americans think the country is headed in the wrong direction. It is time we change course and do it now.

Rather than allowing radicals to drive the agenda and push policies that incentivize more illegal immigration, let's work together to secure our border. Let's work together to put the American people first.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF LIEUTENANT COLONEL ALEXANDER JEFFERSON

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

Ms. TLAIB. Madam Speaker, I rise today in tribute to Lieutenant Colonel Alexander Jefferson, whose heroic service as a Tuskegee Airman in World War II was recognized this week in a rededication ceremony of Jefferson Field, and it was done on his 100th birthday.

A graduate of Detroit public schools, Alexander Jefferson pursued a military career and completed pilot training at the Tuskegee Army Airfield.

As a fighter pilot with the Red Tail, 332nd Fighter Group 301 Fighter Squadron, his unit escorted bombers headfirst into action, bravely providing protection from vicious enemy aircraft. They never lost a single plane.

On August 12, 1944, Jefferson was shot down and captured by the Germans and kept as a prisoner of war for 9 months. He was liberated by the American forces on the 29th of April, 1945, and discharged from Active Duty in 1947.

After serving our country, Lieutenant Colonel Jefferson continued his public service by becoming a science teacher in Detroit, where he would retire as an assistant principal in 1979.

He has numerous awards for his bravery and I am honored to recognize Lieutenant Colonel Alexander Jefferson on this celebration of service to our country, and wish him also a beautiful, wonderful 100th birthday.

HONORING THE LIFE OF ROSS TOLLESON

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

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today with a heavy heart to remember and honor Ross Tolleson of Perry, Georgia.

Ross was a beloved and honored member of the Georgia State Senate, where he served from 2001–2015. Senator Tolleson represented the 20th Senatorial District, and he did so with a servant's heart, always working to better those that he represented. He served on the Committee on Natural Resources and Environment, chairing the Natural Resources Subcommittee for Appropriations.

Outside of the Senate, Ross served his community as a banker, an insurance salesman, and a tree farmer. He will forever be remembered for his selfless dedication to improving and assisting our great State.

I am thankful to have served with Ross and will always hold the time we spent together close to my heart. My thoughts and prayers are with his family, friends, and all who knew him during this most difficult time.

HONORING THE LIFE OF HUGH LEATHERMAN

(Mr. RICE of South Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. RICE of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor former South Carolina State Senator Hugh Leatherman. Senator Leatherman represented Florence, and I was proud to join him in many opportunities to serve our constituents in the Pee Dee.

Senator Leatherman passed away recently at age 90, while still holding office. He worked on behalf of South Carolinians nearly half his life, right up until his passing. And I have been told he even took next year's budget briefing from his hospital bed, exemplifying his true dedication to our State.

Senator Leatherman didn't hesitate to work across the aisle to get things done for the Seventh District and all South Carolinians. I have always known him to pursue smart, reasonable solutions and work hard to fix problems.

Senator Leatherman was the epitome of a public servant. He will be dearly missed in the halls of the South Carolina State House, and we will remember him as an accomplished and honorable man.

Rest in peace, Mr. Chairman.

AMERICAN SUPPLY CHAIN CRISIS

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

Mr. LAMALFA. Madam Speaker, the American supply chain crisis has reached a very critical point. A record number of container ships are waiting to enter U.S. ports, especially off of L.A. and Long Beach. They even miss the trip up to Oakland sometimes, too.

This leaves small businesses and grocery stores with empty shelves. It leaves farmers and others that produce things in California and the U.S. waiting and wondering if they can get their products on to ships.

At the same time, reckless spending has caused inflation for Americans to skyrocket. Food on the shelves is more expensive. This isn't just a problem for upper-class people, as some in the administration are saying. This hits all Americans, especially those on fixed incomes, really hard.

Now, a good thing, everyone saved 16 cents on their Fourth of July barbecue that the Biden administration was touting recently; though Thanksgiving is predicted to be the most expensive meal in the history of the holiday this year.

The current inflation rate has forced households to spend another $175 a month on food, fuel, and housing; let alone what is coming in the home heating oil this winter.

Inflation has climbed over 6 percent in the last year, making it the worst year since 1990, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

We need to get to work solving this problem for the American people, not focusing on unprecedented spending sprees.

Happy Thanksgiving, everybody.

□ 1615

DEMOCRATS' TAX AND SPEND SPREE WILL DEFRAUD AMERICAN TAXPAYERS

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

Mr. ROSE. Madam Speaker, today, I stand here, in the people's House, entrusted with the responsibility of ensuring taxpayers' hard-earned dollars are spent appropriately and with the proper oversight in place.

Yet, this week, House Democrats are pushing to ram through their fatally flawed, partisan, multitrillion-dollar tax and spend package, which uses taxpayer dollars and, no doubt, billions of dollars in borrowed money to fund their ultraliberal domestic spending priorities.

The gigantic $3.5 trillion bill has apparently been cut down to $1.75 trillion, which is still a lot.

What is in the $1.75 trillion tax and spend spree? Amnesty for illegal immigrants, billions for tree equity, tax hikes on job creators and working Americans, and it doesn't end there.

The Democrats' package leaves out critical funding for the Department of Defense and the Department of Homeland Security.

Democrats have gone so far as to break over 40 years of tradition by stripping the Hyde amendment from their package, a longstanding bipartisan provision that prevents taxpayer dollars from being used to fund abortions.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. STANSBURY). Without objection, the title of H.R. 147 is amended.

There was no objection.

CONTINUATION OF THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY WITH RESPECT TO THE SITUATION IN NICARAGUA—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 117–75)

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read and, together with the accompanying papers, referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and ordered to be printed:

To the Congress of the United States:

Section 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1622(d)) provides for the automatic termination of a national emergency unless, within 90 days prior to the anniversary date of its declaration, the President publishes in the *Federal Register* and transmits to the Congress a notice stating that the emergency is to continue in effect beyond the anniversary date. In accordance with this provision, I have sent to the *Federal Register* for publication the enclosed notice stating that the national emergency with respect to the situation in Nicaragua declared in Executive Order 13851 of November 27, 2018, is to continue in effect beyond November 27, 2021.

The situation in Nicaragua, including the violent response by the Government of Nicaragua to the protests that began on April 18, 2018, and the Ortega regime's systematic dismantling and undermining of democratic institutions and the rule of law, its use of indiscriminate violence and repressive tactics against civilians, as well as its corruption leading to the destabilization of Nicaragua's economy, continues to pose an unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security and foreign policy of the United States. For this reason, I have determined that it is necessary to continue the national emergency declared in Executive Order 13851 with respect to the situation in Nicaragua.

JOSEPH R. BIDEN, Jr.

THE WHITE HOUSE, *November 16, 2021.*

DEMOCRATS DELIVERED ON INFRASTRUCTURE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 4, 2021, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. CARTWRIGHT) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the subject of my Special Order.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Madam Speaker, to honor the memory of a 104-year-old hero of World War II and a survivor of the infamous Bataan Death March, I yield to the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. DUNCAN).

MOMENT OF SILENCE HONORING BRIGADIER GENERAL BEN SKARDON

Mr. DUNCAN. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding because I know that he, too, works hard for our Nation's veterans and the men and women who serve in the United States military.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend and recognize a World War II and Korean war veteran, Colonel Ben Skardon, who was notified last week that he was set to receive an honorary promotion to the rank of Brigadier General.

After months of coordination and conversations between my office, the Department of the Army, the Department of Defense, Congress, and the family of Colonel Skardon, the Army and DOD have concurred with my recommendation and, in an extremely rare circumstance, approved Colonel Skardon's promotion to the rank of Brigadier General.

Very few American soldiers ever receive this honor in this manner, and it is well deserved on behalf of Colonel Skardon for his brave military service to our country.

Now, let me just tell you that Colonel Skardon served in World War II, and he was in the Philippines as commander of Company A of the 92nd Infantry Regiment Philippine Army and led his troops through some of the fiercest days of World War II in the South Pacific.

After the surrender of tens of thousands of Filipino and U.S. soldiers to Japanese forces on April 9, 1942, Skardon was forced into the infamous Bataan Death March. For 65 miles, Skardon and many others were forced to walk, suffering physical abuse, fatigue, and the mental exhaustion of watching the death of many fellow prisoners.

Colonel Skardon survived this horrific march because of his perseverance and commitment to his will to live. Skardon's strength and will continued for the 1,255 days he spent in Japanese prison as a prisoner of war.

He defied all odds with the help of two fellow Clemson University graduates who spoon-fed him and made sure he was safe from Japanese guards. Skardon managed to keep hidden his Clemson ring. As a Clemson alumnus who wears his ring proudly, I understand the sacrifice that he made to keep that hidden.

He and his fellow alumni made the tough decision to trade Colonel Skardon's gold Clemson ring for food and medicine, which ultimately saved his life. With the help of his fellow soldiers and his pawned ring, he recovered.

Skardon also survived the sinking of two unmarked hell ships, prisoner of war ships, that were transporting POWs to mainland Japan. Not just one but two prison ships were sunk by the United States military.

At 24 years old and only 90 pounds, he was finally liberated in Manchuria by Russian units in 1945.

After World War II, he went on to serve our Nation in the Korean war, retiring with the rank of colonel in 1962.

His leadership skills were exemplified by his continued military involvement with the young men and women in ROTC at Clemson who wanted to go on and serve in our military. Colonel Skardon would mentor them about what they faced.

For all of his valor, endurance, and suffering in World War II, he was awarded two Silver Stars and two Bronze Stars for valor. He was a Purple Heart recipient and a Congressional Gold Medal recipient.

When he retired, he continued his life of service as a professor at Clemson University for nearly 20 years. He earned several esteemed citizen and civilian awards, including the Clemson Medallion, Clemson University's highest honor; the Alumni Distinguished Service Award, the Clemson Alumni Association's highest honor; and from the State of South Carolina, the Order of the Palmetto.

His life of perseverance and selfless leadership exemplified what it means not only to be a United States soldier but a true American hero.

Colonel Skardon was informed of the promotion that he received from colonel to brigadier general just this weekend. Colonel Skardon was 104 years old. He passed away last night.

Working to secure his promotion to brigadier general is one of the most humbling acts that I have undertaken during my time in Congress, and I have no doubt that divine intervention was responsible for ensuring that he learned of this great honor that our country bestowed upon him before his passing.

My thoughts and prayers are with his family and the Clemson community during this time. He will be deeply missed, but he will never be forgotten.

To the family of General Ben Skardon, and to Ben, Godspeed. We appreciate your service to our great Nation. You wore that Clemson ring proudly. Clemson honored you. I honor you today, and I thank you for your service to our great Nation. Godspeed.

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Madam Speaker, I thank Representative DUNCAN for that fine tribute, and I ask, in harmony with Congressman DUNCAN, that this House observe a moment of silence in honor of the memory of this World War II hero, Colonel Ben Skardon.

Madam Speaker, this week, Democrats delivered on infrastructure.

Over the past number of years, we have had infrastructure week after infrastructure week. Eventually, infrastructure week became a joke.

Now, under the current administration, we have made good on our promise to rebuild the arteries of America. We have delivered a once-in-a-century investment in all the infrastructure that makes our Nation run.

It is the kind of investment that will create millions of good-paying jobs and make our Nation more competitive with every other country in the world.

When President Biden signed into law this bill, this act, yesterday, it was the largest investment in rebuilding bridges since the construction of the Interstate Highway System, the largest Federal investment in passenger rail since the original establishment of Amtrak, and the largest investment in clean drinking water in American history.

So important for my district in northeastern Pennsylvania, this will put northeastern Pennsylvania back on the passenger rail map, bring broadband internet to every rural area in my district, and support our efforts to reclaim all the abandoned mine land sites that have scarred our landscape for decades and fouled our watercourses for that length of time as well.

It will create millions of jobs, good-paying jobs, American jobs, union jobs, jobs that cannot be outsourced across the ocean.

This is truly a transformative law that will help us build a stronger middle class and a brighter future for our entire Nation.

What we are here to talk about this evening is what it means to us, this kind of investment, this kind of belief in our future here in America, what it means to us individually, in our particular districts.

I have here this evening my fellow Pennsylvanian from the Second Congressional District of Pennsylvania, Representative BRENDAN BOYLE.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE) so he can tell us what it means to him that we have made this historic investment in America.

Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, the last President made the term ''infrastructure week'' a running joke. Under President Biden and Democrats in Congress, infrastructure decade is now a reality.

That decade officially began yesterday afternoon when my colleague and I and many others were over on the South Lawn of the White House to watch President Biden sign into law this historic investment in our Nation's infrastructure.

There are two points that I want to make about it. First, this was absolutely needed. Both the International Council of Engineers as well as the American Council of Engineers rated the state of America's infrastructure anywhere as good as a C-minus to as bad as an F, depending on the given year.

If you went back a century ago, the United States of America was the unquestioned leader in infrastructure. That is how we were able to build the American century. The fact that a century later we don't lead in that area should bother all of us as Americans.

I want America to be number one. That is what we are called to do, to lead. Yet, the state of our infrastructure over years and years and decades had been allowed to fall behind. Well, not anymore. That is point number one, that it is needed.

□ 1630

Point number two, what it will produce is jobs. Frankly, the bipartisan infrastructure deal is a blue-collar blueprint for America.

My family's background is one that is typical of so many of us in Philadelphia—blue-collar, working-class background. There used to be jobs aplenty if you didn't have a college education, but the reality is, as the United States and most of the West has transformed into a knowledge economy, if you are a blue-collar American, the last several decades have not been that good for you.

Well, here is a piece of legislation to address that, to create millions of jobs that don't require a college degree.

I passionately believe, as cofounder and co-chair of the Blue Collar Caucus, that it is not sufficient to say to a whole swath of Americans: Well, if you don't have a higher education, too bad. Just go get retrained, figure it out on your own.

That is not good enough. We are talking about millions and millions of Americans who deserve to have family-sustaining jobs, who are smart, who are hard working. They just need their government to invest more in them, to create those opportunities.

Well, sure enough, that is exactly what this bill does. My colleague, my fellow Pennsylvanian went down the list of the investments that we are making: Roads, bridges, rail, mass transit, replacing lead pipes, high-speed internet. The list goes on and on. It is an investment in America and our people.

I am very proud that I voted in favor of this legislation, proud to have worked with my colleagues and this President to make this a reality.

And, finally, I do just want to pay a special thanks to the 19 Senate Republicans and 13 House Republicans who did the right thing and joined with us. Obviously, the overwhelming majority of votes for this legislation came from Democrats, but it really says something in this highly partisan time that we were able to get a significant number of friends from the other side of the aisle to join with us and do the right thing on this piece of legislation.

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Will the gentleman yield for a question?

Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania. Yes.

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. You mentioned being number one and competing. What are you talking about, being number one, on what list? And who do we have to compete with?

Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania. Let's face it, we are in a worldwide competition, especially against China. And let me be clear, I am speaking about the Chinese Government, not its people. The Chinese regime does not share our values. It is not committed to democracy. Far from it. President Xi or dictator-for-life Xi actually challenges whether or not democracy will survive. We know that China, through its Belt and Road Initiative, is making infrastructure investments not only in China but in other parts of the world because they want to gain a foothold.

I feel passionately about this. As a proud American, I make no apologies for the fact that I want us to be number one in the world. But I believe that it is actually best, not just for the United States, but best for all people in the world who yearn to breathe free.

This infrastructure bill will help us not just domestically, but I do believe that as the United States grows, as we grow our economy, as we make an investment in people for whom the modern economy has not necessarily been a good deal, I believe we will help set a shining example to the rest of the world.

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Madam Speaker, I thank Congressman BOYLE for his insights about the competition aspect.

By delivering this infrastructure bill yesterday afternoon, as we did, Democrats are delivering millions of good-paying union jobs, jobs that will put pipefitters and plumbers to work replacing lead water pipes so every child in America can drink clean water. No more will we have the Flint, Michigans where little kids get poisoned by lead in their drinking water, because we are going to rip out all that 100-year-old piping with the lead in it so that won't happen again.

We will transform roads, rail, bridges, public transit, modernize our ports and airports and freight rail, manufacture solar panels, wind farms, batteries, electric vehicles to grow clean energy supply chains that we can export to the rest of the world.

This is a transformational moment not only for the American economy but for the American future and the American people.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from the 4th Congressional District of Pennsylvania, Congresswoman MADELEINE DEAN, to elucidate further on what it means that we enacted this law yesterday afternoon. So far it is all Pennsylvanians.

Ms. DEAN. Madam Speaker, I am so excited about this bill that I have gone hoarse talking about it, so I apologize for my gravelly voice, but it is not from any lack of enthusiasm for the bipartisan infrastructure bill, which is really a jobs bill.

I want to just commend my colleagues from Pennsylvania and from around the country, as we fought for this bill, as we fought for this infrastructure investment, and as we voted on it, and then yesterday had the historic day of watching our President sign it into law.

Madam Speaker, it was 10 years ago that I first ran for public office. I ran for township commissioner, and what I

said then was that I wanted to build a more buildable, walkable, commutable, bikeable infrastructure for my older-ring suburb of Philadelphia.

Little did I know that I would then go on to serve as State representative for 6½ years. My proudest vote as a State representative was Act 89 of 2013, a bipartisan, multiyear investment in our infrastructure. My proudest vote.

And look at us today. We now have the chance to make this much-needed investment in Pennsylvania and across the country in every district where dollars will be flowing to modernize our infrastructure, to make it greener.

Here are just some of the estimates for what will be coming to Pennsylvania:

$11.3 billion to upgrade roads and highways. We know that in my older-ring suburb our highways, our roads are in grave need of upgrading for safety and other purposes;

$2.8 billion for public transportation. Again, in my suburbs, we rely upon public transportation, and we want it to be more reliable so that more people will be using it with ease to protect our climate and our streets;

$1.4 billion in safe drinking water. Again, incredibly important across this country, whether from lead pipes, or from, as in my district and many others, the contamination of PFAS;

$244 million investment in weatherization to our homes;

$1.6 billion toward improving bridges. Pennsylvania sadly has a historic number of bridges in need of reconstruction or replacement;

$100 million to expand broadband access; and

$355 million to modernize airport infrastructure.

There is so much we will be able to do with this bipartisan investment in our infrastructure.

Know also that it is about growing jobs, good jobs, jobs of the future, and it is also anti-inflationary, which is something I know all of my constituents care about.

I will end maybe on my grandchildren. I am so excited, and I will be telling them for years about the chance to work on the bipartisan infrastructure bill, the chance to vote for it, and the chance to stand alongside the President as he signed this 50-, 60-year investment in their futures. I hope they will be as proud as I am of the President and all of us for getting it done.

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Will the gentlewoman yield for a question?

Ms. DEAN. Certainly.

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. It is a sad question, I have to say, because we call it the bipartisan Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, but the truth is, despite their best efforts to claim credit in local news across the country, 206 House Republicans voted against this bill. They voted against good-paying American jobs, they voted against roads, bridges, and rail systems, water systems and sewer systems, against broadband, and clean drinking water. They voted against the tools that we need to compete and win in the global economy as Representative BOYLE pointed out.

My question is why? Why would they vote against this belief in our country, this investment in our future? Why would they vote against it?

Ms. DEAN. I certainly don't know what is in their heart or what is in their vote. But I will say that these were infrastructure investments that these very same Representatives fought for under the previous administration. They enthusiastically embraced week, after week, after week, after week as Infrastructure Week.

I hope this is not the case, but sadly it seems as though the investments in their communities came down to a political choice because, as you have heard some people say—and they complain about this, but it is only testimony to the power of this bill—that this will actually perhaps give Democrats a win.

We didn't do it for a win. We did it for a win for the American people, for our infrastructure, and for our future, but there is some awareness on the other side of the aisle that this is politically damaging to them. Sad to say.

I do believe that it will be interesting to be at all the ribbon cuttings, and I hope in a bipartisan way all Members are at the ribbon cuttings because of the difference this will make, and it will be up to them to decide why they did vote ''no.''

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Madam Speaker, I thank Congresswoman MADELEINE DEAN of the 4th Congressional District of Pennsylvania.

This bill does so much, and we are so proud here tonight to talk about it. It is a win for the American people no matter which way you slice it.

Building out our first ever national network of charging stations so families can travel coast to coast in electric vehicles, making high-speed internet available and affordable for every household in America, especially those rural, hard-to-get-to places, cleaning up brownfields and Superfund sites, as well as plugging, as I said before, abandoned mine lands and orphan wells to stop pollution and protect public health and to build up our resistance to superstorms, droughts, wildfires, and hurricanes that cost us billions of dollars in damage, $99 billion last year alone.

This bipartisan infrastructure deal is a blue-collar blueprint to rebuild America, and a majority of these jobs, as Representative BOYLE pointed out, do not require a college degree.

So the question is, what does it mean to us? What does it mean to us that we have passed this magnificent, enormous investment in American infrastructure, this belief in our Nation's future?

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Rhode Island (Mr. CICILLINE) to describe what it means to him and his 1st District constituents.

Mr. CICILLINE. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding and for convening this Special Order hour.

The impact of this legislation is significant in my home State of Rhode Island and all across our country. The United States has the largest economy in the world, yet our roads and bridges are crumbling, our ports and airports are in disrepair, over 10 million households do not have safe drinking water. This is unacceptable.

We cannot compete in a global economy unless we can move goods, services, and information to compete in the 21st century.

The bipartisan infrastructure bill which President Biden signed, and we worked hard to pass, invests $550 billion in new funding to bring America's infrastructure into the 21st century so that we cannot only improve the quality of life, grow our economy, create millions of good-paying jobs, but also to ensure that we can compete globally.

This legislation, which the President signed yesterday, includes the largest ever Federal investments in public transit, clean drinking water and wastewater infrastructure, and clean energy transmission and electric vehicle infrastructure. It includes the largest investment in passenger rail since the creation of Amtrak, and the largest dedicated bridge investment since we built the Interstate Highway System.

This legislation will create millions of good-paying union jobs while also addressing the critical infrastructure needs of our country and of my home State of Rhode Island.

This monumental investment in infrastructure is the first part of a plan to not only create good-paying jobs but to ensure Americans have the support they need to succeed in those jobs. Combined with the Build Back Better Act, these two historic bills will create 1½ million good-paying jobs each year over the next decade and accelerate America's path to full employment.

□ 1645

For Rhode Island with this bill enacted into law, we will see $2.5 billion coming straight to Rhode Island to help fix our roads and bridges, replace lead pipes, improve our public transportation system, and increase broadband access. And that is not to mention the billions of dollars in dedicated funding for Amtrak's Northeast corridor, which will certainly benefit Rhode Islanders and all of us in New England.

Our State has the highest percentage of structurally deficient bridges in the country. In 2019, 22.3 percent of our bridges were structurally deficient. In 2020, our State's infrastructure was given a C minus by the American Society of Civil Engineers.

This is unacceptable and unsafe.

The funding streams that this legislation will provide are the following: $1.5 billion for Federal aid highway apportioned programs; $242 million for

bridge replacement and repairs in Rhode Island; $272 million to improve public transportation in Rhode Island; $23 million to support expansion of the State's electric vehicle charging network in Rhode Island; $100 million to expand broadband connectivity, including providing access to the 14,000 Rhode Islanders who currently lack it; and 247,000 Rhode Islanders, 24 percent of Rhode Island, will be eligible for the Affordable Connectivity Benefit to help working families afford internet access; $2 million to protect against wildfires; $10.9 million to protect against cyberattacks; $378 million to improve water infrastructure; and $45 million for our airports.

These are significant, historic investments in rebuilding the infrastructure of our State, and the same thing is happening in States all across America.

I salute the President for his strong leadership. I salute my colleagues that worked so hard on this legislation. It is going to help ensure that America can compete again in the global economy.

And most importantly, it will improve the quality of our lives for our constituents. It will improve our economy. It will grow good-paying jobs. And it will make America proud of the quality of its infrastructure once again.

I want to end by particularly acknowledging the men and women in the building trades who are going to do this work; and do it with such pride that they are not only going to improve our economy, but also improve our quality of life. I salute all of the men and women in the building trades.

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. You also mentioned competition, and Congressman BOYLE brought that up. And you also mentioned how much is going into broadband internet availability in Rhode Island.

How does that affect competition and the ability of Rhode Islanders to compete?

Mr. CICILLINE. Will the gentleman yield?

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. I yield to the gentleman from Rhode Island.

Mr. CICILLINE. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for the question.

I think when you look at particularly what we experienced during COVID, we saw some of the difficulties that families—particularly families with young children—had in accessing the internet so they could receive school instruction. And the reality is you need internet connections to access the world and to be able to communicate and be able to learn in the 21st century.

And there were young people who were actually going to parking lots of McDonald's and other places that might have internet to do their homework. That can't happen in America.

And so we want to ensure that rebuilding our infrastructure provides opportunities for every single young person in this country to realize their full potential. Because we are not just competing with the kid next door, we are competing with kids in China, Japan, and all over the world.

We want to ensure that we have an infrastructure to support the economic growth we need. We also want to ensure that we can deliver goods, services, and information in the 21st century and that we are training young people and educating young people and training workers to compete successfully. You can't do that without infrastructure to support that development, that knowledge, and the work that needs to be done.

You think of the experiences we saw during COVID. It made it very clear that we needed to move quickly. Our competitors around the world are investing tens of billions of dollars in infrastructure. They are competing directly with us.

This is a race for the 21st century and a race we are going to win in large part because we are finally investing in America's infrastructure.

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Madam Speaker, I think Mr. CICILLINE is right. I think competition is maybe the biggest point of the bipartisan Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act. Competition that will not only grease the skids for our companies to bring their products to market and to innovate and to compete with companies all over the world, but maybe more importantly, to allow our individuals—as Mr. CICILLINE just pointed out—to make the most of themselves.

It was about 80 years ago that we had the Rural Electrification Act in the United States, and it did pretty much the same thing with electricity because you had pockets, little corners of America, rural places mostly, that didn't have electric power. And to think how far they would have been left behind if 80 years ago the government didn't make the effort to include all of America as we moved forward into the modern age of electricity; it is the same thing with internet connectivity, isn't it?

Mr. CICILLINE. Absolutely.

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Madam Speaker, another thing we did in the past to invest in ourselves was the Eisenhower Interstate Highway System. This was something that the greatest generation did, Madam Speaker. They came back from World War II—we just honored a World War II hero of the Bataan Death March—but these folks came home from all of the privations and sacrifices and suffering that they went through in the war, and what did they do? They sacrificed more for us for the future, what was then the future, what is now us. They sacrificed for us. They built the Eisenhower Interstate Highway System.

What did it do? It greased the skids for American companies, enabled companies to bring their products to market faster and more cheaply and in a way that enabled them to compete with every other country in the world.

This is the kind of investment that makes America win in competitions all over the world.

You don't have to be an engineer to understand these things. You don't have to be a mechanical engineer to know that this is exactly what we need to be doing in the United States of America these days. It was a wonder that it took until now.

Certainly, my entire time in Congress I have been waiting for a major infrastructure bill to come through to beef up our roads and our bridges; our water systems and our sewer systems; our broadband internet; and move us into the next century to compete with China, Europe, Russia, and all of the places that would do away with us if they could beat us.

It was just yesterday afternoon that this bill, the bipartisan Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, was signed into law on the south lawn of the White House. And who was sitting next to me in the chair to my left, but Representative PAUL TONKO of the 20th District of New York, who happens to be a mechanical engineer, and he knows one or two things about making things work; making them work better, more efficiently, faster, and cheaper.

What does it mean to you, Representative TONKO, that we pass this bipartisan Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act?

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from New York (Mr. TONKO).

Mr. TONKO. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for leading us in this discussion this evening.

So what does the infrastructure bill mean to my district, mean to me? I think it is sharpening our competitive edge.

And when you are out there functioning in a global economy, we may not be the only force out there as we were decades ago, and so sharpening that pencil and making certain we cut costs, costs for families, costs for production, and providing for resources that will put the tools in the kit that are required for a 21st century economy is what it is all about. We have back-burnered infrastructure for far too long.

Having been here now, this is my 13th year in Congress, infrastructure is not a Democratic or Republican idea. People have been talking about it in both Chambers in both parties for a long time. And every week in the last administration was infrastructure week.

But finally it took leadership.

President Biden, with his experience of almost four decades in the Senate and serving as Vice President, knew about those relationships. He knew that you had to negotiate across party lines, you had to negotiate across House lines to make certain that working with his administration and with his cabinet officials we would come up with a blueprint for a sound economy. And that is exactly what happened here.

Yesterday's bill signing was exciting. We were sitting together on that south lawn.

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. It was chilly.

Mr. TONKO. It was chilly and windy, so it felt even chillier than it was. But what was so important to recognize and to consume was that what you had here was a President who is in the likes of Abraham Lincoln, who built an intercontinental rail system; President Teddy Roosevelt, who set up a National Parks System; President Dwight Eisenhower, who set up the Interstate Highway System. This person stands as a giant when it comes to infrastructure now, someone who brought us together; and it wasn't talk on and on, it was negotiations. And finally now the first step in this process, the huge downpayment on our infrastructure, is very vital.

So to me it is about competition, but it is also about hope, providing a spirit of hope for working families in this country to know that there is a bolder tomorrow.

I liken our country to the pioneer spirit. I think it is part of our DNA. We showed again that there is spirit, spirit to embrace invention and innovation as we are going through R&D dollars to develop more efficiency and effectiveness with wind power.

We are going to invest in my State and across the 50 States in infrastructure that ranges from roads and bridges to ports, making them more secure, more equipped for the modern economy, making certain that we are providing for a response to the transportation sector for climate's sake.

This allows us to be better stewards in protecting our planet, making certain the next generations that follow us will have a better world. That is done by us making certain that in my State where there are those nonattainment areas, in accordance with the Clean Air Act, they will now clean up that air that they breathe; the water that they drink; the soils that they can restore. That is part of an economic response.

And as we restore some of those sites—many of them are in communities of color, neighborhoods of Brown and Black people, who will now prosper because they will remediate these soils and now go forward with opportunities for work.

So this is about putting people to work. The jobs that will be part of this will be tremendous. And it is just a green light to go forward and really focus on our efforts as we travel forward to invest in those dynamics that truly matter.

I look at my State, they are scheduled to receive approximately—we are still working out the numbers—some $30 million to build our airports into a stronger bit of infrastructure. Important in international travel. Making certain that we invest in the Northeast corridor with Amtrak. Our rail system requires, for safety sake and ridership time, an investment. And so those dollars of some $66 billion will be going towards Amtrak. $100 billion going toward roads and bridges in this country. Making certain that we address one of the issues very important to the subcommittee that I chair, the Subcommittee on Environment and Climate Change, that reports to the standing Committee on Energy and Commerce, that subcommittee under its umbrella has the responsibilities of implementing the Safe Drinking Water Act. And what we found is that we need to invest heavily in our drinking water infrastructure.

Think of it, the spaghetti below our communities, below our feet, is so critical in getting a commodity that is essential, sound, pristine drinking water to industry, to homes, to schools. That begins and ends with sound infrastructure.

And some of this infrastructure, Representative CARTWRIGHT, is dating back to the days of Rutherford B. Hayes in the White House.

We are not content with our phones because they are outdated, and we have had them 2 years. We are not content with our TV screen because it is not large enough. We are tired of the miles on the car or the color of it, so we get a new vehicle. But we are content to sit there with 100-year-old pipes that are providing an essential commodity for this economy and for the safety of people in their homes and in schools.

So this is about investing $55 billion in lead pipe removal, which is going to put a lot of pipefitters and plumbers into working situations as they replace these pipes. No child, no family should be drinking water that is lead infested. And for us to know that there are 10,000 pipes actively serving communities across this country, it is far past time to respond to that replacement mechanism, which this bill does.

So, obviously, I am listening to the colloquy you have had with so many of our colleagues tonight, and we can go on and on about the benefits of this bill. There are tremendous benefits that put people to work in union jobs so that they will be given a salary, a check, a paycheck that is commensurate with the skill and the talent they bring for all of us as Americans.

□ 1700

And putting people to work, stronger stewardship of our planet, and innovation concepts that will take us to the next economy of the 21st century, these are all virtuous outcomes. And how 206 Members of this House could vote against infrastructure when they talked about it, they touted it for years. But they were okay to support a tax cut that went to the 1 percent of wealth of this country and some of the largest corporations in the world. But for the working families, for the middle class community of this country, for those looking to ascend the middle class, there was a ''no'' vote, while you could have made it so competitive, sharpen that competitive edge, give us the skills and the talents and the resources we need, making certain we go forward with a sense of hope, a spirit of hope that we can do, that we can embrace that pioneer spirit of this country.

Madam Speaker, the President yesterday said to the President of China, I believe it was, when he asked him, What is America? How would you define it?

Possibilities. Opportunity. Possibility. Pioneer spirit. All of that comes together in one venue that is enabled by these bills that are going to address infrastructure. And that bill signing yesterday for that infrastructure bill, that was a powerful statement, a powerful moment. One that says ''can do.'' Yes, America. We are back. We are going to make certain that all of the good work that is done will improve our economy, strengthen our economy, and provide for a competitive edge that will keep us the strong economy in the world that we ought to be.

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. It is an afternoon we won't soon forget.

Mr. TONKO. Not at all.

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Will the gentleman yield for a question?

Mr. TONKO. Absolutely.

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Well now, of course, the press has noted with interest that it took us weeks and months to sort out all the details and finally get it to the White House for signature.

Here is my question: Contrast those weeks and months with how long will this country benefit from the bipartisan Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act? How long?

Mr. TONKO. Oh my gosh, this is generational. We haven't seen this kind of investment in ages. So when we look back at that interstate railroad system, we look back at the park system, we look back at the interstate issues, these are infrastructure investments that are still providing for us.

I look at some of the work that came under President Franklin Roosevelt's administration and the infrastructure in my district, phenomenal schools that are like fortresses that are part of the cityscape, the landscape of any community that are still tremendous bits of architecture that are serving a very useful purpose.

When we think about the Rural Electrification Act of about a century ago, people are still prospering from that connection. As you called it, the pockets that were unserved or underserved.

So this is going to be a lifetime and beyond for even the youngest of our communities, as we celebrated yesterday.

We look at the broadband that is also part of this process, how can you allow for communities to go unserved or underserved. This is about children doing their homework. This is about cottage industry surviving and growing. This is about security for those who live in remote rural areas or in some poor neighborhoods. This is a connection with the outside world. So the connection that

comes with this via rail, via airports, via jobs, via infrastructure, via water systems that will serve us well.

I remember being back in the beginning of my elected capacity in a county government situation. We were much stronger in our response to water. Today, we are at about 4½ percent of any project—4½ percent is contributed from the Federal Government. It is time to change that.

And you know what, the message that I think is important also, Representative CARTWRIGHT, is that these issues, these concerns, these needs—and they are needs—don't go away. So either pay for them at a Federal level where there are much more progressive opportunities to create the revenues—and by the way, this is all paid for, which is a great highlight—but we had those more progressive opportunities for revenues rather than relying on a property tax as it percolates down into the most local of levels and say, Okay, you need this water, dig into the purse for the property tax. Unfair. Unacceptable.

So we are here now celebrating what can be a golden moment. It was just great to gather together yesterday and see mayors of both parties, see governors of both parties, see the cabinet officials, seeing union labor, seeing the private sector, seeing the faith community, all gathering together applauding and recognizing the leadership, the profound leadership of President Biden, Vice President HARRIS, their Cabinet, and certainly those who voted for the measure in the Senate and in the House here in Washington.

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Will the gentleman yield for another question?

Mr. TONKO. Sure.

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. So we have all been seeing these images of 75, 80 cargo ships off the coast of California, Long Beach, Los Angeles, waiting to get in because we are starting up our economy after the pandemic was shut down. Obviously, it is not something we went to school for—shutting down an American economy and starting it back up—but that is what we are doing, and we are muddling through it. And there are some painful price hikes here and there because of it—hard to say how long they will go on.

But the one thing that struck me was all of those containerships full, they told me that it takes 7,000 tractor-trailers to unload a containership. That is 7,000 containers on a ship, and over 70 or 80 ships out there in the harbor. All of these manufactured goods coming from China.

And it said to me, we read about the trade imbalance, we learn about the trade imbalance, we learn that China is out-manufacturing us and we are buying their goods. But, man, until you see those ships out in the harbor offshore, it doesn't really hit home how much they are beating us at manufacturing. What does this bill do to address that?

Mr. TONKO. Well, of course, we are modernizing our ports. We are modernizing our roads and bridges. We are making certain that we have a state-of-the-art grid for electricity sake so that as you integrate renewables, and integrate distributed generation; you need that state-of-the-art grid. So all of this investment, starting with the modernization of the ports allows us to take this in.

You brought up a really good point. This pandemic rocked this economy here in the U.S. and around the world in a way that we haven't seen in over 100 years. And for us now to be experiencing this aftermath shouldn't be a surprise. People are staying home not spending. They didn't go shopping; they were afraid, as they should be. They were warned not to go into stores and spread the virus.

So it rocked the economy. And so there was a supply that was building, and the demand was way down. And now we are trying to steady this out. This infrastructure issue will help us. We need to work through this now to steady the economy because we saw spikes that obviously aren't acceptable.

The President and his team will use this infrastructure measure and other concepts to make certain we come back and steady the economy in a way that will get us back to normal—that is so important to do—and to be visionary.

I see that Representative ROSS is going to join us from North Carolina, and we have been working together—perhaps you have been working with Representative ROSS, too—on offshore wind. There is a visionary piece. And there is a way for us to really build the energy supply in a way that is going to put a lot of people to work.

So Representative CARTWRIGHT, thank you for leading us in this discussion tonight.

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. And I like the point about how shutting down for the pandemic, it kind of taught us a lot of things about our own economy, about the pockets of, for example, the gig workers nobody was thinking about at the outset; we had to include them in the relief money. But, man, when we saw these ships piling up offshore, it really brought home to me really how we are being out-manufactured and we have to pick up our game.

Investing in our infrastructure, what do you think? Is it going to help?

Mr. TONKO. This bill is definitely going to address the supply-chain concern. The pandemic was so instructive—supply chain, technology, reliance on technology—making certain we learn these lessons; take them to mind, take them to heart, and respond. And this administration is about that.

A golden moment, a celebratory moment, once in a lifetime, once in a generation, I am just proud to witness it. Proud to witness it and to have cast a ''yes'' vote.

I thank all of my colleagues in the House that voted yes for strengthening the muscle of the American economy and the American worker.

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. It is a victory for America that we will treasure and favor for many years to come.

Mr. TONKO. No matter what political label you have at the end of the day, we are all going to prosper.

When you see these headlines across the country, ''billions coming to X State,'' and then the sidebar discussion: Entire delegation voted ''no.'' You explain it to the public.

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Madam Speaker, I thank Representative PAUL TONKO from the 20th District of New York for his insights and also for helping me introduce our next speaker, the dynamic Representative ROSS from the Second District of North Carolina, where innovation is second nature.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. ROSS).

Ms. ROSS. Madam Speaker, I thank Congressman CARTWRIGHT for yielding and for his leadership.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to discuss the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act that will bring America's aging infrastructure into the 21st century.

I was honored to join Madam Speaker and our other colleagues at the White House as the President signed this historic legislation into law.

In Congress, I am extremely proud to represent Wake County, North Carolina, one of the fastest growing counties in the United States. We are a powerful economic engine for our State and for our region, but, sadly, our infrastructure has not grown with our community. We need seamless transportation networks to connect Wake County to the rest of the Nation—modern infrastructure that can help us bring the innovation that happens in the Research Triangle to the country and to the world.

This historic legislation will help us, our people, get to work and school and products from our groundbreaking companies get to markets across America and around the globe.

In North Carolina, there are about 1,500 bridges and more than 3,000 highways in poor condition. This bill will devote $110 billion to upgrade roads and bridges and finance other major transportation projects.

Over the next 20 years, North Carolina's drinking water infrastructure will require billions in additional funding.

This bill provides funds to replace lead pipes in the country and help ensure that all of our children can enjoy clean drinking water. It will also address the toxic threat of PFAS contamination.

This bill modernizes our Nation's electric grid to protect against storm damage and unlock the full potential of clean energy. It also creates jobs in the clean energy manufacturing sector, a sector where our State is positioned to lead the Nation.

In addition, it expands broadband connectivity in underserved communities, helping to ensure that all of our

students and businesses can access dependable, affordable internet.

The jobs created by this infrastructure package are jobs that cannot be outsourced. This package will boost all of our workers, from the folks who pave the roads to the scientists and engineers who are designing 21st century transportation networks, more efficient water and sewer systems, and cutting edge electrical grids.

Thanks to this package, engineering graduates from schools like North Carolina State and graduates from Wake Tech, Shaw, and St. Augustine's—all in my district—will help build the bridges in our communities that one day many years from now they will proudly show their grandchildren.

We are delivering on the President's promise to pass legislation that improves the lives of ordinary people and creates good-paying jobs.

This bill is a testament to what we can achieve when we give bipartisanship a chance, when we set our differences aside and commit to the hard work of finding common ground.

This is good for North Carolina and great for the country.

□ 1715

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Madam Speaker, may I ask how much time is remaining.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Pennsylvania has 3 minutes remaining.

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from California (Mr. COSTA).

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, I thank my friend, Congressman CARTWRIGHT, for allowing me the opportunity to speak on the bipartisan infrastructure package. The fact of the matter is, this is long overdue.

We have been living off the investments our parents and our grandparents made a generation or two ago. During most of the 20th century, America led the world in investment in its water, in its transportation, in its electrical grid, all the things that have made us the great country that we are.

In recent decades, we have lagged behind. We now rank 13th in the world in terms of the amount of investment that we make in American people because investing in our water, in our transportation, in our roads and bridges, in our internet system, that is investing in people. That is investing in people who create jobs that make the economy better.

As a result of the passage of this bipartisan infrastructure bill, for the first time in a long time, America will lead the world next year in investments in the future in our water, our transportation, our electrical grid, and all the things that are a part of this piece of legislation.

We can't just take our eye off the ball. We have to continue these investments. In California, in the San Joaquin Valley that I represent, these investments are going to be billions of dollars in our water system. We have horrific droughts that we are experiencing right now. With climate change and the other efforts in this legislation to deal with the impacts of climate change, we need to ensure that we have a sustainable water supply in California for our farms and farm communities, as well as ensuring that we have clean drinking water for rural areas that don't have it today. This legislation does just that.

This legislation also takes an opportunity to look at the other areas that we need to do in the next piece of legislation: childcare for millions of women who want to get back to work; and providing efforts to improve our healthcare system, to fully fund the Affordable Care Act, a promise we made 11 years ago.

My district had 25 percent uninsured. Eleven years later, only 10 percent of my district is uninsured. These are the kind of investments we need to make in people.

I thank my colleagues for supporting this effort. Yesterday was a wonderful afternoon with the President, with my colleagues, Republicans and Democrats alike, to really celebrate the fact that we are beginning to do what the American people sent us to do, which is get the job done and invest in our country.

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

ECONOMIC CRUELTY

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

Mr. SCHWEIKERT. Madam Speaker, we are going to do a couple of things tonight. Most of it is going to be economic heavy. We are going to actually go over the Democrat's social spending bill and its economic effects.

First, I wanted to touch on something that I am somewhat hopeful that the left and the right could embrace. I am thinking of what we have gone through for almost 2 years now, and that is the pandemic. If I came to you tomorrow and said: Okay. We have vaccinations, but we are about to have therapeutics.

Think about this. You have all seen the news that we now have a second drug company. The Wall Street Journal today has an amazing, wonderful article on protease inhibitors and their effectiveness. The fact that Pfizer has publicly said their antiviral medication is up around 89 percent effective, it is a lot of pills that may need to be taken with a second pharmaceutical, but isn't this the holy grail?

We have talked about this over and over, saying you now have home COVID tests. Now you can take your antiviral at home. And you start to understand the elegance of how this type of antiviral works in sort of snipping the proteins and making them so they don't grow or they can't attach to the cell walls.

So if this exists technology-wise, and one of the antivirals is already in front of the FDA today. I think we saw a news clip this afternoon that the second one may be presented on Tuesday. The Pfizer pharmaceutical will be presented to the FDA, but it may take a month or so.

If we are in a world now where we have multiple vaccines, we actually now have therapeutics and antiviral home testing kits—you can take the antiviral at home—it is time, once these are approved, to declare the pandemic over.

Why is this really important? Think of the societal friction, the battles we have created by mask mandates, by vaccine mandates. We now see the data of how, in our labor supply, folks are saying: No, I believe in body autonomy. I am not taking the vaccine or doing this or doing that.

The reality of it is, we have been so successful as a country, as a society, in believing in science. Remember, how many times did we hear that, believing in science?

If the FDA approves, which we are hopeful maybe it happens in the next month, the antivirals—and the press releases from the pharmaceutical companies are that there will be a couple hundred thousand sets by the end of this year and apparently millions available starting in the new year—it is time to declare the pandemic over.

Our office has put together a piece of legislation, and we are going to put it in circulation once we have sort of vetted it in the next couple of days. I would encourage any of my brothers and sisters on the left and the right that, if you believe in science and you really want a solution, it is time to embrace the fact of how far we have come and the solution is here.

We are going to do a little bit of basic economics and try to tap some of the discussion that I think has been missed on the left's social spending bill.

First, let's have an honest conversation on where we are economically right now and what our world looks like. If any of you are planning on having a retirement, if any of you have children or grandchildren and you actually give a darn about them, first understand how much trouble we are in immediately, right now, today.

The CBO numbers, in 29 years, we are at $112 trillion of borrowed money. That is inflation adjusted, 112 trillion public dollars. This isn't borrowing where we take credit for borrowing from trust funds. This is publicly borrowed, inflation-adjusted. Functionally, in 29 budget years, we are at $112 trillion. That is the CBO estimate.

If you are a young person—and you want to be honest with them—your economic future is about to be brutalized.

The reality of it is, I have done this on the floor multiple times. It is fascinating how many on the left, and

even the right, when you start to walk through what drives U.S. sovereign debt, it is a very uncomfortable conversation.

The fact of the matter is, Medicare is the primary driver of U.S. sovereign debt. Social Security is second. The rest of the budget is in balance.

At the end of the 30-year model, right now, according to the CBO, the rest of the budget, if you strip Medicare and if you strip Social Security out, the budget actually has a positive balance.

If you believe it is a moral obligation for us to keep our promises that Medicare will be there, that Social Security will be there, why isn't this what we work on every day instead of discussions about how we can spend a whole bunch more money, take over a whole bunch more of the economy, slow the economy down and make this Nation poorer?

What we are going to show is the economic models that show the Democrats' spending bill actually crushes poor people. It actually makes the working poor poorer. It makes society poor. I don't believe that is the intention, but it is the economics.

Sometimes, when you get your math wrong, it is a level of cruelty.

A simple thought experiment: What are the two things that you do to crush the working poor? Inflation.

Well, we are doing a great job on that, aren't we? The fact of the matter is, what inflation does to the working poor is economic cruelty.

The second thing, you open your borders up, adding millions of individuals with similar skill sets. Say you are that individual that didn't finish high school, but you are out there hanging drywall. You have a family. You are getting good at your profession. You are trying to learn how to move up. Then you flood the market with people with similar skill sets.

There are great peer-reviewed papers out there that talk about just what we have done at the border. A decade from now, you made the working poor poorer and now overlay what all this spending has done inflation-wise.

If we, as Members of Congress, give a darn about the working poor, the economic violence that is being committed right now by the policies coming out of this Congress, it is time to step up and deal with the reality.

The problem is, the working poor aren't our contributors. They are not the ones showing up here lobbying us. They are the individuals we have a moral obligation to do good things for, and that is not what is happening.

We are going to walk through some of where we are today. You have to understand that the national debt right now is projected to leap to 200 percent in 2050, so, functionally, 29 budget cycles from now. If the Biden proposals—these are the ones that were proposed during the election, and I have to accept a bunch of that has been trimmed back in the debate, not as much as you might think. We are going to go over that.

You go, functionally, from 200 percent of debt to GDP—meaning the borrowed money will be 200 times bigger than the GDP. If you add it all up, in 29 budget years, you are over 328 percent of debt to GDP.

If any of you are thinking about having a retirement, if you are thinking about your kids, your grandkids, this is what wipes us out as a society. It is terrifying to talk about because it is hard. It requires lots of levers.

You have to get immigration right. You have to get finance right. You have to get spending right. You have to get tax policy right. You have to do everything that maximizes economic expansion. Then the holy grail: You are going to have to crash the price of healthcare, not shift around who pays for it.

Remember, the ACA, many of you know it as ObamaCare, the Republican alternative, Medicare for All, in many ways it is about who pays and who gets subsidized. It is not about what we pay.

I cannot tell you how many times I have come to this floor and tried to drill that into the way we think. But instead, the scam here is we talk about: Well, you are going to get subsidized.

But we did nothing to what we pay. The difference is we just borrow money—that is, the Federal Government—and pay for it that way.

Even a 100 percent tax rate on small businesses, upper-class families—so a 100 percent tax rate and you are taking every single dollar, you can't even come close to balancing the budget and balancing it long term. The numbers are this ugly.

□ 1730

When you take a look, it is not that hard. The 2050 number, if you take every dime even of folks who make $1 million or $500,000, if you take every dime, you don't get close. The numbers are this ugly. The share of Federal tax revenue spent on interest in the national debt is projected to surge.

But here is the number that terrifies me: If we move up 2 points—2 points—functionally at the 2050, 2051 mark, 100 percent of revenues—100 percent of revenues—in that 30-year budget window, move up 2 points from where we are right now, our baseline, 100 percent of tax revenues will be just covering the interest costs.

So is anyone familiar with a book that was called ''The Black Swan''? Okay, Taleb also wrote another book. And I understand, there are economists out there, Gilder and others, who disagree with parts of the model. But there was one concept of making yourself fragile. A simple example is you go to the airport 10 times; you know if you leave at exactly this moment you can get to the airport exactly as your flight is getting ready to board; and the first time there is a car accident, you miss your flight. We are doing that type of thing to our entire country, to my 6-year-old daughter, and to anyone else out there.

We are living on a razor's edge.

Madam Speaker, you saw that last slide, 2 points moving back to what would be closer to normality interest-rate wise. In the 30-year budget window, 100 percent of revenues, receipts if you want to use the technical term, will go just to cover the interest.

Madam Speaker, do you understand how fragile we have made the economics of this country?

And then the debate here is how to spend more money. I understand money gets you reelected, and promising things gets you reelected. It gets nice contributions, and it is absolutely perverse when you think about where we are at.

So now let's talk about the budget gimmicks. Many of you are going to refer to this as the Build Back Better plan. In our office we are calling it the social spending plan because that is what it is. It is laced with gimmicks. It is going to be fascinating come Friday to see how CBO ultimately scores these. I'm a little disappointed on what we have seen from the Joint Committee on Taxation and some of the others. I don't think we are getting actual quality, dynamic scoring, but that is hard. It takes time. You have to lay it out, break it apart, and try to understand what the economic effects are.

But you walk through the gimmicks, Madam Speaker, and a simple example is the White House has estimated $400 billion in some of the Joint Committee on Taxation scores from IRS collecting more money. But CBO came out and said: No, it is not $400 billion; it is 120.

Then you start to realize, Madam Speaker, the debates you are hearing on the floor here are completely stacked with absolutely fraudulent numbers.

I remember how hard—when we did tax reform—we had to work to justify dynamic scoring and make the math as honest as possible to work, and it was our brothers and sisters on the left who absolutely were insistent. Today they would never hold themselves to the same standard that they demanded from us just a couple of years ago.

So let's walk through an example of one of the absolute frauds that the left is using. So President Trump had a drug rebate. This is a little geeky, but it is important to understand. Ultimately, the rebate was going to be to the consumer. So you are on Medicare, you are in line at the pharmacy, the rebate that would have gone into the backside of the provider, the acquirer, think of it as the wholesaler of the pharmaceutical, that rebate now comes to you at the counter. It means the consumer would get the value, but it would mean the costs of pharmaceuticals would go up for government because the government isn't ultimately getting that value.

So here are sort of the steps of the Trump administration's rebate rule: it was estimated to cost about $150 billion over 10 years.

Speaker PELOSI said: It will never happen.

Democratic leadership here said: It will never happen.

Democrat leadership in the Senate said: Unacceptable, it will never happen.

This was never, ever, ever, ever going to happen.

This was the whole system of how the consumer would have gotten the benefit of those rebates, but it would have cost the Federal Government $150 billion over 10 years, but it was never going to happen unless, of course, you are a Democrat looking for money to spend on their social entitlement bill, all of a sudden saying: Hey, this is never going to happen, but we can score it in, so we are going to use it.

It is just another gimmick, it is a con, and it is a fraud. If we were doing this, we would be ashamed of ourselves and should be. But this is actually the scam that now is Democrat leadership.

So you take a look at the budget gimmicks that are already built into here, Madam Speaker, and you start to realize the left's social spending bill is like a house of cards. Now, they may get some scoring. Like the last one I was just showing you, Madam Speaker, CBO will give them that $150 billion. There will be a nice little footnote saying that this was never really going to become policy but because it was a proposal and they are canceling the proposal, we are going to give them the 150 or maybe $145 billion worth of credit.

But the public needs to understand those trillions and trillions and trillions—$112 trillion in the baseline as it is right now in 29 budget years—that is how you get there.

The left will say: This is paid for.

No. It is not. And they know that. They are not dumb. They are manipulative, but they are not dumb. When you start to look at just the games being done, Madam Speaker, and then the spending—and that is the other thing we are going to work through here is how much of this spending do they really plan to cancel in year 2?

So, Madam Speaker, you are seeing some spending scoring saying that we estimate this is $1¾ trillion, wink, wink, nod, nod, but when it becomes a 10-year instead of disappearing in the second year, you are 4½ plus trillion dollars of new obligations.

Look up and down the different budget gimmicks. One of the reasons I did this slide is because it is a little more of an economically difficult concept. So you actually have in there an adjusted gross income surcharge on the top income earners.

Madam Speaker, you know the Democrats' proposal is to do a very similar thing on corporations. The alternative minimum tax that is also being put on corporations; we are just now starting to model how much it actually will slow down the economy.

Here is why: You have this thing we call expensing. It was one of the great economic drivers particularly in 2018 and 2019. Do you remember we far exceeded revenue projections, Madam Speaker, income inequality truly shrank, poverty shrank, and food insecurity shrank? The poor got dramatically less poor. They were 2 amazing years. It is a great model to demonstrate what supply-side economics really does.

But a lot of the economic expansion was because of something called expensing. So you buy a piece of equipment, it makes your company more productive, and you are able to pay people more. It moves technology and moves business production forward into the next century.

If you do a minimum alternative tax at a corporate level, then you no longer get the economic value of that expensing. I know this is really geeky, but it is really important to understand. We are just now starting to model this thing saying: Oh, heavens, so the Democrats are doing the wink, wink, nod, nod con of they are not taking away the expensing which is the primary driver that we saw in productivity from the last 2 years since tax reform, but by doing this alternative minimum tax calculation, you don't get the value of that depreciation. All of a sudden, the investment in capital products—capital goods and capital equipment—will disappear. It is another example of a really bad understanding of the most basic economics.

I can understand why the left wants to do this. It is the number of new IRS agents, the number of agencies that will have potentially hundreds of thousands of new employees. Remember, one of the models was 80,000 new IRS employees. Well, okay, maybe it makes sense if I was on the Democrat side or I represented northern Virginia or areas like that where I have lots of unionized government-working constituents. But we need to be honest about that, the build back better, the social spending bill on the left, massively increases the bureaucracy.

You start to look at the hundreds of millions that are being put in to expand the size of the national bureaucracy. It is not like we are doing the leap of technology saying that with the investment it is going to make society more productive. It is like our argument of air quality and environmental quality, using technology is the way to make us healthier. Instead, the left designs it in ways where there are new armies of public employees.

I have to congratulate the left. Madam Speaker, you are going to see some slides here. We are going to be number one. Yes. The United States will be absolutely number one in the highest tax rates on income in the entire industrialized world.

But we are starting to see if you are a resident of California, you are going to be about 64.7 percent for top income earners and high income earners. Fine.

If you are in Arizona you are going to be at 55.9.

New York gets the prize. They are going to be over 66 percent for top income earners when you do the Federal, the surcharges, State, and local taxes.

Don't we have lots of data already in the economic literature of what happens when we start to hit these confiscatory levels of tax on income?

What do people do?

You start to realize saying, okay, I can work and get this tax rate, or I can take my resources and put them in other types of things—municipal bonds, other types of things—and reap the rewards from that because if more than half of the upper income now goes to government, then we have just created an incentive not to invest and not to take risks but just take the money, put it in safe places, and don't play anymore.

I am frustrated because I know the Tax Foundation has been trying to model the taxes but we don't have good data yet on what does this mean in future GDP growth.

Back to the very first board we held up: our society is heading towards a debt cliff. The baseline as it is today from CBO in 29 budget years, we are at $112 trillion in borrowed money in today's dollars, and that is where policy is today.

When you start to do this, and economic growth slows, then you functionally bring the financial apocalypse a lot sooner.

So let's actually also talk through a couple other duplicities that are in the Democrats' build back better social spending bill. They sure do like rich people.

Two-thirds of the millionaires get a tax cut under the build back better, and if we take the folks getting over $1 million, 66 percent of them actually benefit. And this is one of the things we have come to the floor now for almost a year talking about instead of raising taxes—and the rhetoric that we hear over and over from the left where the rich need to pay their fair share—maybe we should just stop subsidizing them.

We have come to the floor over and over and shown that almost $1.4 trillion of subsidies go to the very top, top, top income earners. If you stop the subsidy, Madam Speaker, then you don't create the economic distortions.

So this is the great scam: Democrats are saying, We are going to raise the taxes, these surcharges, but then we are going to turn around, and as long as these rich people do what we ask them to do—they buy the right type of solar panels, the right type of electric car—then we are going to turn around and hand them cash.

□ 1745

Now that is something that the vast majority of Americans will never be able to afford, but you will be happy to know that the Democrats' plan is to subsidize the rich. And it gets even darker.

So now the Democrats are going to put in SALT, State and Local Tax deduction. And the great thing is, if you make $1 million a year, it looks like you are going to get the vast majority,

you are going to get the highest amount of this money. But for the population that is $400,000 and up, they get the majority of the SALT. It is, once again, the Democrats subsidizing the rich and the really rich.

And for everyone else who is functionally making $150,000 and less, you don't get anything. You don't get any value here. How can this be?

I mean, am I living in a parallel universe where the rhetoric from the left is, tax rich people; wink, wink, nod, nod. Not only do we subsidize them when they buy the things we want them to buy; but then we are going to give them additional tax benefits. We are going to make additional things they spend money on deductible; and the rest of the population just be screwed.

I grabbed this one, it substantially basically makes some other points. So think of this: In the Democrats' social spending bill, best as I can identify it, there is about $100 billion to finance amnesty. Okay. So it functionally gives a 5-year visa to millions of folks who are here undocumented illegally.

But you remember our earlier discussion? What are the two things you do to create economic violence to the working poor? Inflation. Well, too many—remember our elementary school economics class? Too many dollars chasing too few goods.

So the left put out lots and lots and lots of money to people's bank accounts because that is great politics; instead of using those resources to say we are going to make our society more efficient, more clean, more productive. And that productivity means you can pay people more, and you have a society that grows, and then maybe we can take on our debt problem.

But we did it just backwards. So now you get to see what Keynesian economics looks like. And are you enjoying the inflation yet? Because it looks like it is going to continue to pop. And then, flooding society with lots of other low-skilled workers.

Okay. Well, it will be interesting to see how long it is before the left actually has to come in here and say we need to do additional subsidies to the working poor because we stuck it to them.

And look; if anyone has a question, we have multiple papers, university peer-reviewed papers talking about how the Democrats' plan actually will make the poor poorer by the end of the decade. University of Chicago, four Ph.D. economists published a paper a couple of weeks ago showing that the lowest quartile of income—and I despise the term quartiles, but that is what economists use—will be poorer at the end of the decade.

Now, a lot of that is because of the Democrats' unwillingness to attach the benefits to learning job skills, to actually working. They have severed those. You would have thought we learned that during the Clinton years, when you rewarded work, rewarded going and gaining job skills—we are going back to the bad old days of saying, if you want to just not work, you will be happy. As long as you vote for the right party, we are going to send you a check.

Does anyone see the cruelty here?

Now, there are some things in this spending that look—endangered plants, okay, it is $4.9 million. Desert fish, okay, $4.9 million. Fresh water mussels, which are actually a real problem, but it is $19 million. And everyone understands the difference between $1 million and billions.

So $100 billion for amnesty, but $19 million for functionally—we will call it invasive species and protecting others. It is like the drop of a bucket in an ocean wave. But it gives you a sense where—so the Democrats get a nice talking point, but the math is absolutely perverse.

Ultimately, over the next decade, you have got to deal with this one way or the other. Either what the left is doing is when—you are going to see the scoring this Friday of how many programs saying, well, we are going to spend all this money on a transfer payment, European style transfer payment, but it is only for 2 years; wink, wink, nod, nod. A future Congress won't continue it.

You all remember the fraud of the last time we had—Speaker PELOSI a decade ago—and there were multiple spending bills, where the way they fit into something called PAYGO is, we are going to spend this much, this much, but on the fifth year we are going to just pretend the program no longer spends any money.

Well, this is now the more modern version of that fraud that was committed financially, budgetarily, is we are going to spend the money for a year or two, and then we are going to pretend it stops; and that way we hit certain budget boxes to meet the reconciliation; wink, wink, nod, nod. Will the voters be paying attention to it?

But let's say they are honest. It is not likely, but let's say that honestly that is not the scam; that they fully intend to spend all this money, get themselves through the next election, and then stop the spending.

Well, in that case, the taxes are permanent because the taxes don't expire, even though, what we can tell best from the revenues, they don't come close to covering all the spending.

And if the spending is made permanent, the social entitlement transfers, over the 10 years, this is trillions and trillions of dollars out of balance.

I understand—and, look, this is one of my great sins, and I think a lot of us on the conservative side, we sound like accountants on steroids.

You know, we come and talk about GDP and workforce, labor force participation. But the fact of the matter is, if you care for people, if you believe growth, economic growth is moral; that it provides opportunities; that that is how you save for retirement; that is how you help your child go to college; that is how you have a better house, a better life; it is the opportunities that growth creates. So when you see someone like me come behind the microphone and talk about GDP and the benefits it brings, it is a number. It is classical economics. It is also that poor family that is trying to be less poor.

And the tax foundation has done a bunch of modeling that makes it pretty darn clear that the left social spending bill is going to make our entire society poorer. When you start to look at these numbers over the decade, and at the end of decade, we won't have grown as much.

We are going to be missing—I mean, in a decade, we are missing a half a trillion dollars of economic growth, of GDP.

You remember our very first board? What is—for my little girl, for everyone else out there, this is what wipes us out as a society. This is the thing that this body is terrified to talk about. And this is already the baseline.

The baseline from CBO already says, in 29 budget years, we are $112 trillion of borrowed money, and that is assuming really stable interest rates. That is assuming no more wars. It is assuming no more major recessions.

We were doing one attempt to try to calculate these numbers. So the Penn Wharton model, that was published actually today, where they were trying to figure out how much more it would add to the debt. So the Penn Wharton model said, if the spending is continued, which is the obvious thing that is going to happen, it adds 24.4 percent to the debt. Okay. Now we didn't have enough time to break through all their tables, and we will work through that.

But just off the top of your head, $112 trillion, if you added 24.4 percent on it, that is close to $140 trillion of borrowed money; 139 something.

You have got to understand, this is what the left is leading us to, instead of coming in and saying, we are going to protect Medicare by investing in things that cure.

Remember, this Medicare dollar? You know, $77 trillion plus of borrowing in the next 29 years, just to cover the Medicare portion shortfall? 31 percent of that is just diabetes.

You could have a connection here between the left and the right saying, we are going to do an operation warp speed and go at diabetes because it turns out by curing the misery you also have a major effect on the debt. That is creativity, that is being rational. Instead of trying to buy your next election, and pretending to finance it with a whole bunch of gimmicks that don't really create revenues; that are going to create borrowed money.

And it is not CBO, it is not me. It is the outside groups that play it straight. Tell Penn Wharton and others that they are lying, because they have done the—I think they underscore economic growth on some things.

But the fact of the matter is, if the left is about to pass a piece of legislation at the end of this week that looks like it is likely to add another 24.4 percent to the debt, does anyone see the level of immorality in wiping out economic growth and the opportunity?

And we had a couple of years there where it was working. The fact of the matter is 2018, 2019 were Goldilocks, and it was done because we invested in the things that create opportunity and growth, instead of the model right now, where the left is going to invest in things that functionally slow economic growth down; make individuals dependent on the Federal Government; disincentivize participating in the economy?

And if any of you have ever read any of your textbooks from what the world looked like in the 70s, where the last time the left did something very similar to this, the societal breakdowns, the inflation, the misery. Once again, we are about to see the financing of misery instead of investing in the things that actually would create opportunity and growth. We are better than this.

I know it would take someone on the Democrats' side. They would have to stand up to their base and explain basic economics. But there is a path that works. And if you give a darn about the poor, the working poor, the middle class, ultimately, the data says, at the end of the decade if the left passes their Build Back Better social entitlement spending bill, they are going to be poorer. That is what we are about to do to this country, and this place should be ashamed.

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

□ 1800

MOST EXPENSIVE THANKSGIVING IN HISTORY

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

Mr. OWENS. Madam Speaker, I am proud to be here today with the Utah House delegation to say a few words ahead of the Thanksgiving season to those we are so fortunate to represent here in Washington. We all agree that it is a blessing, as a team, to represent the great State of Utah.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Utah (Mr. STEWART), my friend from Utah's Second District.

Mr. STEWART. Madam Speaker, I thank Mr. OWENS, my friend, for organizing this event and for his interest in something that I think every American shares.

I have a young family. I have six kids. Many of them are just young couples. They are starting their careers; they are starting their families; and they are starting to make their way in the world and their mark on life.

If you are a young family, you know what it is like to go to the grocery store and to pay more every week than you paid the week before. You know what it is like to fill up your pickup and have it cost more every week than you paid the week before.

The reason you are driving a pickup is because you are a working American. You are not driving a big pickup around the city. You are driving a big pickup because that is what you use to work, whether you work on farming and ranching, like I did when I was young, or whether you are working construction, or whether you are working and going down to the docks. Those are the folks who are paying the price.

If you are wealthy, if you are affluent, if you don't go shopping but have someone who shops for you, if you don't fill up your vehicle yourself because you have someone who fills up the vehicle for you and then picks you up, you may not realize what a painful thing this is for Americans. But the vast majority of Americans do their own shopping. The vast majority of Americans struggle paycheck to paycheck. The vast majority of Americans know what a painful experience we find ourselves in now.

After only 10 months of President Biden, Americans are facing the worst inflation they have seen in 31 years. Democrats keep saying these prices are only temporary.

We are told that all the time. We have been told that by the Secretary of the Treasury. We have been told that by the Chairman of the Fed. We have been told that by the President. And they continue to say that.

But the truth is that $4 trillion in spending, when he says it is zero dollars that it will cost, the American people aren't stupid, and they know that is not true. They know inflation when they see it.

The consequences of this President's tax and spend agenda hits Americans, as I have already said, in their everyday lives. It hits Americans when the price of heating jumps from $574 to $746, which is what the Energy Information Administration predicts it will cost the average house this winter.

It is a tough choice when you have some people who say: Hey, we would like to have it warm. We would like for our little children to be comfortable. But we want to be able to buy the food that we want for them, other than just macaroni and cheese.

Some people are left with that decision.

It hits Americans at their Thanksgiving table. As we have said over and over again, this will be the most expensive Thanksgiving in American history, when frozen turkeys cost an average of 22 percent more than they did just last year.

What does the President do to alleviate some of this financial strain and the pressure that so many American families are feeling? Unfortunately, he does the same thing again and the same thing more, the very same policies that put us in the hole.

Here is the reality. There is no political spin for any Democrat. Americans will not be reassured by empty promises from those who don't see inflation coming in the first place, and President Biden cannot wish away this cost-of-living crisis, no matter how much he would like to do that.

From day one in office, President Biden's mission was clear. He wants the American people to rely on the government from cradle to grave.

To sell his agenda, he is telling Americans that more taxing, more spending, and more mandating will solve the financial problems. But this is just economic nonsense; it is an economic fairy tale; and this one has a scary ending, the kind that only George Orwell could imagine.

But because it is Thanksgiving, we can be thankful that we know how to solve these problems. If we didn't know how to solve them, it would be much more worrying, much more stressful. But the truth is, we know how to solve them. Congress simply needs to start expanding that opportunity, not shrinking it with mandate after mandate. Congress needs to start empowering the people, not expanding bureaucracy with tax after tax. Individual liberty must always triumph over government dependence.

If President Biden cannot accept that reality, we can expect more of what we have seen and felt over the last 10 months. If he can't understand that people, not the government, are the key to our success, American culture, American businesses, and American families will reap the results.

I sincerely hope that he will. I sincerely hope the President will look at the pain the American people are feeling and will recognize the responsibility he has not to make it worse, not to keep doing the same thing and just do it harder and faster, not to do the same thing and just excuse it away, but to try to do something different. Until then, I am afraid we will see much of the same.

I think I speak not only for Republicans on this, but many independents and many Democrats feel the same way. We hear from them when we go back home as well.

I thank Mr. OWENS for organizing this on this incredibly important subject. It is an honor to be with him.

Mr. OWENS. Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Utah (Mr. CURTIS), my friend from Utah's Third District.

Mr. CURTIS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to join my voice with my Utah colleagues, vocalizing our great concern about the runaway inflation impacting Americans across the country.

I remember the inflation of the 1970s. When I bought my first home, we assumed a loan at 12 percent interest and thought that that was a bargain at the time. I remember what it is like to lose 15 percent of the value of a savings account in just 1 year.

I saw firsthand the devastation to our senior citizens and those on a fixed income with runaway inflation.

Here we are, 40 years later, pretending that trillions of dollars of wasted government spending is okay and that it won't impact inflation.

Madam Speaker, in the simplest terms, inflation is financially handcuffing the American people and their families, which is further evidenced by the fact that the Consumer Price Index is now showing the highest level in over 30 years. That is not okay.

The White House tells us not to worry about inflation; it is all under control. I think Utahns know better. They see the gas prices, and they see the difference they pay at the grocery stores.

Utahns, specifically, have seen their gas prices rise by over 70 percent this last year. What is the response from Washington, D.C.? We can fix this. All we need to do is spend trillions of dollars more.

Seriously? Employers can't find employees to do the work, and the President touts his $1.2 trillion infrastructure bill as job-creating.

We also know that inflation is an unlegislated tax on hardworking Americans, most notably some of our most vulnerable communities, like low-income communities and rural communities with less access to goods and services.

But instead of focusing on finding ways to address critical supply chain shortages, to lower our energy costs through policies designed to generate more independence on energy, and to address the growing behavioral healthcare crisis, we are doing just the opposite. We shut down U.S. pipelines and then ask our enemies to produce more dirty oil.

Here are the facts: 40 percent of all the money printed in the history of this country was printed in the last 20 months. Forty percent of all the money printed in the history of this country was printed in the last 20 months.

Congress has already authorized, just this year alone, $3 trillion of additional spending in addition to our normal spending, and we are about to spend another $2 trillion.

It is hard to get your arms around what is a trillion dollars. Let me put this in perspective. This $5 trillion of spending is approximately $25,000 for every man, woman, and child in the United States. It gets worse. Thirty years from now, unless we pay that money back—and I don't think anybody believes we will have paid it back—that is now three-quarters of a million dollars for every man, woman, and child just in extra spending this year. That is not okay.

It is simply time to stop the bleeding and time to earnestly focus on bipartisan solutions that will address the growing needs of the American people.

We literally cannot afford to play partisan politics at the expense of our constituents and, more importantly, our children and grandchildren and our future generations.

Mr. OWENS. Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Utah (Mr. MOORE), my friend from Utah's First District.

Mr. MOORE of Utah. Madam Speaker, it is very much an honor to share the podium with my colleagues from Utah. Utah is a very special, very unique place.

At this time of Thanksgiving, I would like to focus on what Utah really is. We often get lauded as having the lowest unemployment in the country and the strongest economy in the country, or as the fastest growing State in the country. What Utah is, is the most philanthropic State in the country. It shares more volunteer hours and dollars than any other State. That is the type of stuff that our delegation and Members of Congress, the community that we serve, are really proud of. We reflect on that often, particularly during this time of year.

We are more than a week away from Thanksgiving Day. Like Utahns across the State, my family—and I have three little boys, a fourth boy on the way, and an amazing wife who deals with a lot during this crazy time of my time in Washington. We look forward to this annual opportunity to come together, enjoy each other's company, and give thanks for all of our many blessings.

Turkey and stuffing are staples, but each Thanksgiving Day looks a little different from the last. That is okay. Unfortunately, this year's Thanksgiving is going to be much more difficult than others.

Americans are bracing for this year's turkey tax, which we expect to be the most expensive in modern history as inflation rates hit their highest level in decades.

My colleagues from Utah can talk about this a little bit better than I can because they are a little bit older than I am, but they talk about how this hasn't been this high in the last 40 years. That is how old I am.

I don't want to experience this type of inflation. I haven't had to yet, and I am very concerned about what we are going to have to experience.

That was not a cut at their age.

According to the Department of Labor, the Consumer Price Index for October was 6.2 percent, the highest in over three decades. This high rate means that, compared to last year, home heating will be 50 percent more expensive, a gallon of gas will be 61 percent more expensive, and the cost of groceries will be 5.4 percent more expensive. Beef is 20 percent higher; pork is 14 percent higher; and the cost of used cars is 26 percent higher.

This is data. This is directly related to policy decisions here in Washington.

As Utahns get ready to celebrate Thanksgiving and find reprieve from this challenging past year-and-a-half, inflation is threatening to stifle this entire time of year.

In fact, real wages have decreased in 7 of President Biden's first 9 months in office. As President Biden rushes to spend trillions more, as he is doing now, to spend trillions more as of this week, economic pressure will only continue to drive everyday costs up and incomes down.

The Wall Street Journal editorial board said: ''The current burst of inflation isn't an accident. . . . This is the result of reckless policy.'' This is simply incompetence.

CNN noted President Biden's $1.9 trillion American Rescue Plan fueled inflation by sparking demand that it could not keep pace with.

Even The Washington Post editorial board—I did not expect to ever be using sort of liberal media outlets to defend some of my points when I came to the House floor. But The Washington Post says that you cannot ignore that the American Rescue Plan bears some of this blame.

□ 1815

We cannot simply spend more. We have to stop President Biden's tax-and-spend monstrosity.

All of this comes as the administration botched a military exit from Afghanistan, created a sustained crisis at the border, and has failed to address a looming debt crisis.

With this as the backdrop, Thanksgiving may feel uniquely challenging. Yet, through the most difficult times in our Nation's history, Thanksgiving Day has been a celebration when communities come together to give thanks for life's great blessings.

Following the Battle of Gettysburg in October of 1863, President Lincoln proclaimed Thanksgiving to be a national holiday to ''heal the wounds of the Nation.''

As our Nation experiences great challenges, I can't think of a better holiday to observe this coming week.

My colleagues and I in the Utah delegation are working every day to carve a more prosperous path forward for our State and communities. There is hope on the horizon.

Earlier this month, Democrats and Republicans in this House came together to pass the Fiscal State of the Nation Resolution, which I cosponsored. If agreed to in the Senate, this resolution will mandate the U.S. Comptroller General conduct an annual joint session before the members of the House and Senate Budget Committees to provide a report on the fiscal health of our Nation.

This is a huge, important time to have done something like that after what we have seen over the last year. This expertise would provide our leaders with the information they need to correct our course and back away from our patterns of destructive spending.

Back home, I have also convened a debt and deficit task force, which has provided me an opportunity to work with local leaders to begin crafting innovative solutions to our Nation's debt crisis.

My colleagues from Utah and I genuinely hope to help those in our home

State find more blessings in the days, months, and years ahead. As we work toward those brighter days, let us reflect and be grateful for the good moments we have had this year.

Though our year has been filled with difficulty, it has also been filled with, in the words of Lincoln, ''the blessings of fruitful fields and healthful skies.''

Today, I am back in Washington with my colleagues to continue the important work we do on behalf of Utahns. I look forward to next week when I will join my family and the community in Utah in celebrating this important holiday.

Mr. OWENS. Madam Speaker, before I get started, I just want to say what an honor it is to serve with my friends from Utah. They are remarkable men.

As the holiday season approaches and families across our great Nation gather for these special moments, I am reminded of what brings us all together as Americans: Not our creed, race, or ZIP Code, but the gratitude for one another that lifts us higher and brings out the best in each of us.

I am the father of 6 children and 15 grandchildren. My pride doesn't come from my years on the football field or decades in the corporate world. It comes from the joy of watching them grow up and start families of their own. I am so deeply thankful for them and the entire Owens family.

To my fellow Utahns: I am thankful to call Utah's 4th District my home. It is the honor of a lifetime to represent our State. I am constantly inspired by the resiliency of our communities.

We have faced a couple of very difficult years. The COVID–19 pandemic kept us from our friends, families, and loved ones. Disruptions from work, school, and worship made everyday life very different. There are empty seats at the table this year. We pray for comfort and healing for those families as they navigate this time of grief.

With the current economic crisis at home, rising prices at the gas station, grocery store, and everywhere in between, more and more Utah families are worried about losing a job, keeping the doors of their small business open, paying their mortgage, and making ends meet.

Even during the toughest of times, I know the spirit of Utahns. I have seen how families across our State have helped each other through dark times toward better and brighter days.

I am wishing all Utahns good health, especially the men and women who have put on the uniform to serve in our great State, across the country, and abroad. They make the world and our country a safer place.

Especially during the holidays, I think Norman Rockwell's Four Freedoms are very appropriate: The Freedom of Speech, the Freedom to Worship, the Freedom From Want, and the Freedom From Fear. This is the American way. This is the American Dream. As Americans, we hold these freedoms incredibly dear and commit to protect them for future generations.

It is within our DNA to confront our crises and weather rough storms to leave our country a little bit better than we found it for our children and our children's children.

This season of thanksgiving, I hope that we can continue to support one another and unite in our shared gratitude. Despite our daily struggles, we have so much to be thankful for. I pray that Utahns across our beautiful State will continue to be blessed this holiday season.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the senior member of our delegation, CHRIS STEWART.

Mr. STEWART. Madam Speaker, what an honor it is to be here with my friends, people that I have tremendous respect for, colleagues, people who love their country and want to serve their country.

Several of them have said something that I think is worth emphasizing, and that is, for example, when Mr. CURTIS talks about 40 percent of the money that was printed in the history of this country was printed in the last several months, I am not sure that that is easy to convey to people how important that is.

We talk about a million dollars or a billion dollars or now a trillion dollars, and I am not sure we have an understanding, again, what those numbers even mean. I think a lot of times people think of a trillion dollars, well, it sounds like a lot of money. Is that like double a billion or what is a trillion?

I think I found a really good way to illustrate it and for us to visualize what it means when we are printing this kind of money.

Let me start with this: A million seconds is 11 days. A billion seconds is 31 years. A trillion seconds is 31,000 years. Think about that. 11 days to 31 years to 31,000 years. The people watching at home can't see this enormous Chamber we are in but imagine that I stretched a string from this wall to this wall, and let's say that over here is zero, and then I ask them to go touch 11 days, they would go touch and they would be nearly touching the wall. But then if I said touch 31 years, if this one over here is 31,000 years, they would still nearly be touching the wall, and all the rest of that distance is a trillion. I think that gives us a sense and gives us a way to visualize when we talk about spending trillions of dollars, it is magnitudes more than billions. It is an unimaginable number, like Mr. CURTIS said, the percentage of that that has been created in the last few months.

Since COVID hit, we spent about $2 trillion on the COVID 1 relief package; we spent about the same, $1.9 trillion, on the second COVID relief package. This President suggested a budget that takes us from about $4.8 trillion a year to $6.3 trillion. We just spent $1.2 trillion on infrastructure. This government has spent, taken together, more than $11 trillion in a matter of months. That should scare the life out of every American.

People say, Well, you are kicking the can of debt down the road to our kids or grandkids. That is nonsense. We will never get to our grandkids if we spend trillions of dollars in a matter of months. We will never get to our kids if we spend $11 trillion in 18 months.

This problem will correct itself. It will correct itself in a painful way and in not a matter of generations, a matter of years, if we don't try to fix it now.

If you think inflation is because of bottlenecks and supply chains, that was part of it. But the vast majority of this is explained by one thing: The Federal Government spending trillions of dollars. And the American people pay the very unfortunate, the very painful price.

Once again, I thank Mr. OWENS for the honor to be with him tonight.

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

BUILD BACK BETTER

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

Mr. GROTHMAN. Madam Speaker, I would like to use this time to speak for a half hour on a variety of issues, primarily the Build Back Better bill.

But first, I would like to address today National Apprenticeship Week. Apprenticeships are a very good way to begin your working career. Rather than working your way into debt as you go to school, you are making money while you go to school, and there is no better preparation for a job than doing the job itself.

Be it in construction, be it in manufacturing, be it in healthcare, there is a strong need in America for skills, and apprenticeship is a way to get those skills and ensure that you hit the ground running and get a good-paying job immediately.

I strongly encourage all Americans, particularly young Americans, who are looking for a job to look at apprenticeship and encourage administrators of secondary schools to present apprenticeships as options for young people.

Now I would like to address the Build Back Better bill. A lot has been written and talked about the Build Back Better bill from this very microphone, and a lot has been focused on the additional taxes that will be needed to pay for it and the overall level of spending resulting in more inflation.

All that is true, but I think the most dangerous thing about the bill is what the money is being spent for. I am going to address five areas in general tonight for the American public to remember.

Right now, I think the biggest problem in America deals with illegal immigration. The numbers are well known. In July, a year ago, 8,000 people came into this country. This July it was 105,000 people. This October we hit

the all-time high number of people processed for any October at the southern border.

The drug gangs are making lots of money down there. Some people tell me the drug gangs are making more money bringing people in the country than they did selling drugs. Seven years ago, when I first got this job, 45,000 Americans a year were dying of illegal drug overdoses. We are now at 93,000, more than double.

When I first got here, we talked about the number of people dying of illegal drug overdoses approaching the number of soldiers who died in Vietnam. Now we are approaching twice the number of soldiers who died in Vietnam.

We talk about the humanitarian mess down there. In July, 15,000 minors were left alone and coming into the country. Last year we hit another all-time record, 557 deaths of people trying to get in the country, be it from dehydrating in the desert, drowning in the Rio Grande, or falling off the wall.

What are we doing with this crisis in this bill? What vision do they have for America? First of all, they are going to take about 7 million people who have snuck into the country illegally in the past and give them amnesty. In addition to the unfairness of having some people skip ahead of other people, that is an invitation to bring still more people into the country.

Secondly, they are going to make it more difficult to kick people out of the country. More parole for people with sex offenses, people with firearm offenses, and this parole is mandatory. It is not something that can be revoked at the discretion of DHS.

In this bill, as a further inducement to come here, we are going to give away free Pell grants, which is to say free college scholarships to people coming here illegally. Hard as it is to believe, while Americans are spending $20 thousand, $30 thousand, $40 thousand, $50,000 in debt for a college diploma, in the Build Back Better bill, we are going to give away free college to people who are here illegally.

Furthermore, in this bill, a bill spending trillions of dollars, about the only thing they are not spending more money on is the Border Patrol. We all know that as more children come here, the Border Patrol has to spend more time on paperwork caring for children, so they need more people at the border. But as the border is left open, the one thing the Democrat Party sadly feels is not a priority is more Border Patrol agents.

So again, to repeat, in the Build Back Better bill, 7 million more people given amnesty, requiring more parole for people who have committed serious crimes so that they are not kicked out of the country, and free Pell grants, which fits nicely with the free healthcare we give away as well.

I want to mention that free healthcare. The average American is sitting there worrying about their deductible, should we go to the doctor, should we not? What does the majority party want to do? Well, we have got to give illegals free healthcare. It is the only fair thing to do.

□ 1830

The second big problem I think in this country is what I will call a growing number of Americans adapting to the welfare lifestyle.

Beginning in the 1960s, Lyndon Johnson—in my opinion, the worst President in this country until this time—started a massive welfare state, the result of which was causing people to work less and to make sure they didn't get married because it was hard to take advantage of the welfare system if you were married. In other words, the goal was to discourage marriage, discourage work.

Since that time, the number of people with particularly a father in the family has decreased considerably since the early sixties in response to the Great Society, which discouraged—gave financial inducements not to have a male in the family.

How does the Build Back Better bill deal with the American crisis of the breakdown of the family? Wherever you look, they are putting more money into these programs, the programs that in the past were created for people who didn't make much money and were created for people who weren't married to somebody making money: food share; low-income housing; Medicaid; daycare; earned income tax credit that you had to earn something to get, but if you began to make over $15,000 or $20,000, they took that away from you; TANF funds, cash to people also adopting that lifestyle.

So how does the majority party respond to the crisis of a welfare system that discourages work and discourages marriage? We have a larger earned income tax credit, which goes up, again, if you are not married to somebody making a decent income. We are building a lot more low-income housing.

Low-income housing sounds all very good, but I talked to a woman who administers low-income housing. I asked her where people are coming from when they get off the waiting list for low-income housing. Well, a lot of them were living with their parents. Okay. So we are going to take a parent and the child and give them their own apartment, as opposed to having them live with grandparents. Is that a good thing, to move out of mom's house? I don't think so.

We are increasing, or the Biden administration itself, before we get to the bill, increased the amount of food stamps you are getting. We are adding more money in Pell grants, which is, again, a situation if you are a middle-class family and you are working, you aren't eligible for Pell grants. But if you are adopting a certain lifestyle, you are eligible for free college.

So it seems wherever you look, this program is encouraging that lifestyle, which I think is unfortunate for America.

There are wonderful people who are parents in all sorts of situations, but undeniably in this country we are right now penalizing what I will call the old-fashioned family. And I will point out that it is something, as we started this session and Black Lives Matter weighed in strongly in the last election to who would win, Black Lives Matter itself, their founders, quoted Karl Marx, the fact that they did not believe in the traditional family.

When I look here, it seems that that is a motivating factor behind putting this bill together, and we are going to penalize the traditional family.

The third ideal that flows through the Build Back Better Act is to identify people by racial background. Whether you are talking about money for small businesses, money for teacher preparation, money for community restoration, faculty of colleges of medicine, equity in the Department of Agriculture, or behavioral health, wherever you look, it is not like the programs are for all Americans. The programs are designed for certain Americans.

I was reading some statements by Yuri Bezmenov, who was a Russian defector in the 1960s. At the time, he talked about how the Marxists planned to take over America. He said the majority of money spent in the United States was not spent on subversive or covert activities. It was spent openly to try to demoralize Americans to think that America was not a great country. A quote from him is that ''racial and ethnic interrelations is one of the most vulnerable areas for demoralization'' of Americans.

Now, one would think his observation as someone who had been around the world is that there is no better place to live than America. But right now, it seems as though the majority party is doing the work that the Soviets wanted to accomplish in the twenties. They want to tell everybody that we ought to have racial animus, that we ought to pit one group against another group.

When you look around the world, one of the reasons nations fail, nations based on elections, is that those elections become contests between ethnic groups.

I never felt Canada was quite as successful as America because, to a degree, their elections pitted the French speakers against the English speakers. You look at elections in the Middle East, and it is the Sunnis against the Shiites. You look at elections in Africa, and it is one tribe against another tribe.

In other words, when they go to the polls, they don't say what is the appropriate money to spend on national defense or what is our roads policy or what should be appropriate criminal justice policy or the length of jail sentences. No, in these countries that fail, the elections are a contest of one ethnic group against another.

Not surprisingly, therefore, the people who want America to fail would set

up programs designed to benefit one group against the other.

We have seen this earlier this session when we had a program forgiving agriculture debts only for so-called people of color. We also saw it earlier this session when we had a program that ran out of money for restauranteurs, and the people at the bottom of the list were people who happened to be White.

A guy came up to me in my district who would have gotten, he claims, tens of thousands of dollars if he were of a different ethnic background. He wondered why he was left behind. Well, it is because we have a party here that likes to set one group against another group.

That is the third way or the third vision that the majority party has for America. They want to pit one group against the other. They want people to always view themselves rather than as an American. They want to view themselves as a Hispanic American or an Asian American or an African American.

The fourth way they want to change America in this bill, which also has not been talked about enough, is they want to provide universal preschool for 3- and 4-year-olds. Not only that, they want to make sure that the preschools not be run by religious entities—kind of letting the cat out of the bag. They want to make sure that, insofar as the 3- and 4-year-olds were taught anything, it not be any religious values.

Again, in America, the raising of the children is supposed to be something done by the parents. The family is supposed to be preeminent in raising the children. Even in my lifetime, the kindergartners have gone from, at least in Wisconsin, half-day 5-year-old kindergarten to all-day 5-year-old kindergarten to half-day 4-year-old kindergarten.

We now are, in one fell swoop, having the Federal Government, which under the Constitution should have nothing to do with this whatsoever anyway, going all the way down to the government raising the 3- and 4-year-olds.

It is a fundamental change in how much influence the parents have on their children and should be resisted, not resisted for the cost, although the cost is a good reason to resist it, but resisted because it is contrary to the profamily values that our ancestors felt we would have.

The fifth thing that I would like to talk about in this bill is it is apparent the authors want a lot more government surveillance of what people are doing.

President Biden on his own recently proposed monitoring every $600 transfer. Eventually, he had to back off under public criticism. He is now at $10,000. But you know if he could get back down to 600 bucks, he would do it in a heartbeat.

Why would the government care if I cashed a $600 check? I can imagine in today's world why they would care. Maybe they want to monitor me. Maybe they want to see what type of church I am contributing money to. Maybe they want to see if I am purchasing a firearm. Maybe they want to see if I am giving money to a magazine or giving money to a political party, maybe a magazine espousing politically incorrect beliefs. Maybe they want to look at whether I give any money to a political party that may be out of favor in a few years.

I think it is appalling that anybody would think that it is up to the government to see exactly where I am spending my money. We all know it is going for only bad purposes.

But in this bill, there is another item that hasn't been talked about enough, and that is the majority party wants to hire another 85,000 IRS agents—85,000. I think that is bigger than the average NFL stadium. It is about one of the big college stadiums. I went to the University of Wisconsin. It is about the size of filling up Camp Randall, 85,000 agents.

Of course, what is the purpose of those agents? To go around and monitor people's tax returns, to poke around, look for receipts, make adjustments, make guesses to what your income actually should be. It is clearly a different sort of country if you have 85,000. I wouldn't bring this up if it was 1,000 new agents, but 85,000 new IRS agents.

It sounds like proportionately we are headed, again, toward more of a surveillance state, toward less of a free state. It is the vision, sadly, of the majority party.

I want to review them one more time. I hope the American public, when they look at this bill, does pay attention to the bottom line. There is going to be more inflation, higher costs on the heat bill, no question about it. But regardless of the amount of money, this is a document put together by people who want to encourage illegal immigration all the way down to giving free college to people who come here. It is a party that wants to increase welfare benefits, benefits that are conditioned upon not working too much and certainly not marrying a person with a respectable income. It is a party that wants to further entrench in the American psyche the idea that we have to have different programs based on sex, different programs based on race, and people ought to ask what you are going give me because I am from this group or what you are going to give me because I am a woman, rather than treating all Americans the same.

It is a bill that is put out with an ideal of the government raising the children instead of the parents, more responsibility for raising the children instead of the parents—again, something that I think would have stunned our forefathers.

Finally, it is a bill put together by people who want to hire a lot of new government employees to monitor what is going on.

I strongly encourage my colleagues to vote against the bill, and I strongly encourage the American public to familiarize themselves with not only the size of the cost of the bill but the degree to which we are fundamentally changing the way Americans live.

Now, I am going to speak one more time on an issue which I will try to highlight later this week or next week. We have a big COVID problem in this country, and obviously, a lot of money is being spent on vaccines and a lot of money is going to educating people.

It is my opinion that not enough attention has been paid to what we can do to cure COVID if you get COVID, be it vaccinated or unvaccinated.

Months, maybe even a year ago now, some Israeli researchers discovered that fenofibrate, a generic drug that has been used to treat high cholesterol, has tremendous potential success in curing COVID.

More recently, they found 15 people who not only had had COVID but had pneumonia and were on oxygen. I would say if somebody had COVID with pneumonia and was on oxygen, they were in bad shape. They gave them this generic drug, which was freely used for over 40 years in this country for high cholesterol, and 14 of the 15 patients were out of the hospital in 4 days. The other guy was out in 2 weeks. In other words, it sounds like a cure.

I have been trying to get the CDC to push—they put a little money into it—but push more money into this program for research to see whether or not we would have a cure. I have been told by the researchers to this day that the CDC would try a little bit harder, and there is a researcher at the University of Pennsylvania looking into this. But if you really want to say it is successful, you want to find at least 700 subjects or patients. It is hard to find that many people without help from the CDC, particularly if you don't have the big money of the drug companies behind you.

Right now, our researcher at the University of Pennsylvania has about 350 people. He likes to believe that, by the end of March, he will be able to make a definitive statement that fenofibrate would be able to cure COVID for under 50 cents a day.

□ 1845

Wouldn't that be wonderful. And not only does it cure COVID, but if you get COVID it will be much less serious. And right now, long-term COVID, even if you are cured, can result in long-term health problems otherwise.

I strongly encourage my colleagues to encourage the Center for Disease Control to look at COVID, see what they can do about coming up with another 300 or 400 people for a definitive study and then rush—if the study winds up as well as we think it will—rush out and educate these doctors to prescribe it because it is entirely possible it will greatly reduce the number of people with long-term COVID and the number of people dying.

Again, if anybody at the CDC is listening, I hope you take advantage of

this tip. And otherwise, me and my colleagues will sign a letter including a little more action from the CDC, because if we found a cure for COVID we wouldn't have to worry about all the other controversial issues that are so damaging to our country and taking away our freedoms.

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

SENATE BILL REFERRED

A bill of the Senate of the following title was taken from the Speaker's table and, under the rule, referred as follows:

S. 2923.—An act to improve the Fishery Resource Disaster Relief program of the National Marine Fisheries Service, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

SENATE ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

The Speaker announced her signature to an enrolled bill of the Senate of the following title:

S. 1511.—An act to amend the Omnibus Crime Control Safe Streets Act of 1968 with respect to payments to certain public safety officers who have become permanently and totally disabled as a result of personal injuries sustained in the line of duty, and for other purposes.

ADJOURNMENT

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

Thereupon (at 6 o'clock and 47 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Wednesday, November 17, 2021, at 10 a.m. for morning-hour debate.

BUDGETARY EFFECTS OF PAYGO LEGISLATION

Pursuant to the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010 (PAYGO), Mr. YARMUTH hereby submits, prior to the vote on passage, for printing in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, that H.R. 147, the BRAVE Act, as amended, would have no significant effect on the deficit, and therefore, the budgetary effects of such bill are estimated as zero.

Pursuant to the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010 (PAYGO), Mr. YARMUTH hereby submits, prior to the vote on passage, the attached estimate of the costs of H.R. 5603, the Protections for Student Veterans Act, as amended, for printing in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

ESTIMATE OF PAY-AS-YOU-GO EFFECTS FOR H.R. 5603

	By fiscal year, in millions of dollars—											
	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2022–2026	2022–2031
Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Impact	−1	−1	−1	−1	−1	−1	−1	−1	−1	−1	−5	−10

Components may not sum to totals because of rounding

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

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

EC–2668. A letter from the Director, Office of Financial Management, United States Capitol Police, transmitting the Statement of Disbursements for the U.S. Capitol Police for the period April 1, 2021 through September 30, 2021, pursuant to 2 U.S.C. 1910(a); Public Law 109-55, Sec. 1005; (119 Stat. 575) (H. Doc. No. 117—74); to the Committee on House Administration and ordered to be printed.

EC–2669. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Airbus SAS Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2021-0368; Project Identifier MCAI-2021-00204-T; Amendment 39-21705; AD 2021-18-04] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received October 21, 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–2670. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Fokker Services B.V. Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2021-0698; Project Identifier MCAI-2021-00284-T; Amendment 39-21703; AD 2021-18-02] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received October 21, 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–2671. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; DG Flugzeugbau GmbH Gliders [Docket No.: FAA-2021-0212; Project Identifier 2018-CE-032-AD; Amendment 39-21715; AD 2021-18-14] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received October 21, 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–2672. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Hélicoptères Guimbal Helicopters [Docket No.: FAA-2021-0574; Project Identifier 2019-SW-073-AD; Amendment 39-21725; AD 2021-19-07] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received October 21, 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–2673. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; RUAG Aerospace Services GmbH (Type Certificate Previously Held by Dornier Luftfahrt GmbH) Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2021-0726; Project Identifier 2019-CE-059-AD; Amendment 39-21724; AD 2021-19-06] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received October 21, 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–2674. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Helicopters [Docket No.: FAA-2021-500; Project Identifier 2017-SW-069-AD; Amendment 39-21720; AD 2021-19-02] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received October 21, 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–2675. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Helicopters [Docket No.: FAA-2021-0785; Project Identifier AD-2021-00989-R; Amendment 39-21734; AD 2021-19-16] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received October 21, 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–2676. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Bell Textron Canada Limited (Type Certificate Previously Held by Bell Helicopter Textron Canada Limited) Helicopters [Docket No.: FAA-2021-0513; Project Identifier 2018-SW-116-AD; Amendment 39-21717; AD 2021-18-16] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received October 21, 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–2677. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Leonardo S.p.a. Helicopters [Docket No.: FAA-2021-0507; Project Identifier 2018-SW-117-AD; Amendment 39-21712; AD 2021-18-11] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received October 21, 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–2678. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Leonardo S.p.a. Helicopters [Docket No.: FAA-2021-0724; Project Identifier MCAI-2021-00321-R; Amendment 39-21723; AD 2021-19-

05] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received October 21, 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–2679. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Leonardo S.p.a. Helicopters [Docket No.: FAA-2021-0505; Project Identifier 2018-SW-004-AD; Amendment 39-21721; AD 2021-19-03] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received October 21, 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–2680. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; PZL Swidnik S.A. Helicopters [Docket No.: FAA-2021-0721; Project Identifier MCAI-2020-00616-R; Amendment 39-21713; AD 2021-18-12] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received October 21, 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–2681. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; PZL Swidnik S.A. Helicopters [Docket No.: FAA-2021-0723; Project Identifier MCAI-2020-00268-R; Amendment 39-21716; AD 2021-18-15] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received October 21, 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–2682. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Bell Textron Inc. (Type Certificate Previously Held by Bell Helicopter Textron Inc.) Helicopters [Docket No.: FAA-2021-0454; Project Identifier AD-2021-00006-R; Amendment 39-21740; AD 2021-20-02] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received October 21, 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–2683. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Gulfstream Aerospace LP Airplanes; Correction [Docket No.: FAA-2021-0459; Project Identifier MCAI-2021-00129-T; Amendment 39-21697; AD 2021-17-14] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received October 21, 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–2684. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Pratt & Whitney Turbofan Engines [Docket No.: FAA-2021-0515; Project Identifier AD-2021-00191-E; Amendment 39-21739; AD 2021-20-01] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received October 21, 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–2685. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's supplemental notice of proposed rulemaking — Airworthiness Directives; Rolls-Royce Deutschland Ltd & Co KG (Type Certificate Previously Held by Rolls-Royce plc) Turbofan Engines [Docket No.: FAA-2020-0364; Project Identifier MCAI-2019-00119-E] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received October 21, 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–2686. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's notice of proposed rulemaking — Airworthiness Directives; Safran Helicopter Engines, S.A. (Type Certificate Previously Held by Turbomeca S.A.) Turboshaft Engines [Docket No.: FAA-2021-0793; Project Identifier MCAI-2021-00372-E] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received October 21, 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–2687. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; General Electric Company Turbofan Engines [Docket No.: FAA-2019-0919; Project Identifier 2019-NE-24-AD; Amendment 39-21714; AD 2021-18-13] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received October 21, 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–2688. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Revocation of Class E Airspace: Port Huron, MI [Docket No.: FAA-2021-0235; Airspace Docket No.: 21-AGL-18] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received October 21, 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.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mrs. FISCHBACH:

H.R. 5982. A bill to make revisions in title 51, United States Code, as necessary to keep the title current, and to make technical amendments to improve the United States Code; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. CARL:

H.R. 5983. A bill to expand the eligibility of veterans for hospital care and medical services provided by non-Department of Veterans Affairs medical providers under the Veterans Choice Program; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. HUFFMAN (for himself, Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, Mr. SCHRADER, Mr. KATKO, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. NEGUSE, Mr. PHILLIPS, Mr. MCKINLEY, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mr. SIRES, Mr. LANGEVIN, Ms. STRICKLAND, Ms. CRAIG, Mr. RASKIN, Mrs. HAYES, Ms. PINGREE, Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN, and Mr. STAUBER):

H.R. 5984. A bill to amend part B of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act to provide full Federal funding of such part; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Ms. MALLIOTAKIS (for herself and Mr. DONALDS):

H.R. 5985. A bill to establish the Office of the Special Inspector General for State Spending and Waste, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

By Mr. PAYNE (for himself, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Ms. NORTON, Mr. SIRES, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. BOWMAN, Mr. MFUME, Mr. VEASEY, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, and Ms. JACKSON LEE):

H.R. 5986. A bill to improve men's health initiatives, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Ms. ROSS (for herself and Ms. MACE):

H.R. 5987. A bill to amend the Toxic Substances Control Act with respect to the PFAS data call, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. STEWART (for himself, Mr. JACKSON, and Ms. MALLIOTAKIS):

H.R. 5988. A bill to restrict the use of Federal Funds for gain-of-function research in the People's Republic of China; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Science, Space, and Technology, Oversight and Reform, and Foreign 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. SWALWELL (for himself, Mr. PETERS, and Mr. EMMER):

H.R. 5989. A bill to require the Secretary of Health and Human Services to conduct a demonstration program to genetic and genomic testing for certain children, to provide for a study by the National Academy of Medicine on the use of such testing to improve health care, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. TAYLOR (for himself and Mr. GOLDEN):

H.R. 5990. A bill to direct the Secretary of Education to carry out a program to recognize high schools and local educational agencies for expanding high-quality dual credit programs; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mrs. KIRKPATRICK (for herself, Mr. BOST, Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. KINZINGER, Mr. MOULTON, Mr. KATKO, and Mr. RYAN):

H. Res. 794. A resolution recognizing the heroic efforts of United States and Coalition forces who conducted the airlift in Operation Allies Refuge; to the Committee on Armed Services.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY STATEMENT

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

By Mrs. FISCHBACH:

H.R. 5982.

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

Article 1

By Mr. CARL:

H.R. 5983.

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

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18:

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. HUFFMAN:

H.R. 5984.

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

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1: The Congress shall have Power To lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises, to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defense and general Welfare of the United States; but all Duties, Imposts and Excises shall be uniform throughout the United States; Article I, Section 8, Clause 18: 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 of Officer thereof.

By Ms. MALLIOTAKIS:

H.R. 5985.

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

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18:

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. PAYNE:

H.R. 5986.

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 3 of the United States Constitution.

By Ms. ROSS:

H.R. 5987.

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

Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. STEWART:

H.R. 5988.

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

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3

By Mr. SWALWELL:

H.R. 5989.

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

the 16th amendment

By Mr. TAYLOR:

H.R. 5990.

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

Article 1, Section 8

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

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

H.R. 55: Ms. BROWN of Ohio.
H.R. 69: Mr. GONZALEZ of Ohio.
H.R. 79: Ms. OMAR, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. GRIJALVA, and Ms. MCCOLLUM.
H.R. 82: Ms. BROWN of Ohio and Mr. EVANS.
H.R. 151: Mr. CORREA, Mr. NORCROSS, Mrs. KIRKPATRICK, and Mrs. TRAHAN.
H.R. 214: Mr. GONZALEZ of Ohio.
H.R. 263: Mr. SCOTT of Virginia.
H.R. 303: Mr. SCHRADER.
H.R. 475: Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER.
H.R. 481: Mr. GOODEN of Texas.
H.R. 603: Ms. BROWN of Ohio.
H.R. 612: Mr. GALLEGO, Mrs. KIRKPATRICK, Mr. O'HALLERAN, Mr. GRIJALVA, and Mr. NEGUSE.
H.R. 695: Ms. BROWN of Ohio.
H.R. 729: Ms. BROWN of Ohio, Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. CARTER of Louisiana, Mrs. KIRKPATRICK, Mr. LAWSON of Florida, Mrs. LAWRENCE, Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, Ms. SEWELL, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Ms. SCANLON, Ms. PRESSLEY, Ms. UNDERWOOD, Mr. WELCH, Ms. GARCIA of Texas, Mr. TRONE, Mr. GREEN of Texas, Mr. LYNCH, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Mr. MEEKS, Mr. VARGAS, Mr. SWALWELL, Mr. MOULTON, Ms. MATSUI, and Mrs. DINGELL.
H.R. 750: Mr. CRIST.
H.R. 763: Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin.
H.R. 764: Mr. MCNERNEY.
H.R. 849: Mr. ALLRED.
H.R. 851: Ms. JACOBS of California.
H.R. 962: Ms. NEWMAN.
H.R. 1057: Mr. JEFFRIES and Ms. BOURDEAUX.
H.R. 1179: Mr. WITTMAN.
H.R. 1235: Mr. BROOKS and Mr. GARBARINO.
H.R. 1241: Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia.
H.R. 1282: Ms. BOURDEAUX, Ms. SEWELL, Mr. LUETKEMEYER, and Mrs. HAYES.
H.R. 1297: Ms. CRAIG and Ms. MATSUI.
H.R. 1313: Ms. LEE of California.
H.R. 1332: Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois.
H.R. 1384: Mr. CROW, Mr. SCHIFF, Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, Mr. MEIJER, Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida, Ms. SPEIER, Ms. BOURDEAUX, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, and Mr. CLEAVER.
H.R. 1437: Ms. BONAMICI.
H.R. 1558: Mr. DESAULNIER.
H.R. 1587: Mr. CROW.
H.R. 1592: Mr. TAYLOR.
H.R. 1593: Mr. EMMER and Mr. COOPER.
H.R. 1648: Mr. MOULTON.
H.R. 1661: Ms. JOHNSON of Texas, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. CASTRO of Texas, Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, and Ms. CHU.
H.R. 1667: Ms. JACOBS of California.
H.R. 1676: Mr. MCKINLEY.
H.R. 1735: Mr. LARSON of Connecticut and Mr. TAKANO.
H.R. 1784: Mr. RUIZ.
H.R. 1819: Mr. GOLDEN.
H.R. 1959: Ms. STRICKLAND.
H.R. 2050: Mr. SCHIFF.
H.R. 2151: Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN.
H.R. 2192: Mrs. LESKO, Mr. ESPAILLAT, and Mr. LANGEVIN.
H.R. 2230: Mr. RUIZ.
H.R. 2234: Mr. RUPPERSBERGER.
H.R. 2307: Mr. BEYER.
H.R. 2311: Mr. SESSIONS.
H.R. 2328: Mr. PHILLIPS.
H.R. 2362: Mrs. HARTZLER.
H.R. 2372: Ms. MANNING.
H.R. 2433: Mr. GALLAGHER and Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN.
H.R. 2549: Mr. SOTO.
H.R. 2565: Mr. GROTHMAN.
H.R. 2631: Mr. AGUILAR.
H.R. 2724: Mr. WELCH.
H.R. 2748: Mr. HUIZENGA, Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN, Mr. NORCROSS, Mr. DIAZ-BALART, Mr. BERGMAN, Ms. CHU, Mr. MURPHY of North Carolina, Mr. ELLZEY, and Ms. KELLY of Illinois.
H.R. 2835: Mr. CASTEN.
H.R. 2840: Mr. SCOTT of Virginia and Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin.
H.R. 2886: Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ.
H.R. 2954: Mr. ROSE, Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER, and Mr. FEENSTRA.
H.R. 3001: Mr. LIEU.
H.R. 3079: Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER.
H.R. 3093: Miss RICE of New York.
H.R. 3108: Mr. PAYNE.
H.R. 3109: Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois.
H.R. 3150: Mr. HARDER of California.
H.R. 3293: Ms. BROWN of Ohio.
H.R. 3306: Mr. PFLUGER.
H.R. 3355: Ms. JOHNSON of Texas, Mrs. TORRES of California, Mrs. LURIA, Mr. GOTTHEIMER, Mrs. TRAHAN, Mr. RUTHERFORD, Mr. CHABOT, Mrs. KIRKPATRICK, Mr. BERA, and Mr. BISHOP of Georgia.
H.R. 3402: Mr. HORSFORD.
H.R. 3405: Mr. KAHELE.
H.R. 3465: Mr. HAGEDORN.
H.R. 3511: Mr. CROW and Mr. DELGADO.
H.R. 3571: Ms. JAYAPAL.
H.R. 3602: Mr. RUSH, Ms. BASS, Ms. MENG, Ms. NORTON, and Mr. TAKANO.
H.R. 3611: Mr. DESAULNIER.
H.R. 3617: Mr. PETERS and Mr. BOWMAN.
H.R. 3646: Ms. BOURDEAUX.
H.R. 3655: Mr. CÁRDENAS, Mr. HIGGINS of New York, and Ms. NORTON.
H.R. 3656: Mr. WENSTRUP, Mr. HIGGINS of New York, Mr. SUOZZI, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Mr. Cárdenas, and Mr. SAN NICOLAS.
H.R. 3682: Ms. WILD.
H.R. 3686: Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ and Mr. WELCH.
H.R. 3728: Mr. GARBARINO.
H.R. 3783: Ms. SEWELL and Ms. OMAR.
H.R. 3796: Mr. BIGGS.
H.R. 3808: Ms. WILD.
H.R. 3824: Mr. KAHELE.
H.R. 3825: Ms. TLAIB.
H.R. 3829: Ms. CRAIG.
H.R. 3876: Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, Ms. PRESSLEY, and Ms. MENG.
H.R. 3986: Ms. BASS.
H.R. 4021: Mr. MOORE of Utah.
H.R. 4043: Ms. CRAIG, Mr. MCKINLEY, Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania, and Mr. LIEU.
H.R. 4071: Mr. MULLIN.
H.R. 4122: Mr. DELGADO and Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois.
H.R. 4150: Mr. KUSTOFF.
H.R. 4198: Mr. CRIST.
H.R. 4233: Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN.
H.R. 4311: Mr. HUFFMAN, Mr. NORCROSS, and Mr. LARSEN of Washington.
H.R. 4366: Mr. CÁRDENAS.
H.R. 4387: Mr. TONKO.
H.R. 4412: Mr. CASTEN and Mr. SUOZZI.
H.R. 4437: Mr. BACON.
H.R. 4555: Ms. BARRAGÁN.
H.R. 4589: Ms. STANSBURY.
H.R. 4594: Ms. SCHAKOWSKY and Mr. CÁRDENAS.
H.R. 4601: Mr. GALLAGHER.
H.R. 4640: Mrs. FLETCHER.
H.R. 4721: Mrs. HARTZLER.
H.R. 4811: Ms. ADAMS, Mr. LIEU, and Mr. SCHIFF.
H.R. 4942: Ms. MENG.
H.R. 4943: Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. HIGGINS of New York, and Ms. JACOBS of California.
H.R. 4944: Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. HIGGINS of New York, and Ms. JACOBS of California.
H.R. 4946: Mr. RUTHERFORD.
H.R. 4996: Mr. TURNER.
H.R. 5129: Mr. CORREA, Mr. COSTA, Mr. EVANS, Mr. KIND, Mr. MRVAN, Mr. RYAN, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Mr. MICHAEL F. DOYLE of Pennsylvania, Mr. CARSON, and Mr. NEWHOUSE.
H.R. 5131: Mr. HIGGINS of New York.
H.R. 5141: Mr. KAHELE, Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, Ms. SEWELL, Mr. TONY GONZALES of Texas, Mr. COSTA, Ms. BONAMICI, and Mr. CÁRDENAS.
H.R. 5232: Mr. RYAN, Mrs. BUSTOS, and Mr. CARTER of Texas.
H.R. 5249: Mrs. HAYES.
H.R. 5302: Mr. DELGADO.
H.R. 5338: Mr. PERLMUTTER, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, and Mr. TAKANO.
H.R. 5342: Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas.
H.R. 5352: Mr. DESAULNIER.
H.R. 5410: Mr. WELCH.
H.R. 5429: Ms. STEVENS and Mr. CARL.
H.R. 5445: Mrs. AXNE and Mrs. KIRKPATRICK.
H.R. 5468: Ms. CHU.
H.R. 5502: Mr. RUSH, Mr. MCNERNEY, Mr. SOTO, Mr. CARTER of Georgia, Mr. TIMMONS, and Mr. MCKINLEY.
H.R. 5512: Mr. MCKINLEY.
H.R. 5521: Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio.
H.R. 5544: Mr. PANETTA.
H.R. 5545: Ms. TITUS and Mr. ALLRED.
H.R. 5555: Mrs. AXNE.
H.R. 5577: Mr. COLE, Mr. PANETTA, and Mr. GOLDEN.
H.R. 5590: Mr. BABIN.
H.R. 5595: Mr. AGUILAR, Mr. WELCH, and Mr. CRIST.

H.R. 5608: Mrs. HARTZLER and Ms. CRAIG.
H.R. 5611: Mr. GRIJALVA and Mrs. NAPOLITANO.
H.R. 5613: Mr. BROOKS.
H.R. 5619: Ms. CHENEY.
H.R. 5629: Ms. JACOBS of California and Mr. SIRES.
H.R. 5656: Ms. STEFANIK, Mr. ADERHOLT, Mr. CARTER of Georgia, and Mr. CRAWFORD.
H.R. 5735: Mr. LAMALFA, Mr. CARTWRIGHT, Mr. WALTZ, Mrs. AXNE, Mr. CARTER of Georgia, Mr. KATKO, and Mr. RESCHENTHALER.
H.R. 5741: Mr. COLE.
H.R. 5754: Mr. BAIRD.
H.R. 5759: Mr. CALVERT.
H.R. 5768: Ms. CRAIG.
H.R. 5770: Miss RICE of New York.
H.R. 5772: Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER.
H.R. 5779: Ms. MANNING.
H.R. 5793: Mr. CARTER of Georgia.
H.R. 5831: Mrs. CAMMACK and Mr. SCHWEIKERT.
H.R. 5834: Mr. KUSTOFF.
H.R. 5892: Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana, Mr. ISSA, and Mr. GOOD of Virginia.
H.R. 5895: Mr. CLINE, Mr. WEBER of Texas, and Mr. MOONEY.
H.R. 5897: Ms. MENG and Mr. BLUMENAUER.
H.R. 5901: Mr. BAIRD.
H.R. 5908: Mr. BROOKS and Mr. JACKSON.
H.R. 5928: Mr. COLE and Mr. RESCHENTHALER.
H.R. 5935: Mrs. MILLER of Illinois.
H.R. 5938: Mr. BAIRD.
H.R. 5958: Ms. BARRAGÁN.
H.R. 5978: Mr. CRAWFORD.
H.R. 5981: Mr. FITZPATRICK.
H.J. Res. 51: Mr. BACON.
H. Con. Res. 21: Mr. JACKSON.
H. Con. Res. 34: Mr. DONALDS.
H. Res. 119: Ms. STANSBURY.
H. Res. 389: Mr. BAIRD.
H. Res. 404: Mr. COLE, Ms. STEFANIK, and Mr. LEVIN of California.
H. Res. 436: Mr. KAHELE.
H. Res. 443: Mr. LAHOOD.
H. Res. 762: Ms. STANSBURY, Ms. TITUS, Mr. SMITH of Washington, and Ms. CHU.
H. Res. 765: Mr. DONALDS.
H. Res. 770: Mr. JACKSON.
H. Res. 788: Mr. MEIJER.
H. Res. 789: Mr. SUOZZI, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Mr. BEYER, Mr. DESAULNIER, Mrs. BEATTY, Mr. SIRES, Ms. SEWELL, Mr. TAKANO, Mr. MOULTON, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ, Mr. CARTER of Louisiana, Mrs. TRAHAN, Mr. SHERMAN, Mr. CONNOLLY, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Mr. RYAN, Mrs. HAYES, Ms. NEWMAN, Mr. PERLMUTTER, Mr. CICILLINE, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHI, Mr. VARGAS, Mrs. AXNE, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York, Mr. MORELLE, Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, Ms. DEGETTE, Mr. COURTNEY, Mr. COSTA, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Ms. BROWNLEY, Mrs. LEE of Nevada, Mr. JONES, and Mr. RUSH.

United States of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 117th CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 167 WASHINGTON, TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2021 No. 199

Senate

The Senate met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore (Mr. LEAHY).

PRAYER

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

Let us pray.

Lord God Almighty, maker of Heaven and Earth, thank You for not leaving us solely to our own resources. Lord, You have provided us with the witness of nature and the testimony of sacred Scripture to navigate us toward certainty. You protect us from dangers, seen and unseen, empowering us to run without weariness and to walk without fainting.

Today, strengthen our lawmakers for their work. Guide them to the road that fulfills Your plans. Bless them with productivity and progress for Your glory as You help them to learn how to better serve You by serving others.

We pray in Your merciful Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

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

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Morning business is closed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The 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 Graham Scott Steele, of California, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Treasury.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

TRIBUTE TO PATRICK LEAHY

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, first, I know you will be taking the floor in a few minutes. I spoke about the bittersweet mood we all have of your departure—bitter in the sense that you have done so much for the Senate, for Vermont, and for America over the years that we will badly miss you; sweet because you will get to spend more time with Marcelle, your children, your lovely grandchildren. And you deserve it, after all these great years of service.

It is one of the most extraordinary records any Senator has compiled in the history of this country. So thank you for your service and your continued service through January of 2022.

INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENT AND JOBS ACT

Mr. President, now on infrastructure, yesterday, our country took a major step forward to prepare our economy for the challenges of the 21st century.

As we all know, the American people have been told for years—for years—that another infrastructure bill was coming, one infrastructure week after another. But, after yesterday, we can now tell the American people that an infrastructure law is here. The President signed it yesterday.

The enactment of bipartisan infrastructure legislation is so long overdue. There isn't a community in America that doesn't have some glaring need. Crumbling roads; dilapidated schools; untrustworthy bridges; overburdened airports, seaports, and railways—the new infrastructure law will tackle these challenges head-on.

I thank the President and my colleagues from both sides of the aisle—both sides of the aisle—for making yesterday possible.

The President's infrastructure bill can be summarized with a four-letter word: J-o-b-s. Jobs, jobs, jobs—more local jobs, more good-paying jobs, more union jobs. Unions, as we know, have been a ladder up through the decades, and they will continue to be under this bill, as there will be more of them.

And the jobs will put people to work on projects in every State and every community. In New York, my State, dependent on good transportation, major undertakings like Gateway, the Cross Bronx Expressway, the Second Avenue Subway, I–81 in Syracuse, and the north inner loop in Rochester. The list could go on and on and on. All of them will finally get going again. We have a great chance of that happening after years of paralysis.

And the Federal dollars that the government is sending to the States is already having an effect in my State. Yesterday, our Governor announced that, because of the Federal dollars, there won't be fare increases or cutbacks in services on the MTA and the commuter rail. That is really good news.

Well, what is happening in New York holds true in every other State in the Nation. Major projects that have been long awaited have a real good possibility of getting going. So there is great news, and jobs, jobs, jobs will rain down on every State.

So there is much to celebrate with yesterday's signing, and in the weeks and months and years to come, the American people will see the benefits with their own eyes. So I want to

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

Printed on recycled paper.

thank President Biden for finally delivering on something that previous administrations have tried to do but have been unable to complete.

BUILD BACK BETTER AGENDA

Mr. President, make no mistake, we will keep going in the weeks ahead by passing the rest of President Biden's Build Back Better agenda.

It is very simple. If we want to create more jobs, if we want to fight inflation, if we want to help families lower costs, the best thing we can do is pass Build Back Better.

Let me repeat that. Want to fight inflation? Support Build Back Better.

For all of 2021, we have seen a historic and unprecedented economic recovery compared to where we were at the depths of the COVID crisis. But there is no denying that, as our recovery continues, we must work to address supply chain troubles that have exacerbated inflation in recent months.

Build Back Better is exactly what the doctor ordered. No fewer than 17 Nobel Prize-winning economists and economists across the political spectrum have said repeatedly that Build Back Better and infrastructure together will reduce—reduce—inflationary pressures.

In just, I think it was, this morning's Washington Post, Larry Summers, one of the inflation hawks in this country, recommended passing Build Back Better as a way to reduce inflation.

The childcare investments alone will save parents thousands of dollars a year. Right now, families pay an average of $10,000 annually on childcare for each kid under 4. Many pay more than that. That is a backbreaking expense that too many families—the majority—simply cannot afford.

Build Back Better will provide the largest investment in childcare ever. Extending the childcare tax credit will help parents save on things like diapers and groceries and gasoline.

And, of course, Build Back Better will finally empower Medicare to directly negotiate drug prices in Part B and Part D, lowering costs for millions of seniors and American families. On insulin alone, our plan would make it so that Americans with diabetes won't pay more than $35 a month for insulin.

Mr. President, none of the things I am talking about are luxuries; none are handouts. They are daily essentials that families need to thrive and which, over the years, have grown expensive.

And America is behind this. In every poll you see, they are for of all these things.

Why will not a single Republican vote for it? Why will not a single Republican vote to reduce insulin costs to $35, not a single Republican vote to help Americans with childcare, not a single Republican vote for the best way to reduce inflation, even though they talk about it a lot?

It is profoundly disappointing to see our Republican colleagues more focused on exploiting problems faced by the American people. Just recently, my colleague, the junior Senator from Florida, told Americans precisely how he feels about the rising costs, inflation costs, faced by families. His quote: ''[It] is a gold mine for us.'' It is a gold mine; that is what the Republican junior Senator from Florida said.

How cynical, how low, how wildly out of touch is that?

The same Republicans who spent years under Donald Trump cutting taxes for the wealthy are now opposing relief for the middle class and cheering for costs to go up. I hope the American people remember that. Democrats are fighting to pass legislation to lower costs. Republicans, on the other hand, think inflation is ''a gold mine'' for them and are rooting for prices to go up. These are the same partisan, shortsighted games that have frustrated American families, who have increasingly wondered who in government is looking out for them.

Well, yesterday, Americans got to see one shining example of what can happen when elected officials do look out for them. Build Back Better is another opportunity to do the same, and we will not let up until we pass Build Back Better and keep our promise to recapture that sunny American optimism that has long been the key to our success.

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT

Mr. President, finally, on NDAA, last night, I took the first procedural step for the Senate to begin consideration of our annual national defense bill.

Republicans have repeatedly said this legislation is urgent and needs to be taken up immediately. We have heard them say that. They have signed letters about it. With their cooperation, the Senate can start voting as early as today. We are ready to do that, and I hope Republicans can join in moving this legislation forward quickly.

This year, it is my hope and intention to add to the NDAA the bipartisan legislation the Senate passed earlier this year to boost American manufacturing, scientific research and innovation, and U.S. competitiveness.

The U.S. Innovation and Competition Act, USICA—formerly known as the Endless Frontier Act, which I championed with Senator YOUNG and with great help from so many; among them, Senator CANTWELL—would be one of the largest Federal investments in science, technology, and manufacturing in decades. It is an urgent and necessary step that will put more Americans to work in every corner of the country. It will fight inflation and relieve overburdened supply chains.

Talking about supply chains, pass USICA. Nothing will do more over the next few years to reduce supply chain problems than this bill, and especially in the semiconductor industry.

The chip shortage is not some abstract issue; it is impacting the daily lives of Americans. Cars, refrigerators, and other household appliances require chips. Supply shortages mean Americans are left waiting a long time for these essentials. We have legislation ready to go to fix this major chip crisis. Addressing this crisis cannot wait.

A generation ago, we used to produce about a third of the world's chip supply. Now fewer than 12 percent are made in America while other countries have lapped us, particularly China. This hurts American workers, American consumers, American national security.

We should pass USICA this year—and it is a bipartisan bill—so we can strengthen domestic chip production and drive new investment in the industry to help address this shortage. If we can pass the defense bill with USICA language included, I am hopeful that we will be able to work with the Speaker and our House colleagues to find a way to get this legislation enacted before the end of the year.

Once again, before I yield the floor, my kudos, accolades, fondness, and love to the great Senator from Vermont, who will now speak.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. WARNOCK). The Senator from Vermont.

FAREWELL TO THE SENATE

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I thank the distinguished majority leader for his comments. He and I have been friends for decades. I also acknowledge the distinguished Secretary of the Senate, who is here this morning.

Mr. President, eight times the voters of Vermont—who are my neighbors, my friends, my family—have had the great faith to send me to the U.S. Senate to represent them. Yesterday, I told those neighbors and friends and my family that I would not run for reelection.

I told the Vermonters who have humbled me since my first election to the Senate in 1974 that I will leave this seat at the conclusion of my term. It is a decision I do not come to lightly but one in which Marcelle and I find great peace.

In the last nearly 47 years, the Senate has become a family to both Marcelle and me. Here we found friends, some of the best of friends, and relationships that will and have lasted a lifetime. But the Senate has always been where I have come to fight for Vermont, a State that has been my home since birth, the place where I met Marcelle, where we started our family, and to which in early 2023, we will return for good. It is time to go home.

Here is the thing about the Senate. Here is where small States like Vermont have not just a seat at the table but a voice at the table. For decades, I have been privileged to fight for Vermont, from the small grown-in-Vermont ideas like the revitalization of our historic downtowns to farm to school programs, to organic farming—all of which started small and have become increasingly popular across the country—and to Vermont's trailblazing approach to criminal justice reforms and victim advocacy, to taking Vermonters' outward view that our great Green Mountain State is open and welcome to anyone, including

those fleeing desperate situations in far-off places. On all of these issues and so many more, it has been an honor to represent the great State—the greatest State—of Vermont in the U.S. Senate.

I am going to have more to say about the challenges, the rewards, and, I am afraid, some disappointments over the last 46 years at a later time. Now I want to celebrate the accomplishments that, together with my constituents, we have achieved for Vermont over the last decades.

I want to recognize the work still to do this year in Congress.

I want to thank the unbelievably wonderful women and men on my staff and my staff throughout the years. They have steadfastly stood by me in our shared goals to deliver for Vermonters and for Vermont and for the country.

I want to thank my family—my children, grandchildren, my parents, and Marcelle's parents who were here with me to start this journey in the first Senate election who I know watch over the entire Leahy family today. I think of how my immigrant grandparents and great-grandparents and Marcelle's immigrant parents, how they must feel if they are looking down.

And, of course, Marcelle, my closest friend, my partner. The last couple of years have been challenging in ways we could never have imagined. But she was with me from the first moment of the first campaign, and we made our decision together and decided it is time to go back home.

Now, we both look forward to the hard work the coming year will bring with the same conviction that brought us to Washington in the first place; that the brighter horizons of tomorrow hold the hope of the future and the privilege I feel to serve in this body and trying to guide our wonderful country toward the future.

As I said, I will speak more about this later, but, Mr. President, I thank my colleagues.

I yield the floor.

(Applause, Senators rising.)

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Republican leader is recognized.

GOVERNMENT FUNDING

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, 2 weeks ago, President Biden and his team flew to Glasgow for a glitzy conference. World leaders traveled there to attend one another's speeches on carbon emissions and climate.

The world's largest emitter was not there. China pumps out more than one-quarter of the entire world's emissions, but President Xi didn't bother to attend this conference. Putin didn't show up either. He and his cronies in Moscow are too busy using Russia's natural gas to stranglehold the energy and make energy hostages out of our European friends who rushed too naively toward renewables.

This goes to the core problems with the anti-energy agenda that liberal elites want to thrust on our country—maximum self-inflected pain for American families in exchange for no meaningful global gains.

They would have America tie one hand behind our back while our competitors and adversaries keep right on going. This hurts families and helps China.

Across the country, working families are already worrying about the big, potentially historic spikes in energy costs and heating bills that are headed their way. Here is the New York Times headline from last week: ''Winter Heating Bills Loom as the Next Inflation Threat.''

Futures contracts for home heating fuels have skyrocketed in price. Natural gas users have just about doubled from last year. For heating oil and propane, it is actually even worse. Our colleagues on the Energy and Natural Resources Committee are holding a hearing this morning on rising heating costs.

In Kentucky, where about 4 in 10 households are heated by natural gas, families are about to get slammed. Even more Kentucky families rely on straight electricity for their heat, and, in our State, more than two-thirds of our electrical power comes from coal. Coal literally keeps the lights on, and it keeps the cold out.

That is why the original Obama-Biden War on Coal hits States like Kentucky so very hard and why the even more radical sequel the Democrats are planning next would fall on the heartland like a ton of bricks.

The President's special envoy for climate issues John Kerry says:

> [Y]ou have to phase down coal before you can end coal.

One of the President's nominees to the Treasury Department has admitted that small producers of affordable American energy ''are going to probably go bankrupt in short order.''

American families are staring down the barrel of skyrocketing heating bills, and the Democrats' response is to go to war against affordable American energy. The reckless taxing-and-spending spree they are writing behind closed doors and want to pass in a matter of weeks would spend hundreds of billions of dollars on Green New Deal-type policies that would saddle families with even higher prices and make our Nation even more dependent on Russia and the Mideast.

Of course, energy inflation is just one part of the huge inflation crisis that Democrats have unleashed. According to reports in one new survey, 90 percent of Americans are either somewhat concerned or very concerned about inflation and rising costs. Nine out of ten households are hurting. Sixty-seven percent of the country, two-thirds, say Washington needs to stop printing and spending so much and driving prices even higher.

Energy bills and gas prices are just one corner of this inflation crisis, but Democrats seem to want to ignore the people, plow ahead, and spend trillions more.

Even liberal economists who like the Democrats' reckless taxing-and-spending spree because they agree with the far-left transformation admit it would make inflation even worse next year.

There is no part of our economy that can afford another massive dose of socialism, but Democrats are specifically targeting American energy to get hit especially hard. They are planning direct new taxes, new fees, and new regulatory mandates for energy producers. They want to make affordable, reliable energy artificially expensive to force Americans toward the less affordable, less reliable forms of energy that elite liberals would rather they use. It would hurt families badly; it would help China in a big way. That is because the Biden administration doesn't have any strategic plan to snap its fingers and turn our massive country into some green utopia overnight. They just want to throw boatloads of government money at things like solar panels and electric vehicles and hope it all works out. But China absolutely dominates the supply chains for lithium batteries, for solar panels, and for practically all the fashionable purchases into which Democrats want to dump all this money. In all likelihood, Democrats' supposedly green agenda would just provide a massive one-way gift to our adversary, the world's No. 1 emitter, the Chinese Communist Party.

This isn't Build Back Better; it is Build Back Beijing. Here is just one example: There is a raw material called polysilicon that is crucial for solar panels. According to the New York Times, more than 80 percent of the entire world's supply comes from China. About half of the world's supply comes from the Xinjiang Province, where China is brutalizing the Uighur minority with tactics that include forced labor.

There are other key resources, including critical minerals, where China has similar strangleholds. Here are some recent headlines:

''Lithium Shortage May Stall Electric Car Revolution and Embed China's Lead.''

''China's lithium companies are in an investment frenzy.''

Just like liberal policies are hostile to the American energy we produce here at home, they are also hostile to exploring for these critical minerals here at home. Their massive proposal is backed with anti-hard rock mining provisions that would make it even harder to stand up American supply chains for critical minerals.

So here is the bottom line: American families don't want Washington politicians waging a holy war on fossil fuels in the first place. They can't afford that nonsense. But it is even more absurd that Democrats' top-down schemes would just increase China's wealth and dominance all along the way. They don't have some smart master plan to invest in America's future. They have a plan to build back Beijing and raise American families' gas prices and heating bills even higher so that we could massively stimulate Chinese export markets. Hurt families; help China—every piece of their reckless policies fits this mold.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

BIDEN ADMINISTRATION

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, we are coming up on a year of Democratic governance here in Washington, and what do Democrats have to show for it? Nothing good.

On the international front, the President's most significant act was his disastrous withdrawal from Afghanistan, which lowered our standing with our allies and continues to jeopardize our national security.

On the domestic front, Democrats have largely ignored a massive crisis along our southern border that continues to rage because they can't take on the open borders left in their own political party.

Look at what is happening with the supply chain. There are 90 containers sitting at the port at Long Beach waiting to get into the country, and the President and his team can't really do anything about it because they are unwilling to take on the Teamsters.

If you look at our cities, homicides are up in all of our major cities across this country. It seems that perhaps a ''defund the police'' approach to communities' safety isn't something that sends the right signal to people who want to break our laws.

Then there is inflation. You might call it the Democrats' signature domestic achievement.

So how did we get here? How did they get us here? Well, despite their lack of a mandate and their extremely narrow majorities in Congress, Democrats came into office last January determined to expand government and implement a far-left, Big Government, socialist agenda. In their minds, the coronavirus crisis provided the perfect opportunity to advance their plans.

So despite the fact that Congress had just passed—just passed—a nearly $1 trillion bipartisan coronavirus response bill in December—the fifth, I might add, the fifth bipartisan bill Congress had passed in just 10 months—Democrats declared that we immediately needed another piece of ostensibly coronavirus relief legislation—and not just another piece of legislation, a massive piece of legislation.

Despite the fact that the December bill had met essentially all of the pressing coronavirus needs the country was facing, Democrats decided that we needed to spend another $1.9 trillion. Democrats were warned that the size of their so-called American Rescue Plan, which was substantially in excess of anything the economy required, ran the risk of spurring inflation.

Obama economic adviser Larry Summers warned in the Washington Post:

> There is a chance that macroeconomic stimulus on a scale closer to World War II levels than normal recession levels will set off inflationary pressures of a kind we have not seen in a generation, with consequences for the value of the dollar and financial stability.

That, again, was Obama economic adviser Larry Summers.

Well, Democrats passed their bill anyway. They flooded the economy with a lot of unnecessary government money, and the results have been predictable. Inflation. Significant inflation. Inflation, to borrow a phrase from Larry Summers, ''of a kind we have not seen in a generation.''

Last week, we found out that inflation rose 6.2 percent last year in a year-over-year analysis, the largest increase in more than 30 years—30 years.

Families are facing higher prices at the grocery store. And when I say ''higher,'' I mean a lot higher. The price of meat, poultry, fish, and eggs was up 11.9 percent year over year in October—11.9 percent. Families are also facing higher prices at the gas pump, for housing, for electricity, for furniture and vehicles and pets and pet products, and the list goes on.

While wages are rising, they are being outstripped by inflation, which means that many families are dealing with a de facto pay cut. Think about it—6.2 percent increase in inflation. That is essentially a 6.2-percent pay cut for American families.

A big reason families are struggling with the higher cost of pretty much everything is Democrats' decision to flood the economy with unnecessary government money by passing the so-called American Rescue Plan. You don't have to take my word for it; I quoted Larry Summers earlier.

Here is what former Obama economic adviser Jason Furman had to say recently when discussing our current inflation problem:

> The original sin was an oversized American Rescue Plan. It contributed to both higher output but also higher prices.

Now, you might think that the inflation that has resulted from the American Rescue Plan would be giving Democrats pause right now. You might think that they would be putting a hold, you know, tapping the brakes a little bit on any more big spending until inflation calms down somewhat from its 30-plus-year high. But you would be wrong. Democrats are actually planning to double down on the strategy that helped cause so much inflation in the first place and pass another giant spending bill.

That is right.

Democrats are trying to finalize a new $1.75 trillion tax-and-spending spree, the so-called Build Back Better plan—on top of their $1.9 trillion spending spree from earlier this year.

I say $1.75 trillion, but Democrats only arrived at that number through a combination of shell games and budget gimmicks. An honest accounting of the cost of this proposal over 10 years would reveal a much higher pricetag—some analyses and assessments suggest as high as $4 trillion or more.

And if Democrats succeed in passing this latest partisan spending spree, Americans should brace themselves because this new flood of government money will undoubtedly make an already serious inflation situation much worse.

It is no exaggeration to say that Democrats' main focus this year has been growing the size of the Federal Government and expanding its reach into Americans' lives. No sooner had they passed their massive $1.9 trillion spending bill in March, then the Democrats moved on to their next massive spending proposals which have been coalesced into the so-called Build Back Better bill the House is planning to take up later this week.

Other government business has been forced to take a backseat. Democrats have ignored, as I said earlier, the massive—massive—crisis at our southern border. They have ignored our inflation crisis. And they have pushed consideration of essential legislation in favor of working on their tax-and-spending plan.

This week, the Senate will finally—and I say finally—consider the fiscal year 2022 National Defense Authorization Act, a month and a half after the 2022 fiscal year has started. Shipbuilding projects, military infrastructure projects, development of new combat systems, a pay increase for our troops, they have all had to wait—all had to wait—while Democrats negotiated over their Big Government socialist spending spree.

And about that socialist spending spree, despite the fact that Democrats have pushed aside most other matters in favor of focusing on their spending plan, they still haven't managed to come up with a bill that can pass the House and the Senate.

And the tax proposals they plan to use to—and I say partially—partially pay for the bill seem to change on a daily basis. And I say partially because, again, a great independent analysis from places like Penn Wharton suggest that the revenue that they would raise to pay for all the spending in the bill would fall somewhere between $2 and $2.5 trillion short of the

cost of the bill. That is $2 to $2.5 trillion that would be added to the already $30 trillion national debt.

Let's just say, for example, that these ideas they have to partially pay for this bill seem to change on a daily basis. A corporate tax hike? No, let's change it to a corporate minimum tax. A new death tax? No, let's change it to a new tax on wealth—something we have never talked about before in this country, taxing unrealized gains. That is taxing income before people have actually seen the income—the realized income.

Funding for their bill seems to be a matter of throwing spaghetti at the wall on a daily basis to try and see what sticks. There isn't a day that went by in the last couple of weeks, when we were in session the week before last, where there wasn't another horrible idea that came from that side of how to raise revenue to finance this massive, reckless, and radical spending bill. And of course all of Democrats' current funding proposals put together will not be able to pay for their legislation, especially when you remove, as I said earlier, the budget gimmicks that are disguising the true cost of their plans.

As their narrow majorities made clear, the 2020 election did not give Democrats a mandate for Big Government socialism. And if that wasn't clear to Democrats in 2020, it should certainly be clear to them now after the election for the Virginia Governor this month, which saw Republicans win statewide for the first time since 2009. Voters in Virginia sent a clear message to Democrats that they weren't looking for far-left government or a far-left social agenda that would seek to circumvent parents' role in their children's lives and education. But just as inflation concerns have not stopped Democrats, it has become clear that their rebuke in Virginia won't stop them either. In fact, some Democrats seem to think that their response should be to run faster and further to the left.

So the big agenda item for Democrats for the rest of the year continues to be passing their partisan Build Back Better tax-and-spending spree, which means Americans will be able to look forward to further inflation and a weaker economy, not to mention increased government control of their decision making.

It is a poor legacy for Democrats' first year in office, but it seems to be the legacy Democrats are determined to secure.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. PADILLA). The Senator from Virginia is recognized.

Mr. KAINE. Mr. President, I am glad to follow my colleague from the Dakotas because I would certainly never attempt to interpret the electorate of another State.

I can tell you about the Virginia elections that happened a couple weeks back. The message, I think, from our voters pretty loud and clear was: We want you to get stuff done. If we in the Senate and in the House had passed the infrastructure bill and passed the Build Back Better bill before the Virginia election, I think the outcome would have been different.

What we were hearing again and again from voters is: We gave you a majority. Please act on it, especially at this time when Americans are so challenged by now nearly 20 months of pandemic and economic devastation.

So I stand on the floor as a proud Virginian, very focused on celebrating the accomplishment of yesterday—President Biden's signature on the infrastructure bill—but also saying we have to pass the Build Back Better bill in order to respond to what our constituents are asking of us at this challenging time.

AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN

Mr. President, I want to speak today, sort of, maybe not so much as a Senator but as a former city councilman and mayor.

I am sort of unique. There are 30 people in the United States who have been a mayor, Governor, and U.S. Senator—1 of only 30 in our entire history. The first time I was introduced and someone said that, I thought, that clearly cannot be right. So many Governors become Senators, that clearly cannot be right. I asked the Historian to research the matter because someone introduced me that way. And it came back that that is correct. Only 30 people in the history of this country have been a mayor, a Governor, and a Senator. And as I pondered the reason for that, it suddenly occurred to me: Being a mayor will kill you.

Governors can become Senators, but mayors often make everyone mad, and it is hard to go from being a mayor to having a post-mayoral political career because the job is so tough.

And yet, when people ask me: Which job do you like better, Governor or Senator, I always say: Look, I like them all. But if you made me give up every title I ever had except one, the one I would hold on to is mayor. I would hold on to being a mayor because when you are a mayor, it is 24/7, 365. There is no recess for a mayor. City councils and mayors don't go into recess. You are dealing with people on the issues that are the closest to them. You can make people happier or madder.

You can convince people in local government, in a nation of 330 million, sometimes they think: What does my vote matter? What does my voice matter? No one will listen to me. In local government, you can convince people that actually they will be listened to.

So I would hold on to that mayoral role, and, frankly, if I had not been mayor, I never would have been a Lieutenant Governor or Governor or a U.S. Senator. So I owe anything that I am or do in politics now to the fact that I started in local government.

I spoke yesterday to the Virginia Association of Counties, the gathering of all county supervisors of all 95 counties around Virginia. They gather once a year, usually in person. Last year, it was by Zoom.

They were so glad to be back together, in person, in Norfolk yesterday, hundreds of them in a conference room. And they asked me to come and talk about what is going on in Congress. And I said: How much time do you have? But what I really focused on was three things, and I want to focus on those three things now, speaking about them from the perspective of local officials not just in Virginia but all over this country: first, the American Rescue Plan, which was passed in March, but it is just beginning to have an impact in Virginia's cities, counties, and towns; second, the bipartisan infrastructure bill that was signed at the White House yesterday; and, third, the education and workforce bill that we are working on now that I believe will reach the President's desk in December.

I started off by telling these county supervisors what I truly believe; that anybody in public life right now, elected or a first responder or any classroom teacher, when we are all finished with our times in public life, I think we will look back on this period of time, beginning March 2020, as the most important period of our public service careers. The pandemic has created such destruction, death, economic catastrophe, illness, and division that we have all been tested in our personal lives and our work on behalf of our citizens. Our constituents have needed us in unparalleled ways since March of 2020.

Last year, on a cold Saturday in March, we passed the American Rescue Plan. It contains significant funding in four basic pillars: healthcare, relief to individuals and families, aid to businesses, and then, finally, aid to State and local governments, including educational institutions.

The American Rescue Plan immediately affected millions of Americans—families, healthcare, institutions, businesses—through measures like massive vaccine deployment, checks to individuals, business grants. These kept families afloat and helped protect themselves against COVID, and they also kept the lights on for many of our local businesses.

But what I want to focus on is the aid that we gave to State and local governments and, again, particularly—particularly—to local governments. Virginia and its localities, through the American Rescue Plan, received $7.2 billion in the American Rescue Plan; $4 billion to the Commonwealth of Virginia and $3.2 billion to our cities, counties, and towns.

And as soon as we passed it, I started to go around and talk to our cities, counties, and towns: How are you going to spend these local moneys? What they told me was interesting in April

of last year. They said: Well, first, we are going to wait and see how the State decides to spend their $4 billion because we don't want to spend on something and have the State spend on the same thing. So we are going to let the State, the Governor, Governor Northam, the General Assembly program the $4 billion. But while the State is doing that, we are going to go out and dialogue with our citizens.

And I really applaud my local governments. Recognizing this was one-time money that wouldn't happen every year, they had intense public dialogue with local constituents about what can we do to really transform? How can we use this money? And they have done it in fascinating ways.

As I traveled around the State and talked to these local governments, I see them advancing long-delayed capital projects, water and wastewater upgrades, closing the digital divide by investing in broadband, constructing community centers in parts of the community that haven't received investments in the past.

Many gave hazard pay to first responders. The American Rescue Plan helped people fund police, ambulance, fire, mental health workers, public health workers, grants to local nonprofits and churches that supported the community during COVID, grants to shore up Virginia's hard-hit businesses that were engaged in the tourism industry as people stopped traveling. This is what our local governments have done with these dollars.

The investments are supplemented by more than three and a half billion additional dollars to Virginia childcare providers, K–12 school systems, colleges, community colleges, with billions more for other local priorities like transit and broadband infrastructure.

So it was heartening to talk to these county officials. And there are more red counties in Virginia then there are blue counties, so I was talking to county officials from all over the State, and more would have been in Republican counties than Democratic counties. But they were thrilled that Congress—that the Senate by a one-vote margin, as we all remember—passed the American Rescue Plan to invest in these key local priorities.

BIPARTISAN INFRASTRUCTURE BILL

Mr. President, on the bipartisan infrastructure bill, I told them: I am going to leave this floor and race to Washington and hope that there aren't any State troopers nearby because I need to get to Washington to go to the signing at the White House of the infrastructure bill.

This is the Nation's biggest commitment to infrastructure since the Interstate Highway System initiative in the Eisenhower administration. It will employ hundreds of thousands of people and raise the platform for economic success for decades.

The Presiding Officer was in local government just like I was, and if you are in local government, you care about infrastructure. When I was a mayor, I had a transit system, I had roads, I had bike trails, I had an airport, I had an Amtrak station, and I had a port on the James River, which is connected to the Chesapeake Bay. There is a lot of oceangoing and freight going out of our port. I had all of that. If you are in local government, you care about infrastructure. That is why it was exciting to see so many mayors and local officials at the White House yesterday when the bill was being signed.

I was proud to cheer on my colleagues who worked on that bill, and I thank all of them. I am especially proud that a provision that I had with Senator WICKER, of Mississippi—to enable our historically Black colleges and universities and other minority-serving institutions to be involved in training the workforce and creating the innovations that we will need to make this infrastructure investment—was included in the bill.

I want to give a special thanks to my Virginia colleague, MARK WARNER, who, I think, was sort of an unsung hero in the negotiations around the infrastructure bill.

The impact of the bill is going to be felt in Virginia for generations: billions for roads and bridges, ports and dredging, airports, rail to trails, railroad, climate resiliency, broadband, energy grid modernization, waste and wastewater infrastructure. The infrastructure bill contains a significant investment for Chesapeake Bay cleanup—that really matters to us—and a significant investment in the Appalachian Regional Commission. That really matters to southern and western Virginia, the parts of our State that are in Appalachia.

Allocating these dollars to States in smart ways will allow them to prioritize the use of the funds in our cities, counties, and towns in a way that will ensure that each State gets to tackle the most important priorities, because the Virginia solution wouldn't be the California solution or the New Hampshire solution. Every State can use these funds to fund the projects that are the most important there. Virginia is going to receive a minimum of $100 million for affordable broadband, at least $7.6 billion for roads and bridges, and at least $2.7 billion for transit, among other sizable investments.

As I explained this to my Virginia Association of Counties yesterday morning, they were overjoyed because they all had—and the Presiding Officer remembers this—their local capital improvement projects lists, with projects that had been bumping along for years, and there were never enough dollars to really advance them. Now the dollars will be there to get the projects done and cross them off the lists.

BUILD BACK BETTER AGENDA

Mr. President, I want to now talk about the third bill. The administration calls this bill the Build Back Better bill, and some call it the reconciliation bill because of the Senate budget procedure that we are using to pass it. As a member of the Budget and the Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committees, I call it the education and workforce bill. It is an education and workforce bill. This bill, to me, is fundamentally about preparing America's workers for tomorrow and making sure that our workforce has the training and the childcare and the housing and the healthcare to outcompete any country in the world.

If we want to make good on the promise of the infrastructure bill, who is going to build it? We just signed an infrastructure bill, but it didn't have the training and the education component. Who is going to build this? We have to have a workforce to build this massive infrastructure improvement, a once-in-a-generation improvement. That is what the Build Back Better bill is about.

We are not going to outcompete China just by diplomacy or tariffs or tough talk. We aren't going to outcompete China just by growing our military budget. The best way to outcompete China is to invest in America's workers.

The success of America's economy in the next 50 years will depend on our making the same investments that allowed us to thrive in the 20th century—investing in infrastructure, investing in people—and that is the basis of Build Back Better.

This education and workforce bill also provides sizable investments in community colleges to train workers for infrastructure jobs, to train the next generation of K–12 teachers, and to train workers to enable America to lead the world into a new and innovative energy economy. There will be investments in rural economic development, a Pell grant increase, an extension of the child tax credit, and additional healthcare and housing funds to reduce costs for American families. The bill will close the Medicaid coverage gap, lower healthcare costs and the costs of prescription drugs, and will fund better public health infrastructure.

The thing about this bill that maybe excites me the most is this: We will be able to provide funding for States to make prekindergarten universally available for every 3- and 4-year-old in this country, and we will do it through a mixed delivery model that supports high-quality public and private providers. This will help an additional 140,000 3- and 4-year-olds in Virginia have pre-K, and we will also fund childcare for the kids younger than 3 years old to bring down costs of childcare for working families. When you combine both the pre-K and the childcare support in Virginia, it will mean that 500,000 more kids just in my State will have access to quality and affordable childcare and early education. When kids get a strong start, it

puts them on a brighter path for the rest of their lives, and it makes it much easier for their parents to go into the workforce, knowing that their child has high-quality and affordable childcare options.

If we pass this bill, and I am confident we will, it is going to be the most pro-family and most pro-child bill Congress has ever passed. I believe this bill will do for children what Social Security did for seniors in a status that we have long lived in this country, where we accept a child poverty rate that is dramatically higher than the adult poverty rate. What does that say? What does that say about a society? This workforce and education bill, Build Back Better, will end our acceptance of that unacceptable status quo and move us to a position where we can cut child poverty and give our kids a much stronger start for a successful life.

The American Rescue Plan, as I mentioned a minute ago, passed the Senate by just one vote—just one vote. One vote had changed all of those benefits to my local governments and to families and to educational institutions and to hospitals and healthcare networks and to businesses. All of those would have not occurred. None of the counties whose leadership I spoke to yesterday would have received the moneys that I talked about for the transformative projects.

I hope we will pass this education and workforce bill by a wider margin than just one vote, but if it is just one vote—if it is just one vote—so be it. So be it.

When there was an effort in this Chamber in August of 2017 to take health insurance away from 30 million people—one of the most dramatic moments in my entire public service career—we saved 30 million people's healthcare by 1 vote—by 1 vote. When we acted on the American Rescue Plan in the middle of the pandemic, in March, to try to help our country climb out of the worst public health crisis in a century, we got it by one vote. I would like a wider margin, but if it is just one vote—if it is just one vote—we will still be doing really important work.

Americans deserve a Congress that will fund businesses and schools; that will train the workforce; that will build out transportation networks; that will support hospitals and health clinics; deploy vaccines; provide additional funding for law enforcement officers and first responders; create better broadband connections; provide tax relief to working families and lower childcare costs. Build Back Better is the next step to lifting us out of the pandemic and rebuilding the American economy.

I have to say I am 63 years old—I will be 64 in February—and this has been the hardest 20 months of my life, and I think most people in this country might say the same thing. Just think about the sheer number of the 750,000 people who have passed and the people who have been ill—my wife and I both had COVID, and we know a lot of people who died of COVID—and beyond, those being the folks who didn't have COVID but who had a grandchild born whom they couldn't go visit or a friend who died, and they couldn't go to the funeral, or who lost a job or had a business that they had sweated to build but had to shut its doors. It has been such a tough time.

But, as I looked out at the hundreds of county officials who were gathered in person yesterday in Norfolk and as I talked to them about these bills—and I saw them there in person—I detected an uplift. I am feeling a sense of uplift. I am feeling a sense of uplift as we see wages increasing. I am feeling a sense of uplift as we make a commitment, for the first time in a generation, to be builders and invest and grow our infrastructure. I am feeling a sense of uplift as we approach investing in workers and in our families the same way we are investing in infrastructure.

I have a feeling that, over the next couple of months, these important investments will braid together in a way that will make people feel a sense of uplift about the economy and as vaccines continue to be distributed and now as boosters are being distributed.

How wonderful it was to hear the Presiding Officer talking about his children being able to be vaccinated, his school-aged children. I think that is going to contribute to a sense of uplift, too.

I just want this body to be a generator of uplift. Sadly, a lot has come out of the Capitol in the last few years that hasn't exactly been an uplift for people. I believe we are standing on the threshold of a chapter where this body, the U.S. Senate, will be a great generator of uplift for the American people, and I believe passing the Build Back Better is a step that will be really important in making that happen.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from West Virginia.

NATIONAL FAMILY CAREGIVERS MONTH

Mrs. CAPITO. Mr. President, I want to address the Senate on an issue that is very close to my heart.

Now that we are well into the month of November and our Nation's observance of the National Family Caregivers Month, I would like to recognize the family caregivers across this Nation and the difficult and vitally important work that they do.

I have a brother and a sister. Both of our parents passed away in the middle—well, 2014 and 2015, but they both suffered from Alzheimer's at the same time. It was very, very difficult on all of us to figure out the best way to ease their pain and to satisfy—it was a very difficult time—how we, as a family, were going to be providing for their care.

This experience motivated me to join my colleague Senator MICHAEL BENNET of Colorado as a cosponsor of the bipartisan Assisting Caregivers Today—or ACT—Caucus.

The ACT Caucus seeks to bring much-needed attention to all of the caregivers and the issues that their caregivers face from all backgrounds. It seeks to find bipartisan ways to lessen the emotional and financial toll for those individuals who are caring for family members. And this help is needed by so, so many.

Eighty-three percent of the help provided to older adults in the United States comes from family members, friends, or even unpaid caregivers. Nearly half of all caregivers who provide help to older adults do so—like we do—for someone living with Alzheimer's or with another type of dementia.

In my home State of West Virginia, we have about 85,000 family caregivers who are living with someone who has Alzheimer's and caring for them. As we know, those of us who have been down this road, there are no easy solutions here. Not only is it emotionally taxing on a family—there is no simple path—it also can be very, very expensive.

My West Virginia Alzheimer's advocates always share with me their incredible stories—they actually let me come to one of their support groups, which I needed at the time—and also the challenges that they have as caregivers. One of these challenges is navigating the current complex medical system needed to care for someone living with Alzheimer's or, more often than not, other chronic medical conditions.

This is one of the reasons I joined with my colleague Senator DEBBIE STABENOW of Michigan—we have done a couple of things together—in introducing the Comprehensive Care for Alzheimer's Act.

This bill would address the challenge by asking the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid for some innovation to be able to test dementia care management models. It enables individuals to more seamlessly and successfully navigate healthcare and social support systems and to obtain more timely access to care.

The model is designed to reach as many Medicare beneficiaries as possible, especially individuals from rural and medically underserved areas. It provides comprehensive care services, including caregiver education and support; ensures patients have access to providers with dementia care experience; and also to reimburse providers through payment based on performance.

This is something that could have helped my brother, sister, and I as we were navigating this difficult path, by helping us to coordinate the care that our parents not just received but what they deserved. It also could have helped them by ensuring that they were receiving the best care at all times.

We must recognize the importance that our family caregivers play not

only during National Family Caregivers Month, but every day, and embrace those commonsense solutions like this one.

So in honor of my parents, I would like to say that many of us across the country who are dealing with this have so much heartache and so much difficulty and so much difficult decisions that I am always trying to seek the best way to try to help those families who are going down that path.

Thank you.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Ohio.

Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, in honor of the parents—and so many others—of Senator CAPITO, I thank her for her empathetic, compassionate remarks. We all have had friends and family who have suffered, and her remarks are really appropriate.

So thank you for that.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the vote take place immediately after my remarks.

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

ADDITIONAL COSPONSOR TO S. 3076

Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, I also ask unanimous consent that Senator OSSOFF of Georgia be added as a cosponsor of S. 3076, a bill to amend the Federal Reserve Act.

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

Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, not a unanimous consent request, but I note that joining me on the floor today is Ben Ashman, for whom we have given consent to be on the floor as a Senate fellow in our office for the year.

NOMINATION OF GRAHAM SCOTT STEELE

Mr. President, I rise to urge my colleagues for the upcoming vote to join me in supporting Graham Steele, the President's nominee for Assistant Secretary for Financial Institutions at the Department of Treasury.

Graham is my friend. Graham is a former staff member of the Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs Committee and was a stellar—was and is a stellar public servant.

I know from personal experience how ready Mr. Steele is for this job. Graham spent 7 years in my personal Senate office and on the Senate Banking and Housing Committee staff when I became ranking member.

He was a senior trusted aide. He worked with staff of so many of my colleagues from both parties. In a Senate that is, frankly, too divided and a Senate that is too rigid in its partisanship, five Republicans on the Senate Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs Committee joined in supporting Graham Steele when we voted him out of committee a month or so ago, and that is because of his relationships, because of his honesty.

He has extensive financial services experience, a track record of bipartisanship, and a history to make our system work for everyone. He understands the far-reaching effects the financial system has on workers and their families.

Throughout his career, Graham has forged close relationships with civil rights groups; with consumer advocates; and with organizations, like the bipartisan Ohio Bankers League that wrote in support of his nomination.

He stood up for families, for communities, for Main Street businesses against Wall Street greed and corruption. He has worked across the aisle to get things done for the American people.

As minority chief counsel for the Banking and Housing Committee, and as my staff director of the Subcommittee on Financial Institutions and Consumer Protection, he crafted legislation, he worked with other offices, he worked with community banks, and he fought to protect all Americans' finances.

He worked on a broad set of issues with two Republican chairs, Senator CRAPO of Idaho and Senator SHELBY of Alabama. He worked with their staffs, worked with people on both sides of the aisle.

He did vital work during and after the 2008 financial crisis, as we worked to stabilize our financial system.

In his work for our office, he traveled around Ohio in the years that followed. He talked to Ohioans who had lost their homes and saw their communities devastated by Wall Street's—and I underscore ''Wall Street's''—great recession. Wall Street didn't experience much of the recession; Wall Street caused the recession. I make that clear.

He understands the importance of listening to workers. He understands how the financial industry affects their lives every day.

He has put results for Americans above partisanship. He worked with Senator Johanns, a Republican from Nebraska, who has since retired. He worked with Senator COLLINS, a Republican from Maine, on an important fix to insurance regulations. He worked with Senator MORAN of Kansas on innovative ways to encourage families to increase savings.

In his current role at the Stanford Graduate School of Business, Graham researches important issues at the intersection of markets and business and government, looking at ways to promote a more accountable economy.

At Treasury, Graham Steele would oversee an office that plays a pivotal role in coordinating the Department's efforts on financial institution policy, community and economic development, insurance, and cybersecurity and critical infrastructure protections.

He would lead an office that oversees the Community Development Financial Institutions Fund, CDFI.

His qualifications and his experience are obvious. Graham and the staff of many of my colleagues on both sides of the aisle can attest to his commitment to service and the ability to find common ground—something that will serve him well at Treasury working with Secretary Yellen and will serve this body and our government well.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting the nomination of Graham Steele. He will serve admirably, I am sure of that. I can think of no better person to serve in this role at this very consequential time in our Nation's history.

I yield the floor.

VOTE ON STEELE NOMINATION

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. LUJÁN). Under the previous order, the question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Steele nomination?

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. HASSAN), the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY), the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN), and the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) are necessarily absent.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senator is necessarily absent: the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE).

The result was announced—yeas 53, nays 42, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 467 Ex.]

YEAS—53

Baldwin	Heinrich	Reed
Bennet	Hickenlooper	Romney
Blumenthal	Hirono	Rosen
Booker	Kaine	Rounds
Brown	Kelly	Sanders
Cantwell	King	Schatz
Cardin	Klobuchar	Schumer
Carper	Leahy	Scott (SC)
Casey	Luján	Sinema
Collins	Manchin	Smith
Coons	Menendez	Stabenow
Cortez Masto	Merkley	Tester
Crapo	Moran	Van Hollen
Duckworth	Murphy	Warner
Durbin	Murray	Warnock
Feinstein	Ossoff	Whitehouse
Gillibrand	Padilla	Wyden
Graham	Peters	

NAYS—42

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

NOT VOTING—5

Hassan	Markey	Warren
Inhofe	Shaheen	

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. 345, Robert Farrell Bonnie, of Virginia, to be Under Secretary of Agriculture for Farm Production and Conservation.

Charles E. Schumer, Jacky Rosen, Thomas R. Carper, Alex Padilla, Tim Kaine, Richard J. Durbin, Elizabeth Warren, Jeff Merkley, Debbie Stabenow, Christopher A. Coons, Catherine Cortez Masto, Richard Blumenthal, Sheldon Whitehouse, Kirsten E. Gillibrand, Gary C. Peters, Martin Heinrich, Brian Schatz.

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 Robert Farrell Bonnie, of Virginia, to be Under Secretary of Agriculture for Farm Production and Conservation, 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 New Hampshire (Ms. HASSAN), the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY), the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN), and the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) are necessarily absent.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senator is necessarily absent: the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE).

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 75, nays 20, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 468 Ex.]

YEAS—75

Baldwin	Graham	Peters
Bennet	Grassley	Portman
Blumenthal	Heinrich	Reed
Blunt	Hickenlooper	Risch
Booker	Hirono	Romney
Boozman	Hoeven	Rosen
Brown	Hyde-Smith	Rounds
Burr	Johnson	Sanders
Cantwell	Kaine	Schatz
Capito	Kelly	Schumer
Cardin	Kennedy	Shelby
Carper	King	Sinema
Casey	Klobuchar	Smith
Collins	Leahy	Stabenow
Coons	Luján	Tester
Cornyn	Manchin	Thune
Cortez Masto	Marshall	Tillis
Crapo	McConnell	Toomey
Daines	Menendez	Van Hollen
Duckworth	Merkley	Warner
Durbin	Moran	Warnock
Ernst	Murphy	Whitehouse
Feinstein	Murray	Wicker
Fischer	Ossoff	Wyden
Gillibrand	Padilla	Young

NAYS—20

Barrasso	Hagerty	Rubio
Blackburn	Hawley	Sasse
Braun	Lankford	Scott (FL)
Cassidy	Lee	Scott (SC)
Cotton	Lummis	Sullivan
Cramer	Murkowski	Tuberville
Cruz	Paul	

NOT VOTING—5

Hassan	Markey	Warren
Inhofe	Shaheen	

The PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote, the yeas are 75, the nays are 20.

The motion is agreed to.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Robert Farrell Bonnie, of Virginia, to be Under Secretary of Agriculture for Farm Production and Conservation.

ORDER OF PROCEDURE

Ms. SINEMA. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that notwithstanding rule XXII, the cloture vote on Executive Calendar No. 463, the nomination of Brian Nelson to be Under Secretary for Terrorism and Financial Crimes, and the cloture vote on the motion to proceed to H.R. 4350, the National Defense Authorization Act, occur at 10 a.m. tomorrow morning, Wednesday, November 17; that if cloture is invoked on the Nelson nomination, all postcloture time be considered expired and the Senate vote on confirmation of the nomination occur at a time to be determined by the majority leader following consultation with the Republican leader; and finally, that at 5 p.m. today, the Senate execute the previous order with respect to the Kanter nomination to be an Assistant Attorney General.

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

Ms. SINEMA. For the information of the Senate, in addition to the previously scheduled vote on confirmation of the Bonnie nomination at 2:30 p.m. today, there will be a vote on confirmation of the Kanter nomination at approximately 5:15 p.m., and tomorrow at approximately 10 a.m., there will be two rollcall votes. Those votes will be on cloture on the Nelson nomination and cloture on the motion to proceed to the National Defense Authorization Act.

RECESS

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

Thereupon, the Senate, at 1:01 p.m., recessed until 2:15 p.m. and reassembled when called to order by the Presiding Officer (Ms. SINEMA).

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Michigan.

NOMINATION OF ROBERT FARRELL BONNIE

Ms. STABENOW. Madam President, I rise today to speak in support of Robert Bonnie's confirmation as Under Secretary of Farm Production and Conservation at the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

If confirmed, Mr. Bonnie will oversee three Agencies at the USDA that are absolutely critical to the well-being of our Nation's farmers and ranchers and to our shared goal of addressing the climate crisis.

Taken together, the Farm Service Agency, the National Resources Conservation Service, and Risk Management Agency provide the first line of defense for our farmers and ranchers against droughts and floods and wildfires and other extreme weather.

These Agencies will also lead our efforts to provide voluntary solutions to help our farmers and ranchers lead the way in addressing the climate crisis.

In my home State of Michigan and across the Nation, producers are facing unseasonable freezes and thaws and dramatically unpredictable conditions that disrupt the planning and harvesting schedules they rely on for their livelihoods and for our food supply. As the climate crisis affects the way the agriculture sector operates, the work of the USDA and its staff to provide resources and knowledge for our farmers and ranchers is absolutely critical.

Without crop insurance, without disaster assistance, without our conservation programs, our farmers and ranchers will be left even more vulnerable. That is why we need competent, experienced leaders who are ready to lead these Agencies from day one.

Leading this mission area is a big responsibility but one that I know Mr. Bonnie is well-qualified to tackle. Throughout his career, Mr. Bonnie has built strong partnerships with farmers, with ranchers, with foresters, with communities.

This is also his second time leading a mission area at USDA as he was confirmed by voice vote as Under Secretary for Natural Resources and Environment in the Obama administration. There, he oversaw key public-private partnerships with foresters and private land owners, while leading the U.S. Forest Service and the Natural Resources Conservation Service.

While working at the Nicholas Institute for Environmental Policy Solutions at Duke University, Mr. Bonnie worked closely with rural communities to tackle pressing conservation issues.

And at the Environmental Defense Fund, Mr. Bonnie focused on incentive-based approaches to promote stewardship on private lands.

At his hearing in the Senate Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry Committee, Democratic and Republican members alike praised Mr. Bonnie's extensive credentials and his commitment to tackling the climate crisis and boosting farm income at the same time.

That approach has earned him the support of many, many of the Nation's most respected farm and food organizations, including the American Farm Bureau and the National Farmers Union.

I am pleased to add my support to his nomination and urge my colleagues to vote yes on this extremely well-qualified nomination.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum unless we—are we at a point to move forward on the vote?

I yield back all time and ask that we proceed to the vote.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Mr. PADILLA. Madam President.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from California.

Ms. STABENOW. I withdraw my motion.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from California.

COVID VACCINES

Mr. PADILLA. Madam President, I am proud to share with all of you the experience of California this last year in combating the COVID–19 pandemic. I am proud to say that California has led the way on COVID–19 prevention and vaccine because we have seen the devastation that surging cases can cause.

Last winter—remember where we were last winter? A catastrophic surge in my home county of Los Angeles overwhelmed local hospitals, as was the case, frankly, in many parts of the country. Families were desperate to find care for their loved ones. Ambulances struggled to find hospitals with capacity.

As we approach this winter season, I recognize that we made incredible progress turning the tide since those tragic times. Now, just a month ago, California achieved the lowest level of COVID–19 transmission of any State in the Nation, but today cases are beginning to rise again. We are seeing the effects of the changing weather.

We need to stay vigilant to prevent another devastating surge like the wave that peaked in California and across the country last winter.

Fortunately, today, we are armed with a powerful defense: an FDA-approved vaccine that is safe, that is effective, and that is free for all. California's historic vaccination effort—made possible by the resources that we helped deliver when we passed the American Rescue Plan—has covered more than three-quarters of our residents, more than 55 million shots in arms of Californians.

But now is not the time to let up. Every person who gets the vaccine helps to stop spread of the virus in our community. And we just received two new critical weapons: One, booster shots to increase protections for adults and, two, approval of a vaccine for children older than 5.

Colleagues, during last week's State work period, I had the privilege of joining leaders of the Los Angeles Unified School District for the opening of their first vaccine clinic, a mobile clinic on school sites for students ages 5 and up. I saw firsthand the anxious excitement of families looking forward to a freer, safer life for children. Imagine that, play dates with friends, holiday celebrations with grandparents, and relief for those with family members at higher risk.

Now, as parents of younger children, Angela and I know that this pandemic has especially been hard on children. For more than a year, as we would gather together to pray as a family, our youngest, Diego, whom many of you met, would ask God for COVID to be over. And he would then ask when a vaccine would be ready for him and his brothers.

That is why it was such a big deal when the vaccine was approved for children ages 5 and older. Angela and I were vaccinated earlier this year. Our oldest son, Roman, was vaccinated months ago. And, finally, last week, Diego and Alex received their vaccines. So we know that we are sharing this moment of joy with millions of families across the country who are relieved that our children will be better protected against COVID–19.

Colleagues, as we approach this now second Thanksgiving since the start of the pandemic, we recognize that we have much to be thankful for. We are thankful for the scientists who drew on years of research to design and test one of the most effective vaccines that we have ever seen. We are thankful for the doctors and nurses who are helping to administer the vaccine to as many people as possible while caring for the sick. And we continue to be thankful for all the essential workers who take on high-risk jobs to keep food on our tables and keep the economy going.

So it is in the spirit of all this that I ask each and every one of you to do your part. To everyone at home, please, each and every one of you do your part. Protect yourself. Protect your family. Protect your community. Get vaccinated. Get your children vaccinated. Go check to see if you are eligible for a booster, and if you are, find one near you at vaccines.gov. We have come to appreciate how vaccination is the key to a safe holiday season, and it is key to ending the pandemic for all.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Washington.

VOTE ON BONNIE NOMINATION

Mrs. MURRAY. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the vote that was scheduled to start at 2:30 begin immediately.

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

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

Mrs. MURRAY. 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 New Hampshire (Ms. HASSAN), the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY), the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN), and the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) are necessarily absent.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senator is necessarily absent: the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE).

The result was announced—yeas 76, nays 19, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 469 Ex.]

YEAS—76

Baldwin	Graham	Portman
Bennet	Grassley	Reed
Blackburn	Heinrich	Risch
Blumenthal	Hickenlooper	Romney
Blunt	Hirono	Rosen
Booker	Hoeven	Rounds
Boozman	Hyde-Smith	Sanders
Brown	Johnson	Schatz
Burr	Kaine	Schumer
Cantwell	Kelly	Shelby
Capito	Kennedy	Sinema
Cardin	King	Smith
Carper	Klobuchar	Stabenow
Casey	Leahy	Tester
Collins	Luján	Thune
Coons	Manchin	Tillis
Cornyn	Marshall	Toomey
Cortez Masto	McConnell	Van Hollen
Crapo	Menendez	Warner
Daines	Merkley	Warnock
Duckworth	Moran	Whitehouse
Durbin	Murphy	Wicker
Ernst	Murray	Wyden
Feinstein	Ossoff	Young
Fischer	Padilla	
Gillibrand	Peters	

NAYS—19

Barrasso	Hawley	Sasse
Braun	Lankford	Scott (FL)
Cassidy	Lee	Scott (SC)
Cotton	Lummis	Sullivan
Cramer	Murkowski	Tuberville
Cruz	Paul	
Hagerty	Rubio	

NOT VOTING—5

Hassan	Markey	Warren
Inhofe	Shaheen	

The nomination was confirmed.

(Mr. SCHATZ assumed the Chair.)

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. SINEMA).

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.

The Senator from Illinois.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate resume consideration of the Nelson nomination.

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

The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant bill clerk read the nomination of Brian Eddie Nelson, of California, to be Under Secretary for Terrorism and Financial Crimes.

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent to speak as if in morning business.

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

TRIBUTE TO PATRICK LEAHY

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, the desk behind me is empty at this moment, but whenever anything important is taking place on the floor, you will find seated there the dean of the U.S. Senate, Senator PATRICK LEAHY of Vermont.

This week, he surprised a number of us by announcing his retirement at the end of next year.

I have come to know PAT during my service in the Senate. He is a humanitarian. He is a gifted lawmaker and a

passionate defender of America's national ideals and, I might add, of international human rights. Loretta and I count PATRICK and his wonderful wife Marcelle as really good friends.

I have been on the Senate Judiciary Committee, chairing it for a year. I have more insight into that job than I ever had before, and I have certainly realized that when Senator LEAHY was the chair of that committee, he wrote an extraordinary record, which many of us only dream of emulating.

I thank him for his passionate, consistent, faithful support of the DREAM Act, which I introduced 20 years ago, and his efforts to help me get this enacted into law. I also appreciated when he gave me the opportunity to create a new subcommittee in Judiciary entitled the ''Subcommittee on Human Rights and the Law,'' which I chaired. We did good things for America and the world.

PAT LEAHY is known throughout the world, and I mean that literally, as a defender of human rights and human dignity. I have seen it so many times.

He and I decided to join forces a few years ago on behalf of a political prisoner. Her name is Leila de Lima. She is a human rights advocate and a senator in the Philippines. She is in jail.

Two years ago, Senator LEAHY passed an amendment on her behalf in the State and Foreign Operations Appropriations Subcommittee. As a result, strongman Rodrigo Duterte of the Philippines banned both Senator LEAHY and myself from entering the Philippines because of our action. I can tell you that we take great pride in being singled out in that manner. Duterte knew, as we all know, that when PATRICK LEAHY sees injustice, he will use his power in office to put things right.

His service in the Senate has been a great benefit to our Nation, our world, and his beloved State of Vermont, and we will certainly miss him when he retires. I will just add, though, watch closely because he is going to run through the tape. He has a little over a year left in the Senate, and I am sure he will work for that entire period of time for the betterment of this Nation and his beautiful Vermont.

REMEMBERING MAX CLELAND

Madam President, over the weekend, I reflected on an event in my life that occurred 58 years ago.

On November 24, 1963, I had just transferred and was a sophomore at Georgetown University. It was a chilly, gray Sunday morning, and I had joined a huge crowd of thousands of people in Lafayette Square, across the street from the White House, to stand in mournful silence.

A few minutes after 1 o'clock that afternoon, the doors of the White House opened, and the flag-draped casket of President John F. Kennedy was carried out. The casket was placed on a caisson for a solemn procession to this U.S. Capitol. The route was lined with hundreds of thousands of mourners standing 10, 12 deep. Hardly anyone spoke. The only sounds were the clacking of horses' hooves, the sound of metal wheels on the pavement, and the muffled sounds and drums of the military escort.

More than 30 years later, I recounted that student experience to a colleague in the U.S. Senate. His name was Max Cleland from the State of Georgia, and he said to me: ''Durbin, I was standing in the same corner in Lafayette Square that you were standing in.'' He was there for the same reason I was: to witness history and to pay homage to our fallen President.

There we were, just a few feet away from one another in Lafayette Square, but our lives took a much different course immediately after that.

I went to law school, married, and started a family, and my wife and I were blessed with three kids.

Max Cleland enlisted in the U.S. Army in 1965 after graduating from college. Military service was a long tradition in his family. He spent 2 years in what he called a ''cushy'' job as an Army aide, and he hated it. He fought to be sent to Vietnam.

In April 1968, with less than a month left in his tour of duty, Army CPT Max Cleland found himself at the Battle of Khe Sanh, one of the longest and deadliest battles in the Vietnam war.

On April 8, 1968, he jumped off of a helicopter and saw a hand grenade on the ground. He thought it had fallen off his flak jacket. As he reached to pick it up, the grenade exploded, tearing off his right arm and both of his legs. He was 25 years old.

When he was recovering at Walter Reed, a friend took his doctor aside and asked him in confidence: What sort of life awaits this triple amputee? What would he be able to do?

The doctor said that if Max ever recovered enough just to put on his own shirt, that simple task would exhaust him for the rest of the day. Well, that doctor didn't understand his patient. He didn't know Max Cleland. He saw what that grenade blast had taken away from him, but he didn't see the deep reservoirs of faith, strength, and determination that remained in Max and grew stronger over time.

Before his injury, Max Cleland was the golden boy of his hometown of Lithonia, GA. He was his parents' only child. He stood 6 feet 2 inches, was a basketball and tennis player in high school, and was voted the ''most exceptional student'' during his senior year. He could have done anything with his life, but during that internship semester in Washington in 1963, Max Cleland decided he wanted to be a U.S. Senator. Nothing could kill that dream—not even the terrible explosion at Khe Sanh that took three of his limbs and nearly took his life.

After 8 months in VA hospitals and rehab centers, he went home to Georgia. In 1970, at the age of 28, he became the youngest person ever elected to the Georgia State Senate. In 1984, he became the youngest person to head up the U.S. Veterans' Administration, now the Department of Veterans Affairs. It was under his watch that the VA first admitted the existence of something called post-traumatic stress disorder. Max knew the hell of post-traumatic stress well. He fought for treatment and compensation for our vets, and he struggled with visible and invisible wounds of war.

In 1982, Max Cleland was elected Georgia secretary of state, a position he held for 14 years. During that time, he gathered some of the biggest vote totals in Georgia history.

When Georgia Senator Sam Nunn decided to retire in 1996, Max knew it was his chance. He threw his hat in the ring and was elected U.S. Senator of Georgia.

We came to this Senate together in 1997. When Max came to the Senate, there was no ramp for wheelchair users in the Senate. He had to make his first speech from the back of the Chamber. He tucked a quote from the Book of Isaiah inside his breast pocket. It was simple: ''Do not be afraid.'' He joined the Armed Services Committee and expanded education benefits for all veterans through the GI bill.

He was just full of energy and good cheer. I remember that warm smile and his big belly laughs. His optimism was a choice, and it required a grueling regimen to maintain it. He took 3 hours every morning to prepare himself physically and mentally to face each day. I remember reading an article in the Washington Post about a regimen of strenuous physical exercise, which he designed for himself. He had taken a spare bedroom in his apartment and did his own workout routine—this triple amputee—each morning.

For years, Max felt a sort of shame about his injuries. He felt the wounds were his own fault. He always thought that he had dropped the hand grenade that nearly killed him. It took 30 years for the truth to come out.

Max was telling this story on national TV when a man called in afterwards and said: I need to talk to Senator Cleland. He said to him: ''Max, that's not how it happened at all. I know. I was there.'' He said another soldier had dropped the grenade, a ''newbie'' who hadn't taken the precautions that veteran soldiers know to take to prevent an accidental detonation.

The story turned out to be true, and after 30 years, Max could begin to forgive himself.

Max was serving in the Senate on 9/11. Months later, the Senate was debating how to merge several Agencies, offices, and Departments into the brandnew Department of Homeland Security. It was the biggest reorganization of the Federal Government since World War II, and it would create one of the largest Federal Agencies.

Some saw it as an opportunity to take on the unions. Max and I and many others thought otherwise. We

voted against an amendment that would have denied employees of the new Department the same collective bargaining rights as other Federal workers.

It was months later that Max stood for reelection. Near the end of that race, there was an infamous ad that showed images of Osama bin Laden and Saddam Hussein and questioned Max's commitment to protect America.

How do you look at a man who has lost three limbs in war and struggled every day of his life to serve others and accuse him of not being willing to defend this country?

Max Cleland was one of six Vietnam veterans in the Senate at that time. All of his brothers in arms, including Republican Senators John McCain and Chuck Hagel, were furious about that ad. They raised enough hell to have that ad pulled. Sadly, the damage was done. Max lost his race for reelection. He called that loss ''the second hand grenade'' in his life.

In his 2009 memoir aimed at his fellow wounded veterans, he wrote: ''My body, my soul, my spirit, and my belief in life itself was stolen from me by the disaster of the Vietnam War. I found solace in attempting to 'turn my pain into somebody else's gain' by immersing myself in politics and public service.''

When his Senate years were over, he said: ''I went down physically, mentally, emotionally, down into the deepest, darkest hole in my life. I had several moments when I just didn't want to continue to live.''

The post-traumatic stress came roaring back into his life, and so 40 years after he first arrived there, Max returned to Walter Reed to try to mend not his body but his broken heart. It was connecting with other warriors that pulled him out of his despair.

I want to thank my Senate colleagues and especially my friend, former Majority Leader Harry Reid, for their commitment during that dark time. They helped him return to public service.

He was appointed to the 9/11 Commission and served for a short while before resigning to serve on the board of the U.S. Export-Import Bank. In 2009, President Obama chose Max to serve as Secretary of the American Battle Monuments Commission.

Last week, Max Cleland died at his home in Atlanta. His big heart finally succumbed. He was 79 years old.

On the same day he died, another veteran fighting the invisible wounds of war shot and killed himself at the Lincoln Memorial in Washington. Air Force TSgt Kenneth Omar Santiago was only 31.

In a note posted on social media before he died, he wrote: ''No one knows who is struggling and waging wars that the eye cannot see. What does chronic depression even look like?''

Max Cleland knew the answer to that question. If he had met Sergeant Santiago—or any of the 17 veterans who die by suicide every single day in America—he would have told them what he said to himself every day: ''Hold on. Seek help. Do not be afraid.''

Max Cleland was a soldier, a patriot, and a friend. We can pay no better tribute to him than to honor his service and sacrifice and help those who continue to live with those visible and invisible wounds of war.

Farewell, Max. I will miss you.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF PRISONS REPORT

Madam President, on a completely different topic, earlier today, the inspector general at the Department of Justice released a stunning report. It found that the Federal Bureau of Prisons had failed to negotiate with the prison guard union for more than 20 months.

Think of that. The management of the Federal Bureau of Prisons failed to negotiate with the prison guard union for more than 20 months. This has led to a delay of more than 30 critical Bureau policies to help protect their staff and inmates.

That report was published just days after an investigation by the Associated Press, which concluded that the Bureau is ''a hotbed of abuse, graft and corruption, and has turned a blind eye to employees accused of misconduct.''

Both investigations confirm what we have known for a long time: the current Director of the Bureau of Prisons, Michael Carvajal, should no longer lead the Bureau of Prisons.

This morning, I publicly called on Attorney General Merrick Garland to replace Mr. Carvajal with a reform-minded Director who is not a product of that Bureau's bureaucracy.

Since Director Carvajal was appointed by former Attorney General Bill Barr in February 2020, we have witnessed a series of cascading failures that have endangered the lives of BOP inmates, as well as the correctional officers who work there.

Director Carvajal has failed to resolve chronic staffing shortages at the Bureau. He has failed to contain outbreaks of COVID–19 within our prisons. The COVID–19 infection rate in the Bureau of Prisons is six times what it is in the rest of the population.

He has failed to fully implement the reforms that the Members of this Senate enacted, including an overwhelmingly bipartisan First Step Act, signed into law by President Trump.

To take one example, under the First Step Act, low-risk inmates are eligible to receive earned time credits to reduce their sentences. They do this by completing programs designed to prevent them from committing another crime when they are released. The inspector general concluded that the Bureau of Prisons has not allowed any—any—time credits to be awarded because they have not finalized the policy nearly 3 years after the First Step Act was signed into law.

That act was a bipartisan measure. Senator GRASSLEY and I were the lead sponsors on it. And it was a measure, as I mentioned, signed by President Trump. For 3 years, the Bureau of Prisons has done little or nothing to implement it.

Director Carvajal has also failed to prevent serious misconduct by his own employees. Some of these numbers are incredible. Since 2019, more than 100 Federal prison workers have been arrested, charged or convicted of crimes, including sexual abuse, murder, and introducing contraband into prison.

Altogether, these crimes account for two-thirds—let me say it again: two-thirds—of criminal cases against Department of Justice personnel, even though BOP employees comprise less than one-third of the DOJ's workforce.

There is no excuse for any further delay in dismissing Director Carvajal. It is time for Attorney General Garland to appoint new leadership to the Bureau that will address the crises he has created or allowed to exist and to take critical steps to reform our Federal prison system.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

MEATPACKING INDUSTRY

Mr. GRASSLEY. Madam President, as the meatpacking industry became increasingly concentrated in the 1990s, fewer animals were sold through negotiated purchases—or, you could say, you could call that cash purchases or you could call it the spot market.

In the 1990s, we saw increased use of alternative marketing arrangements that were not publicly disclosed under voluntary reporting. Livestock producers knew that these arrangements were not allowing them to get a fair market price for their livestock going to slaughter so they called for livestock mandatory reporting, also known as LMR. This new law would apply to packers who purchase livestock, process them, and market the meat.

When the livestock mandatory reporting legislation was first considered in 1998, it unfortunately didn't get very far. I want to read for you an article from March of 1999 because it is going to have some relationship to a similar issue that we hope to get before Congress before the end of the year, and that is a bipartisan piece of legislation I am referring to.

I want to read an article from March 1999, from the Southern Livestock Review. That article is entitled ''How Campaign Money, Republican Lobbyists Killed Mandatory Price Reporting.'' I am going to read that article into the RECORD in its entirety, only I will not read names. I will refer to former Senators as Senator 1, 2, and 3, and I will refer to lobbyists' names as Lobbyist 1 and Lobbyist 2.

My point is to remind my fellow Senators today not to be blindsided again by the American Meat Institute, like happened in 1998 to kill legislation back then, because I don't want a similar thing to happen with what some of us Senators are proposing this year. This is important because Senator FISCHER and I are soon to introduce legislation to update livestock price transparency.

Now, I will read. This is a long reading.

How Campaign Money, Republican Lobbyists Killed Mandatory Price Reporting:

In the heat of last October's upcoming election and Congress' hurry-get-out-of-town legislating, the draft of a massive $4 billion farm bailout bill—which included federal relief for cash-strapped farmers and mandatory public price reporting in livestock markets—was in place as congressmen and senators flew home for a weekend of campaigning.

When the lawmakers returned the following Monday, however, mandatory livestock price reporting was virtually gutted, butchered by well-connected Republican lobbyists and huge sums of political action campaign money from the meatpacker-backed American Meat Institute.

How this deboning occurred is an object lesson in how private money often thwarts public will and why solid, sensible farm policy often dies at the hands of craven politicians and legions of lobbyists.

In July 1998, Senate Minority Leader Tom Daschle, D-SD, put mandatory price reporting in livestock markets into what was then a modest $500 million farm drought relief bill. Daschle, responding to years of complaints from his state ranchers over meatpacker concentration, didn't ask for the moon. All he wanted was a one-year experimental program that required meatpackers to publicly disclose the prices they paid when buying livestock from producers.

But as the ag economy continued to skid in late summer, the bill's cost escalated and so did the warning over what the bill would include. Daschle's price reporting request also came under attack from the AMI, the meatpacker lobby in Washington. Packers viewed the idea as costly—estimated by USDA at $60 million per—and unnecessary.

Yet as momentum picked up for an even bigger farm relief bill, mandatory price reporting opponents like AMI sensed Daschle's efforts would be adopted as the ''save-the-farm'' rhetoric built after Labor Day.

To shoot down Daschle's plan, AMI hastily bought some bazookas. In early September, AMI hired [Lobbyist No. 1] . . . a member of one of Washington's most powerful Republican lobbying firms.

For an extra pop, reported the October 25, 1998 Washington Post, AMI also hired two other Republican leaders-turned-lobbyists, [Lobbyist No. 2] and [Lobbyist No. 3]. . . .

Now plugged into the Republican power grid, AMI turned on the juice. During the 1998 election cycle, AMI doled out $198,473 in political action committee money raised from executives of member firms like Cargill's Excel, ConAgra's Monfort, Kraft's Oscar Myer, Premium Standard Farms, Farmland Industries, and Smithfield Foods. Most of the money went to Republican candidates.

In fact, according to the Center for Responsive Politics, a nonpartisan campaign watchdog group, $165,973 or 84% of AMI's 1997–98 PAC cash landed in Republican campaign coffers. House Republican candidates got $114,973 of the meatpacker lard; Senate Republicans got $51,000.

But as the crucial October legislative deadline approached, mandatory price reporting was still alive in the farm bailout bill's final draft. Then AMI lobbyists and money began to get traction.

The lobbyists, in particular [Lobbyist No. 1], a longtime pal of fellow Mississippians—and Republican Senators—[Senator No. 1] and [Senator No. 2] got the price reporting legislation pulled from that ag bill. Senate Democrats and a few of their farm state Republican colleagues were furious.

Daschle struck back. With [Senator No. 2's] blessing, he folded mandatory price reporting into the even bigger $520 billion omnibus 1999 Budget Bill that was still hanging fire. Two days later, it too was gutted by Republicans into a meaningless ''confidential one-year government investigation, during which livestock prices would not be disclosed'' by the packers, according to the Washington Post.

Sources say [Lobbyist No. 1] buddy [Senator No. 1] wielded the knife. As chairman of the Senate Ag Appropriations Subcommittee, [Senator No. 1] refused to fund any new price reporting effort as part of the bailout bill, thus killing it there. Later, at the behest of [Lobbyist No. 1], [Lobbyist No. 2], and [Lobbyist No. 3], [Senator No. 1] neutered mandatory price reporting in the Budget Bill by keeping any information gained through it ''confidential.''

Now the National Pork Producers Council, a past opponent of mandatory price reporting, the American Farm Bureau, the National Cattlemen's Beef Association, and Secretary of Agriculture Dan Glickman are calling for publicly disclosed, mandatory price reporting legislation from Congress.

An AMI spokesman said the group will fight the new effort, but didn't know if [Lobbyists 1, 2, or 3] would carry water for the packers in 1999. Yet, he adds, referring to [Lobbyist No. 1], ''He served our purposes well last year.''

No kidding. But the meatpackers paid assassins—[Lobbyist No. 1] and his Republican pals—stuck a knife in the back of every livestock producer in America last fall. And it's still there.

Now, that is the end of my reading of the March 1999 article by Alan Guebert in the Southern Livestock Review.

So you see, many of the same hurdles that we went through in '98 are the hurdles that we are facing now with making needed cattle market reforms.

The same high-powered and well-connected lobbyists who work for the Big Four meat processors are still the same high-powered and well-connected lobbyists who are lobbying against the market reforms of today. Those reforms are being proposed by a bipartisan group of Senators and will soon be introduced.

But I have got news for you. The special interests of the meat packers don't have a vote in the U.S. Senate.

Last week, Senators FISCHER, TESTER, WYDEN, and I announced a framework to increase price discovery and transparency in the cattle market.

You will never guess who, once again, is fighting this commonsense legislation—the very same group that I referred to as AMI, the American Meat Institute, now called the North American Meat Institute; that same group that, in the 1990s—or—yeah, the 1990s—was against the livestock mandatory reporting legislation has come out against the independent cattle producers again today.

See, these powerful corporations are against any reform that would give independent producers more leverage in negotiating a fair price for their cattle.

In 1998, South Dakotan Tom Daschle led the charge against these big meat packers. And while the livestock mandatory reporting was stalled in 1998, in 1999, Senator Daschle was able to get that across the finish line. And it is still law, but it isn't a perfect piece of legislation, and our proposals ought to improve it dramatically.

Now we have Senators, farmers, consumers from all over the country who want to see reforms. Livestock farmers are losing money, consumers are paying record high prices for beef, and meat packers are making record profits.

Now, I am sharing this story today to show that even changes that we now view as common sense were once opposed by the meat industry. We still have time this year to make real market reforms that will help independent producers stay in the cattle business.

I urge my colleagues to support a piece of legislation that we have entitled Cattle Price Discovery and Transparency Act and support independent cattle producers.

I hope you will join Senator FISCHER, this Senator, Senator TESTER, and Senator WYDEN and several other Senators in the last 24 hours that have joined this effort.

These reforms are long overdue, and we can't let these special interest groups, like the North American Meat Institute, stop this important legislation like I just described for you how they stopped it in 1998. And thank God Senator DASCHLE didn't give up, because the next year he eventually got it done.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. MURPHY). The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

BIDEN ADMINISTRATION

Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, this morning, the majority leader came to the floor of the Senate to talk about the Democrats' reckless tax-and-spending bill.

Now, he repeated the claim that the bill would actually reduce inflation. It won't. Just like the claim the President makes that the cost of the bill will be zero, the American people know that that is not true either.

The majority leader asked a question. He asked why not a single Republican would support the bill. Well, I am

happy to respond to the majority leader and explain why the American people and the Republicans are rejecting what the Democrats are trying to force through the Congress.

So I come to the floor today to talk about rising prices. Next Thursday will be the most expensive Thanksgiving ever. As the New York Times put it, the Thanksgiving dinner will wallop your wallet. Turkey prices are up 25 cents on the dollar so far this year. Prices for meat, poultry, fish, and eggs are up more than 10 cents on the dollar in just 1 year.

Companies like Nestle and Procter & Gamble, well, they put out warnings that they are raising their prices.

Who would have thought that in just 10 short months of the Biden Presidency we could set a record—a 30-year high record for inflation?

Millions of families this year will sit down for Thanksgiving dinner, and in addition to eating turkey, families around the table will also be talking turkey. They are going to have difficult conversations about how to make ends meet.

According to one estimate, families are now paying about $175 more every month because of inflation for the same things they were getting before Joe Biden became President. This works out to a $2,000 bite out of the paychecks annually of every working American.

So what is happening? Why is it happening?

It is for at least three reasons. First, Joe Biden's incompetence and mismanagement has caused the worst supply chain disruption in at least 40 years.

Now, the supply chain crisis is largely the result of a labor shortage. Last week, the New York Times called the shortage of truck drivers—truck drivers; not of trucks, but of the drivers—the single biggest cause of the supply chain crisis.

We don't have enough goods in large part because we don't have enough workers. This is the worst labor shortage in American history. There are more than 10 million jobs which have gone unfilled in recent months. We have broken new records for unfilled jobs in 5 of the last 9 months that Joe Biden has been in office.

This isn't a coincidence. This is happening because of the policies that have been put in place by the Democrats in this administration.

In March, President Biden and the Democrats extended a bonus payment to people who stayed home from work. Millions of people made more money by staying home instead of going to work. Well, in September, the bonus payment ran out.

Then President Biden announced a nationwide vaccine mandate on the American people. Having been traveling around the State of Wyoming this past week, I will tell you it is a mandate that is taking a sledgehammer to the American workforce.

Now, I fully support vaccination. I am a doctor. I am vaccinated, so are all the members of my family. I am pro-vaccine and anti-mandate. Imposing new mandates on workers during an unprecedented labor shortage is complete incompetence.

Now, this mandate is only making the supply chain crisis worse. The President must have known that many would not comply with this mandate. He must have known that people would be forced out of their jobs by his mandate. It didn't seem to faze him; he imposed the mandate anyway. Now people are losing their jobs, shelves are empty, and prices continue to go up.

The second major reason why prices are rising is President Biden's war on American energy. Thanksgiving is traditionally one of the busiest travel times of the year. AAA estimates that more than 50 million Americans will take to the highway and travel next week—pretty standard for a Thanksgiving weekend. Those who drive will pay a lot more for gas than they did last year or the year before. It is the highest in 7 years. Gas prices are up about $1 a gallon in the number of months that President Biden has been in office. It is more expensive to travel.

And it is getting more expensive also to stay warm. One in five American families has already cut spending to pay for their energy bill in the last year. Winter is coming. It is going to get worse. Some will have to choose between whether they can heat their home or whether they can eat a meal. Prices are so high, 11 Democratic Senators are pleading with the President to bring down gas prices.

So what is Joe Biden's solution?

Well, he admits he has no solution. He says that gas prices are going to stay high until the springtime.

One of the President's top nominees for the Treasury Department says she wants to ''starve''—starve—American oil and gas. She actually said that we want—in her mind—''we want [oil and gas companies] to go bankrupt.'' She is the nominee to be the Comptroller of the Currency.

The Secretary of Commerce was asked what the administration was doing to lower energy prices. She couldn't name a single thing.

The Secretary of Energy apparently thinks high gas prices are funny. She was asked what she could do to increase oil production in America. She laughed and said: ''That is hilarious.''

The Secretary of Transportation also thinks it's funny. He is joking around that people need to start Christmas shopping early this year.

So there you have the elites of the Biden administration—the elites of America—the people he has chosen to run these Agencies. They think it is funny. It is no laughing matter for the working families in Wyoming or all across America.

So who gets hurt by high prices?

The poor, people living on fixed incomes, families struggling to get by. Working families cannot afford what the Democrats are offering.

Since Joe Biden became President, prices have gone up much faster than wages. In other words, the American people have taken a cut in the spending value of their paychecks. They can buy less with the same amount of money. And even if they have gotten a bit of a raise, the prices are taking a greater and greater bite out of that paycheck.

So as we approach Thanksgiving, Democrats in Washington want to spend like it is already Black Friday. Democrats seem to think that every day is Black Friday, when you take a look at this reckless tax-and-spending bill where every page is over $1 billion of spending.

They have already put $2 trillion on the credit card earlier this year. This is in addition to the bipartisan coronavirus relief that the Senate passed last year. But for Democrats, there is never enough spending. Taxing and spending: it is an addiction. They want to print more money, they want to spend more money.

And right now, Democrats are pushing a reckless tax-and-spending bill, which will make inflation in this country even worse. Democrats say that the bill that they are proposing in the House right now will cost $2 trillion.

The Congressional Budget Office will give a final report the end of the week. Experts say, if all of the programs they are proposing were to stay in place for the full 10 years in the budget system, the price is much closer—if not exceeding—$4 trillion.

So if the Democrats pass this bill, we are talking about more spending, more debt, and higher prices. We are also, of course, talking about more taxes that ultimately will hit everyone in this country one way or the other.

Last week, the New York Times reported ''many researchers . . . say the bill is structured in a way that could add to inflation next year.'' Not just this year; next year as well.

Experts say this bill could increase the cost of childcare up to $13,000 for each and every family in America whose children need that care. This is already one of the biggest expenses on working families. They will nearly double that.

And, of course, Democrats' spending spree would add over $400 billion in taxes on America's small businesses—the mom-and-pop businesses in the communities all around this country.

Interestingly, at a time of high energy costs—we had a hearing about this this morning in the Energy Committee, the trend in prices on energy. Astonishingly, what the Democrats are proposing at this time are the highest natural gas prices in 7 years, and a tough season coming for the cost of heating oil and heating gas. This could raise taxes on American natural gas as well, when prices are at a 7-year high.

What happens to these costs with these taxes?

Of course, they get handed off to consumers in the form of higher prices.

If Democrats pass this bill, the American people are going to pay more at the pump, more at the store, and more on tax day.

So, last week, the nonpartisan Tax Policy Center said this bill would raise taxes on nearly one-third of middle-class families.

Didn't Joe Biden say he wasn't going to do that?

Well, who is right: the President of the United States, whose approval is at an all-time low and only 21 percent of Americans think the country is going in the right direction, or the Tax Policy Center that says that a third of all middle-class families will end up paying more taxes if this is signed into law?

This is a blatant violation of the President's campaign promises. The last thing the American people need right now is higher taxes, more debt, and higher prices. The last thing the American people need is this reckless tax-and-spending spree.

It is no wonder that 71 percent of Americans think our country today is on the wrong track, and this includes many Americans who actually voted last November for Joe Biden.

What do the American people want?

Well, they want us to produce more American energy so they can pay less for energy. They want us to make it easier for people to get back to work. They want higher wages and lower prices.

That is not what we are hearing from the Democrats.

So that is my response to the majority leader when he asks why not a single Republican would support this reckless tax-and-spending spree.

With Thanksgiving coming, we need to stop this reckless spending ''cold turkey.''

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

VACCINES

Mr. LEE. Mr. President, last week, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit issued an emergency stay on President Biden's sweeping vaccine mandate. The court granted the stay, citing ''grave statutory and constitutional issues'' with the mandate. The 22-page order is persuasive and compelling in explaining the grave effects the mandate will have on businesses and individuals alike throughout the United States.

The order also explains that the limited nature of the Federal Government under the Constitution simply doesn't allow for sweeping mandates of this nature, generally, but it certainly doesn't allow for sweeping mandates like this one without an act of Congress. You see, our powers within the Federal Government are carefully circumscribed; they are carefully constrained. The Constitution brings about a balancing, a limitation on powers that operate along two axes. The vertical constraint is called federalism, and the horizontal constraint is something we refer to as the separation of powers.

The Federal Government's powers are, as James Madison described them in Federalist No. 45, ''few and defined,'' while those reserved to the States are ''numerous and indefinite.'' Likewise, within the three branches, we have these protections in place to make sure that no one person can exercise what power the Federal Government does have exclusively; you can't accumulate too much power. So the President of the United States, under our constitutional system, isn't a King and may not rule by decree. He is not free to just do things because he thinks they are a good idea.

The judges also, refreshingly, asserted the commerce clause of the Constitution and brought up the commerce clause as the source of the claimed authority for Federal action under this circumstance, noting that, even under broad interpretations of the commerce clause that we have seen from the Federal court system since 1937, the commerce clause is not unlimited in the scope of the authority that it provides to the Federal Government, and in this case, it certainly doesn't authorize the Occupational Safety and Health Administration to issue a sweeping vaccine mandate on all companies with more than 99 employees nor does the commerce clause even authorize Congress to undertake such an action, which, of course, Congress has not undertaken.

We have erred dangerously, over many decades, from the true application of the Constitution's limits. In many respects, we have lost sight even of the fact that this is a government of limited powers, and now that lack of those limits—the lack of respect for those limits within those who operate the Federal Government—is placing millions of Americans at risk of not only becoming unemployed but, in many cases, unemployable. Some in Congress are, today, taking it even further in asking the President of the United States to impose a vaccine or a test mandate as a condition precedent for interstate travel.

Now, I have heard from hundreds of Utahns who are at risk of losing their jobs because of this now, thankfully, halted mandate. These are not bad people. To the contrary, they are good people. They are our neighbors and our friends. They are everyday Americans who are all too often just trying to get by to provide for their families. They are not our enemies, and it is troubling to think that the President of the United States said—on national television no less—that he is ''losing [his] patience'' with them. What does that even mean? In fact, recent polling numbers show that, if anything, it appears to be the other way around. We are losing patience with him and with his broad assertions of authority that he doesn't even have.

I have come to the Senate floor about 15 times now to oppose this vaccine mandate. I have offered a dozen bills to limit, clarify, or otherwise counteract the vaccine mandate. Each time, one or another of my colleagues from the other side of the aisle has objected to what should be uncontroversial bills. Let's review each of these that we have gone through so far.

Now, this started back on September 28 with S. 2850. This bill, S. 2850, would have provided exemptions for those with religious or moral objections to the vaccine mandate. President Biden, significantly, had promised these exemptions would be in the mandate, but for some reason—for some reason that I struggle to understand—Senate Democrats, nonetheless, objected to the passage of that bill.

So then I came back, and I offered up S. 2840, the Don't Jab Me Act, a bill that would require that the Federal Government make those who suffer from the vaccine mandate financially whole. The Democrats rejected that bill too.

Next, I offered S. 2843, the No Taxation Without Congressional Consent Act, a bill that would require congressional authorization before the fines associated with the mandate could be charged to businesses. Notwithstanding the fact that the Constitution is very clear about where taxes need to originate within our system of government, the Democrats objected to that bill as well.

So then I came back with another bill. This time it was S. 2848, the Your Health Comes First Act. This is a bill that would offer exemptions from the mandate to those who have preexisting medical or other health concerns about the vaccine. This is also another exemption that President Biden himself promised in his speech when first announcing the vaccine mandate, but it is an exemption that the Senate Democrats, apparently, didn't feel worthy of codifying with legislation, and so they objected to that one too. This one was particularly surprising because if, in fact, President Biden himself felt comfortable with those exemptions, one would think that there wouldn't be discomfort with codifying what he himself said should be the law.

So then, in response to that, I returned to this Chamber on another day, and I offered up S. 2846, the Natural Immunity is Real Act. This bill would require that the Federal vaccine mandate recognize natural immunity. Countries across the world recognize this immunity for the powerful protection that it, in fact, provides, a protection that, according to some studies, may be as much as 27 times stronger than that offered by the vaccine alone. Unfortunately, President Biden's mandate wasn't so generous on that point.

This bill, too, was rejected by the Democrats, disregarding science's showing the very real impact of natural immunity.

So I came back, and I offered up S. 2847, the Let Me Travel America Act. Now, this bill would prohibit the requirement of vaccination before citizens could travel between the States. Apparently, the Democrats want to leave that option open because they objected to that one too. Well, that one is not in the vaccine mandate. It is feared, as I mentioned a few minutes ago, that that might be on the table. Apparently, it still is because people were unwilling to codify what should be a natural conclusion for most Americans to reach, which is that our right to travel from one State to another without permission from the Federal Government ought not be interfered with and that it is fundamental that we shouldn't mess with it. That is why it was unfortunate that this one, too, drew an objection.

So I returned. I hoped that this body could give some assurance and some respect to the brave men and women of our military who are at risk of losing benefits and losing the right to serve over this vaccine mandate. So my bill that I offered that day, S. 2842, the Respecting Our Servicemembers Act, would protect servicemembers from losing their livelihoods and their benefits—that they have accrued and earned through their valiant service—as a result of the mandate. The Democrats objected to this one too. That is particularly sad. These are heroes. These are people on whom we rely to keep us safe. We ought to give them more trust than that. We ought to not put them in a position in which many of them are facing a difficult decision.

So I offered another bill. I returned to this body, and I offered a bill that should be one of the least controversial measures that we have ever considered, not just about the vaccine mandate but about anything. That bill, the Parental Consent for Vaccination Act, would have simply required that parental consent be provided before COVID–19 vaccines were given to children. The Democrats objected to that as well.

So I came back, and I offered the Transparency in COVID–19 Vaccination Act. This bill would have provided information regarding vaccine side effects to the public. It would have just made sure that the American people had access to that information. I thought information would build confidence in the vaccines. The Democrats disagreed, and they objected. Apparently, that was too much. I don't know why people wouldn't want more information. I actually think that would have built confidence in the vaccine, but, apparently, they didn't see it that way or maybe they just didn't want people to have access to the information. I don't know. I can't speak for them. I just know they objected.

So I came back for the 10th time. I offered up the Transparency in COVID–19 Research Act. This bill would have provided research and information drawn from that research—that the American taxpayers are paying for—to the public, that should be available to the public. We pay for that research. We ought to know what the findings are. The government shouldn't have anything to hide and wouldn't have anything to hide here, but the Democrats disagreed, and they objected to that one as well.

So I tried again. I came back, and I offered up S. 2851, the Transparency in COVID–19 Expenditures Act. This bill is just a good housekeeping measure. It is a commonsense measure. It is not something that should have been either liberal or conservative or thought of as Republican or Democratic. It is just a good housekeeping matter. You know, I think it is strange that it would be controversial, given the simplicity of what it would do. It would simply call for an audit regarding how our COVID–19 funds have been spent. I thought the information would be helpful to us as we make policy moving forward, and yet the Democrats objected to that one.

So I tried again. I offered a 12th bill that would simply end the mandate. The No Forced Vaccination for COVID–19 Act would clarify that Federal law does not authorize OSHA or any other Federal Agency to implement a general vaccine mandate, but the Democrats objected to that one too.

Twelve times—twelve bills. Some were simpler than others. Some should have involved no controversy whatsoever. Some just inserted good principles of lawmaking or constitutionalism generally or federalism in particular. Each one was rejected, one right after the other after the other, repeated 12 times.

Thankfully, while some in this body have floundered, judges on the Fifth Circuit fulfilled their duty to the American people and their oaths to the Constitution. That does not mean, however, that this fight is anywhere near over. It will continue in the courts, where the States and the Biden administration will each be able to make their case. But I am also going to continue this fight here. I will stand for those Utahns and those Americans who are at risk specifically because of this mandate.

It is also important for us to remember that separate and apart from what the courts might do, we have an independent obligation, having each taken an oath to uphold and protect and defend the Constitution of the United States in the fulfillment of our duties. We need to make sure that before authority is exercised—especially authority operating in such a personal manner on such a personal issue as this—that power isn't being taken from those to whom it belongs. The power in our system of government belongs to the people, and in the absence of a delegation of power to the Federal Government, that power is retained by the States respectively or by the people.

So we ought to be looking at this carefully and closely, analyzing it on our own. We can't assume that the Federal courts will save us from our own unconstitutional actions.

I have been critical of Presidents of both political parties when they have taken actions that exceed the scope of their authority as President of the United States or of actions enacted by the legislative branch under the direction of either political party that exceed the power of the Federal Government. This is an issue that is not Republican or Democratic. It is not liberal. It is not conservative. It is simply an American issue. It is a constitutional issue. We ought to be debating it, discussing these things here, and not waiting for the courts to act.

One of the profound frustrations that I have encountered over the years is that sometimes people will conflate the issue of constitutionality with litigation. They will assume that constitutional issues are those that have to be addressed in the courts and only in the courts.

Fortunately, we have the courts to adjudicate disputes and the meaning of statutes and provisions of the Constitution, but that doesn't excuse us of our responsibility to provide an independent check and balance to make sure that authority isn't being exercised where it should not. It is especially important where, as here, we are dealing with a fundamentally misguided and, I believe, immoral proposition; that is, that individual Americans, hard-working moms and dads throughout this country, ought ever to be put into a position by their government to choose between, on the one hand, receiving a medical procedure that they may not want or to which they may have religious or other moral objections or which they might have a specific health concern, for example—they ought not ever be put in a position where they have to choose between that unwanted medical procedure on the one hand and on the other hand, the ability to put bread on the table for their children. That is not right. The American people know it, and deep down, they know something is terribly wrong whenever one person can, with the stroke of the Executive pen, issue so broad, so deep, and so immoral a mandate.

I am not going to stand for this. I will be back. I will be back tomorrow. I will be back the next day. I will be back as often as it takes, as long as it takes. I am not going to stop until we win this fight.

Thank you.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, after months of delay, I am glad Senator SCHUMER has finally indicated he will allow the National Defense Authorization Act to come to the Senate floor this week.

For each of the last 60 consecutive years, Congress has passed an NDAA to ensure that our servicemembers and military leaders had the resources they need to safeguard our democracy and our freedoms.

This bill is how we maintain our military bases, modernize our force, and invest in the next generation of weapons that we hope we will never need to use but which are necessary for deterrence. It is how we strengthen our relationship with old allies and forge strong partnerships with new ones. It is how we address the global threat landscape and ensure our troops have the training, equipment, and the resources they need to counter adversaries of today and tomorrow.

From threats by an increasingly hostile Iran to those by an unpredictable North Korea, there are many challenges on the horizon, but there is no question that the greatest threat to the world order and to peace itself is the People's Republic of China.

The Chinese Communist Party has made no secret of its desire to continue to squash democracy, as they did in Hong Kong, and impose its economic, political, and military power on the rest of the world.

Here at home, we are intensely aware of how China's aggression can impact our economy and supply chains for critical components of everything from cell phones to our fifth-generation stealth fighter, the F–35. Our dependency on advanced semiconductors manufactured in Taiwan and in Asia is a threat to America's economic and national security, but the most urgent and grave threats are against countries closer to China's borders.

Last week, I had the chance to lead a congressional delegation visiting Southeast Asia to gain a better understanding of the threats and challenges in the region. The area spanning from Pearl Harbor all the way to the western border of India is the largest military theater in the world and is overseen by the U.S. Indo-Pacific Command and is home to 40 percent of the world's population. My colleagues and I had the opportunity to hear from our military leadership and key foreign partners in the region and gain a better understanding of ongoing and anticipated security threats, mainly from China.

China has already co-opted, as I said, a formerly democratic Hong Kong.

It is building missile batteries and aircraft runways for its bombers on artificial islands. It threatens freedom of navigation in international waters. It is guilty of gross human rights abuses against its own people; namely, the Muslim minority Uighurs. It is engaged in a border war with India. And it threatens to invade the Republic of China, otherwise known as Taiwan.

Here at home, there is no question that China is a looming presence, but it is not in our backyard. We don't see its warships on our coastlines, or worry about an imminent military invasion on our shores.

But that is not the case in the Indo-Pacific. In the Philippines, we caught a ride on a Navy P–8 aircraft over disputed waters. Within minutes of leaving Philippine airspace, we spotted a Chinese spy ship engaged in intelligence gathering operations off the Philippine coast.

We traveled to India, where we met with Prime Minister Modi and Cabinet officials to discuss threats posed by China, as well as other shared priorities. But one of the main topics was the timetable for a Chinese invasion of Taiwan.

In every way possible, Taiwan is a stark contrast to the People's Republic of China. It is a true democracy, with elections whose results are not predetermined. It is a free-market economy that adheres to the rule of law. And it shares the same basic values we embrace in the United States: freedom of speech, freedom of press, religion, and assembly.

Despite the fact that Taiwan has been a self-governing entity for more than 70 years, the Chinese Communist Party continues to claim the island nation as part of its territory. But as the Indian Minister for Foreign Affairs said, Taiwan isn't just a Taiwan problem; it is a China problem.

In other words, what is at stake here is much larger than the future of one nation; it is the entire scope of Beijing's power and ambitions in the region. If China is able to capture Taiwan, there is no reason to believe that the Chinese Communist Party would stop there.

China also has territorial claims against the Philippines, Japan, Vietnam, and India. We shouldn't view Taiwan as the CCP's ultimate goal, but as the first domino in a quest to reach regional and global dominance. If Taiwan falls, it will not be the end, but, rather, a beginning.

As the Taiwanese Minister of Foreign Affairs told us, Taiwan is democracy's outpost standing watch against authoritarianism.

I believe we have a legal and moral obligation to stand with Taiwan and deter China from invading. And we also have our own national security at stake.

There is an old saying that an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure. In defense parlance, that means peace through strength; deterrence. There must be a strategy to dissuade China from an attempt to seize Taiwan. And there is no question that time is of the essence.

Our delegation met with the commander of the Indo-Pacific Command, who described the current power dynamic rather succinctly. He said it is not a question of if China invades Taiwan, but when.

According to our top military leaders, we have an idea of how long that might happen, because Xi Jinping himself has said he wants to be ready to invade by 2027.

But we have been wrong before. I remember when people said that the Taliban—the intelligence community said it would take 2 years for the Taliban to take over Afghanistan, and we saw that happen almost in the blink of an eye. No one thought that country would fall to the Taliban before we even hit the withdrawal deadline, and we certainly did not expect the withdrawal in Afghanistan to turn into a rapid emergency evacuation mission.

Taiwan might be safe for 6 years, but we can't operate on that assumption. We need to work with Taiwan and our friends and allies in the region to raise the costs, such that the PRC decides it is not worth its time and effort.

The defense authorization bill is one critical way we can do that. It includes a bipartisan bill I introduced with Senator DUCKWORTH, called the Taiwan Partnership Act. It would establish a partnership between the U.S. National Guard and Taiwanese defense forces to strengthen Taiwan's preparedness.

Should troops need to deploy quickly in the event of a crisis, they would be armed with the same knowledge and skills as our dedicated U.S. National Guardsmen.

The NDAA includes other provisions to increase defense cooperation with Taiwan and equip the U.S. Indo-Pacific Command with more resources. I appreciate my colleagues on both sides of the aisle who have championed these provisions.

As I said earlier, we have a moral imperative to stand with Taiwan and show China that the costs of invading are far greater than the benefits. But we have our own national security interests at stake because, if the supply of semiconductors from Taiwan were cut off, it would be a body blow to the American economy and our national security.

I am glad Australia has already signaled its support for Taiwan, and I hope more of our international partners will follow suit—particularly the quad composed of Australia, Japan, and India and the United States.

Beijing can try to exert its muscle around the world, but the United States has one thing that China never will have, and that is friends and allies.

I am grateful to our partners in the Indo-Pacific and around the world who have fought and who will continue to fight to preserve freedom and democracy. It is an honor to spend time with them. And on behalf of our entire delegation, I want to thank all of our hosts for their hospitality.

Our trip to the Indo-Pacific was a timely reminder of the critical need to invest in our national defense and support our allies, new and old.

As the Senate prepares to begin consideration of the Defense authorization bill, I would encourage all of us to keep

in mind our solemn responsibility to support our national defense. That is our No. 1 priority. All of our other freedoms flow from our ability to protect and defend the American people.

Whether our servicemembers are guarding against threats from China, Russia, Iran, North Korea, or terrorist groups, they need the backing of a strong National Defense Authorization Act to succeed.

I appreciate the bipartisan work of the Armed Services Committee, chaired by Chairman REED and Ranking Member INHOFE, and appreciate their hard work in getting this bill ready for our consideration. The committee, during its markup, adopted 143 bipartisan amendments and reported out the final bill by a vote of 23 to 3. You don't get much more bipartisan than that around here.

This legislation has been waiting in the wings for months, and I am glad we can finally begin consideration of this critical legislation this week.

I hope we can continue the legacy of bipartisanship that guides this legislation through the Senate. This debate should be about how to defend our national security, how to deter tyrants and bullies from around the world, and guarantee the blessings of liberty to all democracies—those that share our values.

I yield the floor.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. MARKEY). Under the previous order, the Senate will now proceed to the Kanter nomination, which the clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read the nomination of Jonathan Kanter, of Maryland, to be an Assistant Attorney General.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, there will now be 10 minutes of debate, equally divided.

The Senator from Connecticut.

BORDER SECURITY

Mr. MURPHY. Mr. President, I will admit that I have some level of confusion when I listen to my Republican colleagues come to the floor and register their complaints when matched against the actual policy positions that my Republican colleagues hold. And I want to present two examples of my confusion this morning.

First, I have heard many of my Republican colleagues come to the floor of the Senate and talk about their concern about price increases in the economy today—and then register votes against the measures that would help families afford things.

Many of my Senate Republican colleagues voted for the bipartisan infrastructure, but more voted against it. In the House of Representatives, there is discussion of purging from the Republican Party any members of the House Republican conference that voted for the infrastructure; notwithstanding the fact that in that bill is funding that will have a deflationary impact on the economy: money for ports, money for infrastructure, money to be able to move goods and people more quickly across this country.

The Build Back Better agenda—the bill that is going to move before the House and the Senate this month with no Republican support—is all about reducing costs for average, regular Americans: reducing the cost of healthcare, reducing the cost of energy, reducing the cost of childcare.

Childcare expenses are driving American families crazy today—absolutely crazy. The Build Back Better Act will reduce the cost of childcare by 10 to $15,000 for families in my State.

Republicans oppose the Build Back Better Act because it increases some taxes on billionaires and millionaires. It asks every corporation to pay a minimum amount of tax so that companies, like Amazon and Google, don't get away with paying nothing or next to nothing in tax.

The reason why so many Republicans oppose the Build Back Better agenda is because it is about transferring economic power from the haves—from the economic elites to folks who have been getting the short end of the stick, who have been getting fleeced by this economy.

When Republicans had the chance to cut costs, they did it only for billionaires and millionaires. Eighty percent of the Republican tax cut went to the richest 1 or 2 percent of the economy.

When Democrats have control of the Senate, we deliver tax cuts for the middle class and for the poor. We deliver cost reductions for average American families.

Wages are going up higher than the rate of personal consumption inflation. Right? Personal consumption inflation is just under 5 percent. Wages in the last 12 months have gone up by over 5 percent.

People are making more money. Part of the consequence of people making more money is that some costs go up. But when Republicans were in charge of the White House and the Congress, we just were, largely, flat. Wages are finally going up. People are making more money.

And we are going to have legislation on the floor of the Senate that dramatically cuts costs for average American families, and that legislation likely will get not a single Republican vote.

Republicans' priorities, historically, have been to deliver benefits to the wealthy, to the elites, to their corporate friends. And so when faced with a very different agenda—an agenda that is all about cost reduction, tax cuts for average families, for families making $30,000 a year, for plumbers, for teachers, for factory workers, for janitors—not a single Republican vote.

So therein lies my confusion that I hear a lot of my Republican colleagues—Republican colleagues that I like, that I respect—come to the floor and complain about costs and then refuse to deliver a single vote for the most significant legislation to reduce costs for families that this body has considered during my time in the Senate.

Here is my second reason for confusion. Now, encounters with migrants without documentation has come down at the border 3 months in a row—pretty dramatic reduction, in fact, when it comes to unaccompanied minors and families. That is because this President's policies are working.

That is probably the reason you don't hear as many Republicans coming down to the floor talking about the surge at the border. But Republicans have been down here consistently for months talking about the crisis they described at the border.

And so my confusion here is connected to their avowed concern about the surge at the border and then their decision to oppose a Homeland Security budget that would help us address those escalating numbers at the border.

Right now, Senate Republicans are refusing to negotiate with Democrats on a budget for 2021 and 2022. That is what is going on right now. Historically, we always had differences when it comes to our priorities in the budget, but we always sat down and negotiated. Right now, Senate Republicans are boycotting discussions over a budget. And one of the theories is that many Republicans would like to see a continuing resolution—the Trump spending levels continued for the rest of 2021, 2022.

Let me tell you what the impact of that would be when it comes to our operations at the border. I want to explain this because I have the honor to chair the Appropriations Subcommittee overseeing the Department of Homeland Security, and we, just a few weeks ago, introduced a budget for the Department of Homeland Security for fiscal year 2022. But if this budget or a version of it negotiated with Republicans doesn't pass, the result is catastrophe at the border.

This budget includes $178 million for medicine and medical contracts for unaccompanied children that arrive at our border—desperately needed medical care for all of these children and families that are arriving at the border. None of it would be available if we went on a continuing resolution. We would have a health crisis at the border.

There is $130 million for three permanent multipurpose, multiagency facilities, which will streamline the processes of individuals who present at the border. Right now, we have these megaexpensive, inhumane, soft-sided facilities. That significant investment at the border cannot happen if we have a continuing resolution.

There is $25 million in this budget for increased transportation costs, allowing Border Patrol to reduce overcrowding in facilities, moving individuals from crowded facilities to facilities that have room. None of that transportation money is available in a CR, which means the overcrowding gets worse.

But the crisis is even bigger because without a new budget, we can't pay the Border Patrol. We will have a $770 million payroll shortfall—almost $1 billion payroll shortfall—if we have a CR in the Department of Homeland Security rather than a new budget.

That will cripple our ability to manage the border. That will either mean massive layoffs of CBP personnel, USCIS personnel, or it will mean a massive reprogramming in which the Biden administration is forced to take money from cybersecurity and put it onto the border or steal money from the Coast Guard in coastal defense and put it on the border.

One independent study showed that a decrease of just 33 CBP officers at our ports of entry would decrease GDP by $66 million and lead to a loss of over 1,000 jobs. Why? Because at our ports of entry, when you have a massive downsizing of personnel, wait times go up, businesses lose money.

If we are on a CR and we don't pass a budget, Coast Guard readiness is compromised. The money in this budget for a new offshore patrol cutter, for national security cutters, for the sustainment of the aging rotary wing aircraft fleet—unavailable. So our Coast Guard readiness continues to suffer, compromising U.S. national security.

We all know that cybersecurity is an increasing existential threat to the United States, and so this budget proposes a significant increase in our cybersecurity defenses. How is the Department of Homeland Security, without a budget if a CR is extended through the end of the year—we can't adjust any of our funding programs or priorities when it comes to cybersecurity. We are essentially stuck in a pre-SolarWinds environment in the Department of Homeland Security without the ability to adjust for current threats.

Finally, we will just be wasting a ton of taxpayer money. I will give you one example. Right now, we have thousands of empty ICE detention beds—thousands of empty ICE detention beds. We pay contractors to maintain these beds, to staff these beds, but there is nobody in them and there is likely not going to be anybody in those beds for the entirety of fiscal year 2022.

But if you are on a continuing resolution and don't pass a new budget negotiated together, Republicans and Democrats, then we are paying for beds we don't need. We are just wasting taxpayer dollars.

If we don't pass a budget, if we don't update the appropriations bill for the Department of Homeland Security, we are going to be gutting our border protection, we are going to be costing the economy billions of dollars, we are going to be compromising the defense of this Nation, and we are going to be wasting taxpayer dollars.

We are sent here to be proper and responsible stewards of our constituents'—our taxpayers'—hard-earned dollars. They don't like sending their money to Washington, but they do so under the belief that we are going to be careful about how we spend it.

By just extending 2021 spending levels to 2022, especially when it comes to the defense of this Nation, especially when it comes to the protection of our borders, a CR could be disastrous as much as it is wildly irresponsible.

I yield the floor.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, this week, the Senate will consider Jonathan Kanter's nomination to be Assistant Attorney General for the Justice Department's Antitrust Division.

Mr. Kanter is a distinguished antitrust lawyer with decades of experience in the public and private sectors. He received his undergraduate degree from the State University of New York at Albany and his law degree from Washington University School of Law.

After graduating, he worked as an attorney for the Federal Trade Commission's Bureau of Competition. He then went on to spend more than 20 years in private practice as an antitrust lawyer. During that time, Mr. Kanter has become a highly influential advocate for strong and meaningful antitrust enforcement, with a special focus on the digital economy.

And he has earned support from across the political spectrum. Nine former heads of the Justice Department's Antitrust Division—representing every presidential administration going back to Gerald Ford—submitted a letter urging the Senate to quickly confirm Mr. Kanter.

These former leaders of the Antitrust Division wrote: ''Jonathan Kanter has the talent and the leadership skills to do the job well. . . . He knows the substance of antitrust. He appreciates its importance to the American consumer. . . . In short, we believe Mr. Kanter is right for this important position.''

The members of the Senate Judiciary Committee agree. Mr. Kanter was voted out of the committee by voice vote, a testament to his bipartisan support.

With his extensive experience as an antitrust lawyer, deep knowledge of the law, and masterful understanding of the challenges facing antitrust law enforcers, Mr. Kanter would be an outstanding addition to the Justice Department.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting his nomination.

VOTE ON THE KANTER NOMINATION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Kanter nomination?

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. HASSAN), and the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN), are necessarily absent.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senator is necessarily absent: the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE).

The result was announced—yeas 68, nays 29, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 470 Ex.]

YEAS—68

Baldwin	Grassley	Padilla
Barrasso	Hagerty	Peters
Bennet	Hawley	Portman
Blumenthal	Heinrich	Reed
Blunt	Hickenlooper	Rosen
Booker	Hirono	Rounds
Boozman	Hyde-Smith	Sanders
Braun	Kaine	Schatz
Brown	Kelly	Schumer
Cantwell	King	Sinema
Cardin	Klobuchar	Smith
Carper	Leahy	Stabenow
Casey	Lee	Tester
Collins	Luján	Thune
Coons	Lummis	Tillis
Cortez Masto	Manchin	Van Hollen
Cotton	Markey	Warner
Duckworth	Menendez	Warnock
Durbin	Merkley	Warren
Feinstein	Murkowski	Whitehouse
Fischer	Murphy	Wicker
Gillibrand	Murray	Wyden
Graham	Ossoff	

NAYS—29

Blackburn	Hoeven	Rubio
Burr	Johnson	Sasse
Capito	Kennedy	Scott (FL)
Cassidy	Lankford	Scott (SC)
Cornyn	Marshall	Shelby
Cramer	McConnell	Sullivan
Crapo	Moran	Toomey
Cruz	Paul	Tuberville
Daines	Risch	Young
Ernst	Romney	

NOT VOTING—3

Hassan	Inhofe	Shaheen

The nomination was confirmed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. PETERS). 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 actions, and the Senate will resume legislative session.

The Senator from Rhode Island.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to legislative session and be in a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each, with the exception of this speaker, who will speak for, probably, more like 20 minutes.

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

VOTE EXPLANATION

Mr. MARKEY. Mr. President, I was necessarily absent, but had I been present, I would have voted yea on rollcall vote No. 467, confirmation of Graham Scott Steele to be an Assistant Secretary of the Treasury.

Mr. President, I was necessarily absent, but had I been present, I would have voted yea on rollcall vote No. 468, the motion to invoke cloture on Robert Farrell Bonnie to be Under Secretary of Agriculture for Farm Production and Conservation.

Mr. President, I was necessarily absent, but had I been present, I would have voted yea on rollcall vote No. 469, confirmation of Robert Farrell Bonnie to be Under Secretary of Agriculture for Farm Production and Conservation.

HONORING SERGEANT BREANNA J. JESSOP

Mr. LEE. Mr. President, months ago, as Americans watched harrowing video footage of the Afghanistan evacuation efforts, service men and women from around the world rose to the challenge of a complex mission. As the chaos persisted, the 82nd Airborne Division of the U.S. Army was called on to support noncombatant evacuation operations—NEO—at Hamid Karzai International Airport in Afghanistan. They completed their mission honorably.

One member of the 82nd Airborne Division, Sgt. Breanna J. Jessop, a chaplain assistant, assumed the role as the noncommissioned officer—NCO—in charge of the airport chapel. Sergeant Jessop, despite tremendous obstacles of ongoing and imminent threats, conducted herself with courage, discipline, and attention to detail. Her work saved many.

Always putting the well-being of her fellow soldiers first, Sergeant Jessop used her ingenuity to ensure 4,000 U.S. military personnel and coalition forces had access to basic hygiene items at a time when resources were, at best, limited. Further, she made time to assist soldiers with religious support, help care for those who had suffered casualties, and ensure the well-being of the soldiers with whom she served.

At the height of the NEO mission, Sergeant Jessop showed outstanding leadership. She oversaw the operation of an entire orphanage that had been formed as a result of the increase in unaccompanied minors at the airport. She led the mission to assist in caring for children and offered assistance for children ranging from newborn babies to 17 years old. As a result of her untiring humanitarian efforts, over 400 displaced children were kept safe during the NEO mission.

Outside of her assigned duties and responsibilities, Sergeant Jessop, has helped pioneer the Under the Canopy Program which serves as a touchpoint forum for lower enlisted paratroopers. There, she provides vital leadership to assist with planning, preparing, and overseeing the execution of each event. Her work helps hundreds of paratroopers each month to identify issues and discuss new and ongoing initiatives.

Sgt. Breanna J. Jessop, a native of Myton, UT, truly represents the U.S. Army values and what it means to be a paratrooper and Sky Dragon soldier.

About Sergeant Jessop, Maj. Gen. Chris Donahue once said, ''There are so many different words that you could use to describe her: strength, resilience, willingness to share what others would never be willing to . . . that's the type of remarkable person and paratrooper that she is.'' I could not agree more.

Sergeant Jessop was recently recognized by the United Service Organizations as the 2021 Service Member of the Year. This award is fitting and well-deserved. Yet no award will ever fully honor the service of Sergeant Jessop. Her dedicated service to the children orphaned at Hamid Karzai International Airport and her fellow servicemembers is commendable and will be remembered and revered in the hearts of many for years to come.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO LISA PISTERMAN

● Mr. PAUL. Mr. President, I rise today to honor a fellow Kentuckian, Lisa Pisterman, from the Schnitzelburg community of Louisville, KY. You may not know this unique neighborhood that dates back to 1866. But you are all familiar with historic communities that helped form the fabric of your own hometown or metropolitan area, and you have witnessed many of them struggle to preserve their unique heritage while remaining relevant in a modern economy.

To that end, Lisa Pisterman served as president of the Schnitzelburg Area Community Council during a very challenging period when the council had struggled to move forward. With Lisa at the helm, a new sense of unity and purpose has emerged, and great things are happening.

In addition to her leadership on the council, Lisa has served as one of the local historians, allowing natives of the community and newcomers alike to reflect on its history and envision what is to come.

Lisa is the author of ''Louisville's Germantown & Schnitzelburg'' and is currently working with other individuals to build the Germantown Schnitzelburg History Museum where visitors can study this community's contributions to our great Commonwealth.

As her friends and neighbors recognize Lisa this month as Schnitzelburg's No. 1 Citizen, I want to personally thank her for all she has done and continues to do for her community and to wish her great success in the future.●

REMEMBERING ARNE SORENSON

● Mr. ROMNEY. Mr. President, I rise today to honor the esteemed legacy of my friend, Arne Sorenson, who passed away earlier this year. Arne's many accomplishments in his personal and professional life continue to profoundly impact the lives of many. Most recently, Arne's Marriott family, numbering over 120,000 employees, witnessed his high-caliber leadership as he navigated the company through a turbulent period in the hospitality industry. Arne was a faithful and compassionate servant leader, and I will always cherish his friendship.

Arne's contagious spirit of kindness and generosity sets a high standard for what success looks like, in both public and private life. As a business executive, he cared deeply for his employees and customers and continued to serve as president and CEO while privately persevering through extraordinary health challenges. His selfless leadership is an example we can all aspire to.

The culture he helped build and foster at Marriott is unmatched. Arne's decades of experience in the hospitality industry yielded outstanding results for his enterprise, notably the acquisition of over 30 hotel groups, elevating Marriott to be the largest hotel chain in the world. His humility and wisdom often carried the day. He consistently praised and recognized the achievements of his employees and partners and always sought feedback from friends, family, colleagues, and customers.

Above all, Arne was a faithful and loving husband, father, and friend. His integrity and values-based decision making extended from the business world to the benefit of everyone lucky enough to have known him, especially his wonderful family. Arne's wife and four children were his greatest pride, joy, and purpose, and while they now mourn his loss, I hope they may find comfort knowing Arne's light will shine on for eternity. May he rest in peace.●

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 MESSAGE REFERRED

In executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate a message from the President of the United States submitting a treaty which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE

REPORT OF THE CONTINUATION OF THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY THAT WAS ORIGINALLY DECLARED IN EXECUTIVE ORDER 13851 OF NOVEMBER 27, 2018, WITH RESPECT TO NICARAGUA—PM 17

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States, together with an accompanying report; which was referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs:

To the Congress of the United States:

Section 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1622 (d)) provides for the automatic termination of a national emergency unless, within 90 days prior to the anniversary date of its declaration, the President publishes in the *Federal Register* and transmits to the Congress a notice stating that the emergency is to continue in effect beyond the anniversary date. In accordance with this provision, I have sent to the *Federal Register* for publication the enclosed notice stating that the national emergency with respect to the situation in Nicaragua declared in Executive Order 13851 of November 27, 2018, is to continue in effect beyond November 27, 2021.

The situation in Nicaragua, including the violent response by the Government of Nicaragua to the protests that began on April 18, 2018, and the Ortega regime's systematic dismantling and undermining of democratic institutions and the rule of law, its use of indiscriminate violence and repressive tactics against civilians, as well as its corruption leading to the destabilization of Nicaragua's economy, continues to pose an unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security and foreign policy of the United States. For this reason, I have determined that it is necessary to continue the national emergency declared in Executive Order 13851 with respect to the situation in Nicaragua.

JOSEPH R. BIDEN, Jr.

THE WHITE HOUSE, *November 16, 2021.*

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 10:43 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 bills, without amendment:

S. 894. An act to identify and refer members of the Armed Forces with a health care occupation who are separating from the Armed Forces for potential employment with the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

S. 1031. An act to require the Comptroller General of the United States to conduct a study on the disparities associated with race and ethnicity with respect to certain benefits administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

S. 1095. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for the disapproval by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs of courses of education offered by public institutions of higher learning that do not charge veterans the in-State tuition rate for purposes of Survivors' and Dependents' Educational Assistance Program, and for other purposes.

The message further announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 3665. An act to designate the medical center of the Department of Veterans Affairs in San Diego, California, as the Jennifer Moreno Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center, and to support the designation of a component of such medical center in honor of Kathleen Bruyere.

H.R. 5671. An act to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to furnish seasonal influenza vaccines to certain individuals, and for other purposes.

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

At 5:25 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bill:

S. 1511. An act to amend the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 with respect to payments to certain public safety officers who have become permanently and totally disabled as a result of personal injuries sustained in the line of duty, and for other purposes.

The enrolled bill was subsequently signed by the President pro tempore (Mr. LEAHY).

MEASURES REFERRED

The following bills were read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 3665. An act to designate the medical center of the Department of Veterans Affairs in San Diego, California, as the Jennifer Moreno Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center, and to support the designation of a component of such medical center in honor of Kathleen Bruyere; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

H.R. 5671. An act to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to furnish seasonal influenza vaccines to certain individuals, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bill was read the second time, and placed on the calendar:

S. 3206. A bill to repeal the provisions of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act that impose new information reporting requirements with respect to digital asset transfers.

ENROLLED BILLS PRESENTED

The Secretary of the Senate reported that on today, November 16, 2021, she had presented to the President of the United States the following enrolled bills:

S. 108. An act to authorize the Seminole Tribe of Florida to lease or transfer certain land, and for other purposes.

S. 1511. An act to amend the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 with respect to payments to certain public safety officers who have become permanently and totally disabled as a result of personal injuries sustained in the line of duty, 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–2592. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Pseudomonas Fluorescens Strains ACK55; Exemption from the Requirement of a Tolerance; Technical Correction'' (FRL No. 9000–01–OCSPP) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 4, 2021; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC–2593. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Clothianidin; Pesticide Tolerances'' (FRL No. 8667–01–OCSPP) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 4, 2021; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC–2594. A communication from the Associate Administrator, Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Affairs, General Services Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a violation of the Antideficiency Act; to the Committee on Appropriations.

EC–2595. A communication from the Army Federal Register Liaison Officer, Department of the Army, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Manufacture, Sale, Wear, and Quality Control of Heraldic Items'' (RIN0702–AA70) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 4, 2021; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–2596. A communication from the Acting Inspector General, Export-Import Bank of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a vacancy in the position of Inspector General, Export-Import Bank of the United States, received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 2, 2021; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–2597. A communication from the Senior Congressional Liaison, Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Fair Credit Reporting; Name-Only Matching Procedures'' (12 CFR Part 1022) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 4, 2021; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–2598. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants: Carbon Black Production and Cyanide Chemicals Manufacturing Residual Risk and Technology Reviews, and Carbon Black Production Area Source Technology Review'' ((RIN2060–AU66) (FRL No. 7523–03–OAR)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 4, 2021; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–2599. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the

report of a rule entitled ''National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants: Flexible Polyurethane Foam Fabrication Operations Residual Risk Technology Review and Flexible Polyurethane Foam Production and Fabrication Area Source Technology Review'' ((RIN2060–AU57) (FRL No. 7526–03–OAR)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 4, 2021; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–2600. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants: Refractory Products Manufacturing Residual Risk and Technology Review'' ((RIN2060–AU67) (FRL No. 7527–02–OAR)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 4, 2021; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–2601. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants: Surface Coating of Automobiles and Light-Duty Trucks, Surface Coating of Metal Cans, Boat Manufacturing, and Clay Ceramics Manufacturing; Technical Corrections'' ((RIN2060–AT49, RIN2060–AT51, RIN2060–AT12, and RIN2060–AT25) (FRL No. 8472–01–OAR)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 4, 2021; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–2602. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Response to Vacatur of Certain Provisions of the Mercury Inventory Reporting Rule'' ((RIN2070–AK93) (FRL No. 8523–02–OCSPP)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 4, 2021; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–2603. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Washington; Low Emission Vehicle Program'' (FRL No. 8814–02–R10) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 4, 2021; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–2604. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Air Plan Approval; Maryland; Baltimore Area Base Year Inventory for the 2015 Ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standards'' (FRL No. 9091–02–R3) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 4, 2021; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–2605. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; Colorado; Revisions to Regulation Number 7; Aerospace, Oil and Gas, and Other RACT Requirements for the 2008 8-Hour Ozone Standard for the Denver Metro/North Front Range Nonattainment Area'' (FRL No. 9163–02–R8) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 4, 2021; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–2606. A communication from the Senior Congressional Liaison, Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Truth in Lending (Regulation Z) Annual Threshold Adjustments (Credit Cards, HOEPA, and Qualified Mortgages)'' (12 CFR Part 1026) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 4, 2021; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. MENENDEZ, from the Committee on Foreign Relations, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute and with an amended preamble:

S. Res. 345. A resolution expressing the sense of the Senate on the political situation in Belarus.

By Mr. DURBIN, from the Committee on the Judiciary, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 2428. A bill to amend title 31, United States Code, to modify False Claims Act procedures, and for other purposes.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. VAN HOLLEN (for himself, Mr. TESTER, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. CASEY, Ms. SMITH, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. REED, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. KAINE, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. BROWN, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. LUJÁN, Ms. WARREN, Mr. MARKEY, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. WYDEN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. MENENDEZ, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. MURPHY, and Mr. PETERS):

S. 3213. A bill to amend part B of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act to provide full Federal funding of such part; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. DAINES (for himself, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. MARSHALL, Ms. LUMMIS, and Mr. LANKFORD):

S. 3214. A bill to promote domestic energy production, to require onshore oil and natural gas lease sales, development of renewable energy on public lands, and offshore oil and natural gas and wind lease sales, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. ROUNDS (for himself, Mr. MANCHIN, and Mr. KING):

S. 3215. A bill to amend the Act of August 10, 1956, to provide for the payment of pay and allowances for certain officers of the Army who are assigned to the Corps of Engineers; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Ms. STABENOW (for herself and Mr. BOOZMAN):

S. Res. 447. A resolution celebrating the 125th anniversary of the National Grain and Feed Association and recognizing the Association and its members for transforming the bounty of United States farmers into safe, nutritious, sustainable, and affordable human and animal food; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. PETERS (for himself and Mr. PORTMAN):

S. Res. 448. A resolution designating November 19, 2021, as ''TSA Appreciation Day''; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. COONS (for himself, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, Ms. ERNST, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. CARPER, Mr. CASEY, and Mr. VAN HOLLEN):

S. Res. 449. A resolution designating November 2021 as ''National College Application Month''; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. RISCH:

S. Res. 450. A resolution designating November 17, 2021, as ''National GIS Day''; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. WARNOCK (for himself, Mr. OSSOFF, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. MCCONNELL, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. BENNET, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BLUNT, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. BRAUN, Mr. BROWN, Mr. BURR, Ms. CANTWELL, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. CARPER, Mr. CASEY, Mr. CASSIDY, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. COONS, Mr. CORNYN, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mr. COTTON, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. DAINES, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. DURBIN, Ms. ERNST, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mrs. FISCHER, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. HAGERTY, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. HAWLEY, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. HICKENLOOPER, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. HOEVEN, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. KAINE, Mr. KELLY, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. KING, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. LEE, Mr. LUJÁN, Ms. LUMMIS, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. MORAN, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. MURPHY, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. PAUL, Mr. PETERS, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. REED, Mr. RISCH, Mr. ROMNEY, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. ROUNDS, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. SASSE, Mr. SCHATZ, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. SHELBY, Ms. SINEMA, Ms. SMITH, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. SULLIVAN, Mr. TESTER, Mr. THUNE, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. TOOMEY, Mr. TUBERVILLE, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. WARNER, Ms. WARREN, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. WICKER, Mr. WYDEN, and Mr. YOUNG):

S. Res. 451. A resolution honoring the life and legacy of the late Senator Max Cleland; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. MANCHIN (for himself, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. WYDEN, Ms. CANTWELL, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. COONS, Mr. PETERS, Ms. HIRONO, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, and Mr. REED):

S. Res. 452. A resolution recognizing November 2021 as ''National Homeless Children and Youth Awareness Month''; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. TILLIS:

S. Con. Res. 21. A concurrent resolution establishing deadlines for the Joint Committee of Congress on the Library to approve or deny the statue of the Reverend William Franklin ''Billy'' Graham, Jr. for placement in the National Statuary Hall; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 344

At the request of Mr. TESTER, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. LUJÁN) was added as a cosponsor

of S. 344, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to provide for concurrent receipt of veterans' disability compensation and retirement pay for disability retirees with fewer than 20 years of service and a combat-related disability, and for other purposes.

S. 544

At the request of Ms. ERNST, the name of the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. MANCHIN) 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. 586

At the request of Mrs. CAPITO, the names of the Senator from Wyoming (Ms. LUMMIS) and the Senator from Virginia (Mr. KAINE) were added as cosponsors of S. 586, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to combat the opioid crisis by promoting access to non-opioid treatments in the hospital outpatient setting.

S. 601

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 601, a bill to amend section 3661 of title 18, United States Code, to prohibit the consideration of acquitted conduct at sentencing.

S. 623

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 623, a bill to make daylight saving time permanent, and for other purposes.

S. 634

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the names of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS) and the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) were added as cosponsors of S. 634, a bill to support and expand civic engagement and political leadership of adolescent girls around the world, and other purposes.

S. 658

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the name of the Senator from Texas (Mr. CRUZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. 658, a bill to authorize the Secretary of Homeland Security to work with cybersecurity consortia for training, and for other purposes.

S. 839

At the request of Mr. CASSIDY, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. PORTMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 839, a bill to establish a postsecondary student data system.

S. 864

At the request of Mr. KAINE, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. CASSIDY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 864, a bill to extend Federal Pell Grant eligibility of certain short-term programs.

S. 880

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 880, a bill to amend the Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967 and other laws to clarify appropriate standards for Federal employment discrimination and retaliation claims, and for other purposes.

S. 1014

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1014, a bill to reform sentencing laws and correctional institutions, and for other purposes.

S. 1061

At the request of Mr. PORTMAN, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. DAINES) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1061, a bill to encourage the normalization of relations with Israel, and for other purposes.

S. 1106

At the request of Mr. BOOKER, the name of the Senator from Arizona (Ms. SINEMA) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1106, a bill to prohibit the sale of shark fins, and for other purposes.

S. 1125

At the request of Ms. STABENOW, the names of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER) and the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) were added as cosponsors of S. 1125, a bill to recommend that the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation test the effect of a dementia care management model, and for other purposes.

S. 1193

At the request of Ms. ROSEN, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1193, a bill to establish a grant program at the Department of Homeland Security to promote cooperative research and development between the United States and Israel on cybersecurity.

S. 1210

At the request of Mr. BLUMENTHAL, the names of the Senator from Arizona (Ms. SINEMA) and the Senator from Vermont (Mr. LEAHY) were added as cosponsors of S. 1210, a bill to amend the Lacey Act Amendments of 1981 to clarify provisions enacted by the Captive Wildlife Safety Act, to further the conservation of certain wildlife species, and for other purposes.

S. 1284

At the request of Mr. BENNET, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1284, a bill to establish the Amache National Historic Site in the State of Colorado as a unit of the National Park System, and for other purposes.

S. 1290

At the request of Ms. DUCKWORTH, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1290, a bill to assist communities affected by stranded nuclear waste, and for other purposes.

S. 1404

At the request of Mr. MARKEY, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Ms. CORTEZ MASTO) was added as a cosponsor 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. 1451

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the names of the Senator from Illinois (Ms. DUCKWORTH), the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY), the Senator from Georgia (Mr. WARNOCK), the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) and the Senator from Texas (Mr. CORNYN) were added as cosponsors of S. 1451, a bill to amend the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 to implement policies to end preventable maternal, newborn, and child deaths globally.

S. 1530

At the request of Mr. SANDERS, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. LUJÁN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1530, a bill to amend the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 and the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act to make breakfasts and lunches free for all children, and for other purposes.

S. 1548

At the request of Mr. LUJÁN, the names of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) and the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. SMITH) were added as cosponsors of S. 1548, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to improve the diversity of participants in research on Alzheimer's disease, and for other purposes.

S. 1588

At the request of Mr. BLUMENTHAL, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1588, a bill to amend the Lacey Act Amendments of 1981 to prohibit importation, exportation, transportation, sale, receipt, acquisition, and purchase in interstate or foreign commerce, or in a manner substantially affecting interstate or foreign commerce, or possession, of any live animal of any prohibited primate species.

S. 1697

At the request of Mr. LUJÁN, the name of the Senator from Iowa (Mr. GRASSLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1697, a bill to address maternity care storages and promote optimal maternity outcomes by expanding educational opportunities for midwives, and for other purposes.

S. 1725

At the request of Mr. ROUNDS, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. SMITH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1725, a bill to grant a Federal charter to the National American Indian Veterans, Incorporated.

S. 1813

At the request of Mr. COONS, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. CARPER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1813, a bill to direct the Secretary

of Health and Human Services to support research on, and expanded access to, investigational drugs for amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, and for other purposes.

S. 2120

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2120, a bill to establish the United States-Israel Artificial Intelligence Center to improve artificial intelligence research and development cooperation.

S. 2322

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the name of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. LANKFORD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2322, a bill to require a pilot program on the participation of non-asset-based third-party logistics providers in the Customs-Trade Partnership Against Terrorism.

S. 2342

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the name of the Senator from West Virginia (Mrs. CAPITO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2342, a bill to amend title 9 of the United States Code with respect to arbitration of disputes involving sexual assault and sexual harassment.

S. 2434

At the request of Ms. CANTWELL, the name of the Senator from California (Mr. PADILLA) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2434, a bill to provide tax incentives that support local newspapers and other local media, and for other purposes.

S. 2607

At the request of Mr. PADILLA, the name of the Senator from Iowa (Mr. GRASSLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2607, a bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal to the former hostages of the Iran Hostage Crisis of 1979–1981, highlighting their resilience throughout the unprecedented ordeal that they lived through and the national unity it produced, marking 4 decades since their 444 days in captivity, and recognizing their sacrifice to the United States.

S. 2732

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the names of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) and the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. KENNEDY) were added as cosponsors of S. 2732, a bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to prohibit certain conduct relating to the use of horses for human consumption.

S. 2780

At the request of Mr. MARSHALL, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BRAUN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2780, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to prohibit certain adverse personnel actions taken against members of the Armed Forces based on declining the COVID–19 vaccine.

S. 2853

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2853, a bill to provide grants to State, local, territorial, and Tribal law enforcement agencies to purchase chemical screening devices and train personnel to use chemical screening devices in order to enhance law enforcement efficiency and protect law enforcement officers.

S. 2907

At the request of Ms. MURKOWSKI, her name was added as a cosponsor of S. 2907, a bill to establish the Truth and Healing Commission on Indian Boarding School Policies in the United States, and for other purposes.

S. 2966

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. LUJÁN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2966, a bill to provide additional benefits to American workers whose employment has been impacted as a result of the transition to a clean energy economy.

S. 3047

At the request of Mr. PORTMAN, the names of the Senator from Tennessee (Mrs. BLACKBURN) and the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. HASSAN) were added as cosponsors of S. 3047, a bill to establish a pilot program to support medical residency and fellowship programs that assist veterans, and for other purposes.

S. 3061

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. HASSAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3061, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to eliminate the 190-day lifetime limit on inpatient psychiatric hospital services under the Medicare Program.

S. 3066

At the request of Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, the name of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. HICKENLOOPER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3066, a bill to require the Secretary of Energy to establish a battery material processing grant program and a battery manufacturing and recycling grant program, and for other purposes.

S. 3076

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. OSSOFF) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3076, a bill to amend the Federal Reserve Act to prohibit officers of the Federal Reserve from trading certain securities, and for other purposes.

S. 3119

At the request of Mr. CRUZ, the names of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BRAUN) and the Senator from Montana (Mr. DAINES) were added as cosponsors of S. 3119, a bill to require the President to certify to Congress that a member of the Quadrilateral Security Dialogue is not participating in quadrilateral cooperation between Australia, India, Japan, and the United States on security matters that are critical to United States strategic interests before imposing sanctions under section 231 of the Countering America's Adversaries Through Sanctions Act with respect to a transaction of that member.

S. 3134

At the request of Mr. TILLIS, the name of the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. SCOTT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3134, a bill to maintain 2021 H–2A adverse effect wage rates for calendar year 2022 to stabilize United States food prices.

S. 3154

At the request of Mr. DAINES, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. SULLIVAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3154, a bill to prohibit cash settlements resulting from the lawful application of the zero tolerance policy.

S. 3159

At the request of Ms. ERNST, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. THUNE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3159, a bill to restrict the use of Federal Funds for gain-of-function research in the People's Republic of China.

S. 3177

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3177, a bill to restore protections for Social Security, Railroad retirement, and Black Lung benefits from administrative offset.

S. 3203

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3203, a bill to establish the Commission on the COVID–19 Pandemic.

S.J. RES. 10

At the request of Mr. KAINE, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN) was added as a cosponsor of S.J. Res. 10, a joint resolution to repeal the authorizations for use of military force against Iraq, and for other purposes.

S. RES. 377

At the request of Ms. ROSEN, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 377, a resolution urging the European Union to designate Hizballah in its entirety as a terrorist organization.

S. RES. 437

At the request of Mr. WARNOCK, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. LUJÁN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 437, a resolution expressing support for the designation of November 8, 2021, as ''National First-Generation College Celebration Day''.

AMENDMENT NO. 3870

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 3870 intended to be proposed to H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 3892

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the names of the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) and the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 3892 intended to be proposed to H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 3929

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 3929 intended to be proposed to H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 3931

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the name of the Senator from Texas (Mr. CORNYN) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 3931 intended to be proposed to H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 3935

At the request of Ms. ROSEN, the names of the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING) and the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 3935 intended to be proposed to H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 3942

At the request of Mr. GRAHAM, the names of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. RISCH) and the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 3942 intended to be proposed to H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 3990

At the request of Ms. ERNST, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 3990 intended to be proposed to H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 4076

At the request of Mr. HAWLEY, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 4076 intended to be proposed to H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 4093

At the request of Mr. MARSHALL, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BRAUN) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 4093 intended to be proposed to H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 4133

At the request of Mr. BLUMENTHAL, his name was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 4133 intended to be proposed to H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. KAINE, the names of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. YOUNG), the Senator from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN), the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN), the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. PAUL) and the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 4133 intended to be proposed to H.R. 4350, supra.

AMENDMENT NO. 4135

At the request of Mr. WARNER, his name was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 4135 intended to be proposed to H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 4140

At the request of Mr. HAWLEY, the names of the Senator from Montana (Mr. DAINES) and the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. LANKFORD) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 4140 intended to be proposed to H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 4148

At the request of Mr. BLUMENTHAL, his name was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 4148 intended to be proposed to H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 4199

At the request of Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, the name of the Senator from Texas (Mr. CORNYN) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 4199 intended to be proposed to H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 4203

At the request of Mr. WARNER, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BRAUN) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 4203 intended to be proposed to H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 4235

At the request of Mr. CRUZ, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. DAINES) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 4235 intended to be proposed to H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 4236

At the request of Mr. DAINES, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. SULLIVAN) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 4236 intended to be proposed to H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 4259

At the request of Mr. LUJÁN, the name of the Senator from Arizona (Ms. SINEMA) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 4259 intended to be proposed to H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 4260

At the request of Mr. LUJÁN, the names of the Senator from Arizona (Ms. SINEMA) and the Senator from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 4260 intended to be proposed to H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 4286

At the request of Mr. SCOTT of Florida, the name of the Senator from Texas (Mr. CRUZ) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 4286 intended to be proposed to H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 4298

At the request of Mr. BLUMENTHAL, the name of the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. GRAHAM) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 4298 intended to be proposed to H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 4305

At the request of Mr. BLUMENTHAL, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. MURPHY) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 4305 intended to be proposed to H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 4313

At the request of Ms. DUCKWORTH, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. LUJÁN) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 4313 intended to be proposed to H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 4332

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the names of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS) and the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 4332 intended to be proposed to H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 4339

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 4339 intended to be proposed to H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 4345

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the names of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. PORTMAN) and the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 4345 intended to be proposed to H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 4389

At the request of Mr. VAN HOLLEN, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 4389 intended to be proposed to H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 4415

At the request of Mr. PETERS, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BRAUN) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 4415 intended to be proposed to H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 4422

At the request of Mr. ROUNDS, the names of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. SMITH) and the Senator from Georgia (Mr. OSSOFF) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 4422 intended to be proposed to H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 4425

At the request of Mr. REED, the name of the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. GRAHAM) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 4425 intended to be proposed to H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 4448

At the request of Mr. GRAHAM, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MARSHALL) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 4448 intended to be proposed to H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 4460

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the name of the Senator from Texas (Mr. CRUZ) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 4460 intended to be proposed to H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 4465

At the request of Mr. SCHATZ, the names of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) and the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 4465 intended to be proposed to H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 4466

At the request of Mr. SCHATZ, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 4466 intended to be proposed to H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 4482

At the request of Mr. HOEVEN, the name of the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. SCOTT) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 4482 intended to be proposed to H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 4528

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the name of the Senator from Arizona (Ms. SINEMA) was added as a cosponsor of

amendment No. 4528 intended to be proposed to H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 4543

At the request of Mr. LEE, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BRAUN) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 4543 intended to be proposed to H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 4552

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BRAUN) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 4552 intended to be proposed to H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 4593

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the names of the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. GRAHAM) and the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BLUNT) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 4593 intended to be proposed to H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 4614

At the request of Mr. SCHATZ, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. YOUNG) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 4614 intended to be proposed to H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 4629

At the request of Ms. DUCKWORTH, the names of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. YOUNG), the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) and the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 4629 intended to be proposed to H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 4645

At the request of Mr. SCHATZ, the name of the Senator from Hawaii (Ms. HIRONO) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 4645 intended to be proposed to H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 4647

At the request of Mr. PETERS, the names of the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING) and the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 4647 intended to be proposed to H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 447—CELEBRATING THE 125TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE NATIONAL GRAIN AND FEED ASSOCIATION AND RECOGNIZING THE ASSOCIATION AND ITS MEMBERS FOR TRANSFORMING THE BOUNTY OF UNITED STATES FARMERS INTO SAFE, NUTRITIOUS, SUSTAINABLE, AND AFFORDABLE HUMAN AND ANIMAL FOOD

Ms. STABENOW (for herself and Mr. BOOZMAN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry:

S. RES. 447

Whereas, on November 9, 1896, a group of 38 grain dealers gathered in Chicago, Illinois, to found the Grain Dealers National Association, which in 1970, became the National Grain and Feed Association, to pursue ''the advancement . . . of the common interests of those regularly engaged in the grain business'';

Whereas the origin of the National Grain and Feed Association is rooted in 5 pressing needs faced by the grain and feed industry at the turn of the 19th century, including the need—

(1) to establish a uniform system of grain inspection and grading;

(2) to construct a procedure for settling trade disputes;

(3) to improve rail grain transportation service;

(4) to develop fair rules to govern the trading of grain and feedstuffs; and

(5) to elevate the business practices of the industry;

Whereas, in 1901, the National Grain and Feed Association formally established an arbitration system, which is believed to be the oldest industry-based arbitration system in North America, to provide a cost-effective and timely mechanism to resolve disputes involving grain, feed, and barge transactions;

Whereas, with 27 regional and State affiliated associations, the National Grain and Feed Association consists of more than 1,000 grain, feed, processing, exporting, and other grain-related companies that operate approximately 8,000 facilities and handle the majority of all grains and oilseeds in the United States;

Whereas the mission of the National Grain and Feed Association is to ''advocate a global open market environment to efficiently produce and provide a safe, abundant, affordable, sustainable and wholesome supply of grain, oilseeds, feed and related products responsive to market demand'';

Whereas the National Grain and Feed Association fulfills its mission through representation, employee safety and feed quality training, communication, development of future leaders, facilitation of the exchange of ideas, and education to members, government, and the public; and

Whereas the National Grain and Feed Association has advocated for the interests of individuals in the grain, feed, and processing industry with respect to the crafting, consideration, and enactment of major legislation impacting the quality, standards, safety, and transportation of grains, oilseeds, and feed in the United States: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) celebrates the 125th anniversary of the National Grain and Feed Association;

(2) recognizes the National Grain and Feed Association and its members for transforming the bounty of United States farmers into safe, nutritious, sustainable, and affordable human and animal food; and

(3) commends the National Grain and Feed Association for its longstanding and continuing efforts to advocate for grain, feed, and processing interests critical to the agricultural value chain and the competitiveness of the United States.

SENATE RESOLUTION 448—DESIGNATING NOVEMBER 19, 2021, AS ''TSA APPRECIATION DAY''

Mr. PETERS (for himself and Mr. PORTMAN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 448

Whereas November 19, 2021, marks the 20th anniversary of the signing of the Aviation and Transportation Security Act (Public Law 107–71; 115 Stat. 597) by President George W. Bush, creating the Transportation Security Administration (commonly known as the ''TSA'');

Whereas, after the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001, the TSA was established with the mission to prevent similar attacks and restore confidence in air travel;

Whereas, for 20 years, employees and officers of the TSA have been on the front lines ensuring safety in the skies and for the traveling public;

Whereas, during the COVID–19 pandemic, the TSA quickly adjusted its security operations in order to meet current and future security needs of transportation systems in the United States;

Whereas, throughout the COVID–19 pandemic, the TSA has remained on the front lines at airports in the United States;

Whereas more than 10,000 employees of the TSA have tested positive for COVID–19, and more than 30 employees of the TSA have lost their lives to COVID–19; and

Whereas the people of the United States will continue to be able to rely upon the vigilance of the TSA in the face of future unknown threats: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates November 19, 2021, as ''TSA Appreciation Day''; and

(2) recognizes—

(A) the service and sacrifices made by employees and officers of the Transportation Security Administration; and

(B) the role such employees and officers play in keeping the United States secure.

SENATE RESOLUTION 449—DESIGNATING NOVEMBER 2021 AS ''NATIONAL COLLEGE APPLICATION MONTH''

Mr. COONS (for himself, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, Ms. ERNST, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. CARPER, Mr. CASEY, and Mr. VAN HOLLEN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 449

Whereas equality of opportunity for all people is one of the noblest aspirations of the United States;

Whereas the United States has created shared economic growth and strengthened civic engagement through making higher education widely available;

Whereas higher education enhances the economic mobility of individual students and their families, which is evidenced by—

(1) a finding by the Brookings Institute that the median lifetime earnings of holders of an associate degree are uniformly greater than the median lifetime earnings of holders of solely a high school diploma;

(2) a finding by the Pew Economic Mobility Project that, for an individual born in the lowest income quintile, obtaining a 4-year degree or a higher degree is associated with—

(A) an approximately 70 percent difference in the probability of that individual earning an income outside the lowest income quintile; and

(B) a threefold difference in the probability of that individual going on to earn an income in the highest income quintile;

(3) the unemployment rate of high school graduates in 2020 who did not immediately matriculate to an institution of higher education the following fall semester was 19.5 percent, which has increased during the COVID–19 pandemic and was almost 3 times higher than the overall unemployment rate of the United States; and

(4) the unemployment rate of adults whose highest credential is a high school diploma is almost double that of those with a bachelor's degree;

Whereas the National Student Clearinghouse reports that undergraduate enrollment in higher education has declined precipitously since the beginning of the COVID–19 pandemic, particularly for students in poverty and students of color, as evidenced by—

(1) 6.8 percent less high school graduates immediately matriculated to an institution of higher education the following fall semester in 2020, which represents a decline 4.5 times greater than the decline from the prior year;

(2) the decline described in paragraph (1) was most notable among graduates at high poverty high schools, who faced an 11.4 percent decline from 2019 in immediate matriculation to an institution of higher education; and

(3) the decline described in paragraph (1) also disproportionately affected high school graduates at high minority population schools where college enrollment declined by 9.4 percent from 2019, which represents a decline 10 times greater than the decline from the prior year;

Whereas the complexity of financial aid systems and rising college costs can serve as additional deterrents or barriers for students and families as they assess the viability of higher education programs as a postsecondary option;

Whereas many students and their families struggle to identify and compare postsecondary options due to—

(1) difficulties accessing school counseling services in high school, which is evidenced by an estimation of the American School Counselor Association that the student-to-counselor ratio in the United States is 424 to 1;

(2) an absence of reliable programmatic and institutional outcome data; and

(3) a lack of comparable and understandable college financial aid offers;

Whereas, in addition to expanding outreach and support to recent high school graduates, colleges and universities must also expand outreach and support to adults without a postsecondary degree or credential;

Whereas the most recent data available from the National Postsecondary Student Aid Study commissioned by the National Center for Education Statistics found that, of undergraduate students in the United States—

(1) approximately 27 percent are older than 25 years of age;

(2) 38 percent are enrolled part-time;

(3) 24 percent are parents; and

(4) 86 percent live off-campus;

Whereas the National Center for Education Statistics highlights that completion of the Free Application for Federal Student Aid is one of the best predictors of immediate college enrollment, as high school seniors who complete the application are 84 percent more likely to begin postsecondary education in the fall following high school graduation;

Whereas applications for State-based financial aid are available in many States for students who do not qualify for Federal student aid; and

Whereas the ongoing impact of the COVID–19 pandemic on communities, families, and educational systems across the United States underscores and reinforces the value of ensuring that all individuals, including students enrolled in high school and working adults—

(1) understand their postsecondary options;

(2) understand college financing opportunities; and

(3) have support to navigate the college application and financial aid processes: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates November 2021 as ''National College Application Month'';

(2) encourages the people of the United States to—

(A) evaluate options for pursuing higher education;

(B) submit a Free Application for Federal Student Aid or an appropriate application for State-based financial aid in order to receive college financing opportunities; and

(C) support every student, regardless of the background, age, or resources of the student, in obtaining the skills and knowledge needed to thrive;

(3) supports efforts to better assist and increase opportunities for low-income, first-generation college students, and students of color, throughout the financial aid process, college application process, and beyond;

(4) urges public officials, educators, families, students, and communities in the United States to observe National College Application Month with appropriate activities and programs designed to encourage students and families to consider, research, and apply to college and for financial aid; and

(5) commends teachers, school counselors, mentors, and families who support students throughout the college application process, as well as the organizations and institutions partnering to eliminate barriers to higher education.

SENATE RESOLUTION 450—DESIGNATING NOVEMBER 17, 2021, AS ''NATIONAL GIS DAY''

Mr. RISCH submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 450

Whereas the management, use, and exchange of geographic information and geospatial data and analysis are essential for operations and decision making in Federal agencies;

Whereas Geographic Information System technology (referred to in this preamble as ''GIS'') embraces new and innovative ways to use, discover, and share geospatial data through online portals and web services;

Whereas GIS facilitates the sharing of geographic data, services, and maps within a digital domain;

Whereas GIS helps provide shared and trusted geospatial data, services, and applications for use—

(1) by the public; and

(2) by government agencies and partners of government agencies to carry out the missions of such agencies and partners;

Whereas GIS helps foster collaboration and partnerships to advance the National Spatial Data Infrastructure (referred to in this preamble as the ''NSDI'');

Whereas GIS provides a common framework for the Federal Government and State, Tribal, and local governments, non-Federal partners, communities, constituents, and professional bodies for standards, data catalogs, partnerships, and tools that make up the NSDI;

Whereas GIS is used to investigate and address societal and cultural issues, including—

(1) local issues;

(2) global issues;

(3) issues from the past;

(4) issues in the present; and

(5) future issues identified through modeling;

Whereas GIS and related geospatial technologies are used in classrooms to engage students in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) learning;

Whereas GIS is an interdisciplinary tool used by students, teachers, researchers, universities, local institutions, and practitioners in numerous fields and disciplines;

Whereas GIS fosters competition within the sector of geospatial technologies, which the Department of Labor considers to be a high-growth industry; and

Whereas many Federal agencies, State and local government agencies, nonprofit organizations, schools, libraries, and universities will join other persons around the world to showcase their GIS mapping and geospatial applications on November 17, 2021: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates November 17, 2021, as ''National GIS Day''; and

(2) encourages users of Geographic Information System technology (referred to in this resolution as ''GIS''), educators, students, and innovators to continue to employ GIS—

(A) to learn and explore;

(B) to analyze and address societal challenges; and

(C) to drive economic growth for the betterment of the people of the United States and individuals around the world.

SENATE RESOLUTION 451—HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF THE LATE SENATOR MAX CLELAND

Mr. WARNOCK (for himself, Mr. OSSOFF, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. MCCONNELL, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. BENNET, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BLUNT, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. BRAUN, Mr. BROWN, Mr. BURR, Ms. CANTWELL, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. CARPER, Mr. CASEY, Mr. CASSIDY, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. COONS, Mr. CORNYN, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mr. COTTON, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. DAINES, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. DURBIN, Ms. ERNST, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mrs. FISCHER, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. HAGERTY, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. HAWLEY, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. HICKENLOOPER, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. HOEVEN, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. KAINE, Mr. KELLY, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. KING, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. LEE, Mr. LUJÁN, Ms. LUMMIS, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. MORAN, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. MURPHY, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. PAUL, Mr. PETERS, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. REED, Mr. RISCH, Mr. ROMNEY, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. ROUNDS, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. SASSE, Mr. SCHATZ, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. SHELBY, Ms. SINEMA, Ms. SMITH, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. SULLIVAN, Mr. TESTER, Mr. THUNE, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. TOOMEY, Mr. TUBERVILLE, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. WARNER, Ms. WARREN, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. WICKER, Mr. WYDEN, and Mr. YOUNG) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 451

Whereas Joseph Maxwell Cleland was born August 24, 1942, in Atlanta, Georgia, the child of Juanita Kesler Cleland and Joseph Hughie Cleland, a World War II veteran, and grew up in Lithonia, Georgia;

Whereas Joseph Maxwell Cleland graduated from Stetson University in Florida in 1964, and received his Master's Degree in history from Emory University in Atlanta, Georgia;

Whereas, following his graduation from Stetson University, Joseph Maxwell Cleland received a Second Lieutenant's Commission in the Army through its Reserve Officers' Training Corps program;

Whereas Joseph Maxwell Cleland volunteered for duty in the Vietnam War in 1967, serving with the 1st Cavalry Division;

Whereas, on April 8, 1968, during combat at the mountain base at Khe Sanh, Joseph Maxwell Cleland was gravely injured by the blast of a grenade, eventually losing both his legs and right arm;

Whereas Joseph Maxwell Cleland was awarded the Bronze Star for meritorious service and the Silver Star for gallantry in action;

Whereas, in 1970, Joseph Maxwell Cleland was elected to the Georgia Senate as the youngest member and the only Vietnam veteran, where he served until 1975;

Whereas, as a Georgia State Senator, Joseph Maxwell Cleland authored and advanced legislation to ensure access to public facilities in Georgia for elderly and handicapped individuals;

Whereas, in 1976, Joseph Maxwell Cleland began serving as a staffer on the United States Senate Committee on Veterans Affairs;

Whereas, in 1977, Joseph Maxwell Cleland was appointed by President Jimmy Carter to lead the Veterans Administration;

Whereas he was the youngest Administrator of the United States Veterans Administration ever and the first Vietnam veteran to head the agency;

Whereas he served as a champion for veterans and led the Veterans Administration to recognize, and begin to treat, post-traumatic stress disorder in veterans suffering the invisible wounds of war;

Whereas Joseph Maxwell Cleland was elected in 1982 as Georgia's Secretary of State, the youngest individual to hold the office, and served in that position for 14 years;

Whereas, in 1996, Joseph Maxwell Cleland was elected to the United States Senate representing Georgia;

Whereas as a member of the Committee on Armed Services, Joseph Maxwell Cleland advocated for Georgia's military bases, servicemembers, and veterans, including by championing key personnel issues, playing a critical role in the effort to allow servicemembers to pass their GI Bill education benefits to their children, and establishing a new veterans cemetery in Canton, Georgia;

Whereas, in 2002, Joseph Maxwell Cleland was appointed to the 9/11 Commission;

Whereas, in 2003, Joseph Maxwell Cleland was appointed by President George W. Bush to the Board of Directors for the Export-Import Bank of the United States, where he served until 2007;

Whereas, in 2009, Joseph Maxwell Cleland was appointed by President Barack Obama as Secretary of the American Battle Monuments Commission overseeing United States military cemeteries and monuments overseas, where he served until 2017;

Whereas Joseph Maxwell Cleland authored 3 books: Strong at the Broken Places, Going for the Max: 12 Principles for Living Life to the Fullest, and Heart of a Patriot;

Whereas Joseph Maxwell Cleland received numerous honors and awards over the course of his long and distinguished career;

Whereas Joseph Maxwell Cleland was a patriot, veteran, and lifelong civil servant who proudly served Georgia, the United States, and all veterans and servicemembers of the United States; and

Whereas, on November 9, 2021, at the age of 79, Joseph Maxwell Cleland died, leaving behind a legacy of service, sacrifice, and joy: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That—

(1) the Senate—

(A) has heard with profound sorrow and deep regret the announcement of the death of Joseph Maxwell Cleland;

(B) honors the life and legacy of the late Senator Joseph Maxwell Cleland for his—

(i) courage and sacrifice in combat in the Vietnam War;

(ii) unwavering dedication to Georgia as a State Senator, Secretary of State, and Senator; and

(iii) honorable service to the United States and veterans of the United States through his lifetime of public service and tenure as Administrator of the Veterans Administration;

(C) proclaims that Joseph Maxwell Cleland—

(i) represented the best of Georgia's commitment to the United States; and

(ii) served continually for more than 50 years with an unwavering commitment to public service; and

(D) respectfully requests that the Secretary of the Senate—

(i) communicate this resolution to the House of Representatives; and

(ii) transmit an enrolled copy of this resolution to the family of Joseph Maxwell Cleland; and

(2) when the Senate adjourns today, it stand adjourned as a further mark of respect to the memory of Joseph Maxwell Cleland.

SENATE RESOLUTION 452—RECOGNIZING NOVEMBER 2021 AS ''NATIONAL HOMELESS CHILDREN AND YOUTH AWARENESS MONTH''

Mr. MANCHIN (for himself, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. WYDEN, Ms. CANTWELL, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. COONS, Mr. PETERS, Ms. HIRONO, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, and Mr. REED) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 452

Whereas, in the United States, public schools identified approximately 1,400,000 homeless children and youth during the 2018–2019 school year;

Whereas an estimated 1,300,000 children younger than 6 years of age in 2018–2019 and approximately 4,200,000 youth and young adults in 2017 experienced homelessness, with many such children, youth, and young adults staying on couches, in motels, in shelters, or outside;

Whereas infants experiencing homelessness are at a higher risk for certain illnesses and health conditions, and families experiencing homelessness are more likely to experience involvement in the child welfare system and difficulty with school attendance;

Whereas more than 1 in 3 high school students experiencing homelessness had attempted suicide, and nearly 1 in 4 high school students experiencing homelessness had experienced dating violence;

Whereas individuals without a high school degree or general educational development certificate (GED) are more than 3 times more likely to report homelessness than their peers, making lack of education the leading risk factor for homelessness;

Whereas, in 2018, the high school graduation rate for students experiencing homelessness was 67.8 percent, compared to 80 percent for low-income students and 85.5 percent for all students;

Whereas the rate of youth homelessness is the same in rural, suburban, and urban areas;

Whereas 29 percent of unaccompanied homeless youth between 13 and 25 years of age have spent time in foster care, compared to approximately 6 percent of all children;

Whereas homelessness among children and youth is a complex issue that often co-occurs with deep poverty, low education and employment levels, substance misuse and abuse, mental illness, lack of affordable housing, and family conflict;

Whereas COVID–19 in the United States, which was declared a national emergency under the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1601 et seq.), has had a disproportionate effect on children, youth, and families experiencing homelessness; and

Whereas awareness of child and youth homelessness must be heightened to encourage greater support for effective programs to help children and youth overcome homelessness: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) supports the efforts of businesses, State and local governments, organizations, educators, and volunteers dedicated to meeting the needs of homeless children and youth;

(2) applauds the initiatives of businesses, State and local governments, organizations, educators, and volunteers that—

(A) use time and resources to raise awareness of child and youth homelessness, the causes of such homelessness, and potential solutions; and

(B) work to prevent homelessness among children and youth;

(3) recognizes November 2021 as ''National Homeless Children and Youth Awareness Month''; and

(4) encourages those businesses, State and local governments, organizations, educators, and volunteers to continue to intensify their efforts to address homelessness among children and youth during November 2021.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 21—ESTABLISHING DEADLINES FOR THE JOINT COMMITTEE OF CONGRESS ON THE LIBRARY TO APPROVE OR DENY THE STATUE OF THE REVEREND WILLIAM FRANKLIN ''BILLY'' GRAHAM, JR. FOR PLACEMENT IN THE NATIONAL STATUARY HALL

Mr. TILLIS submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Rules and Administration:

S. CON. RES. 21

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That the Joint Committee of Congress on the Library shall approve or deny—

(1) the full-sized clay model and pedestal design of a statue of the Reverend William Franklin ''Billy'' Graham, Jr., not later than 30 days after the State of North Carolina submits to the Architect of the Capitol photographs of the model from all 4 sides, the dimensions of the statue and pedestal, engineering drawings of the pedestal, the anticipated weight of the completed statue and pedestal, and the text of any proposed inscriptions; and

(2) the completed statue of the Reverend William Franklin ''Billy'' Graham, Jr., not later than 30 days after the State of North Carolina submits to the Architect of the Capitol photographs of the completed statue and pedestal from all 4 sides, the dimensions of the statue and pedestal, the final weight of the statue and pedestal, and the text of any inscriptions.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 4660. Mr. KENNEDY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4661. Mr. COTTON submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4662. Mr. KING (for himself, Mr. ROUNDS, Mr. SASSE, Ms. ROSEN, Ms. HASSAN, and Mr. OSSOFF) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4663. Mr. BLUMENTHAL (for himself and Ms. MURKOWSKI) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4664. Mr. BLUMENTHAL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4665. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4666. Mr. SULLIVAN (for himself, Mr. KING, and Ms. HIRONO) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4667. Mr. SULLIVAN (for himself and Mr. WHITEHOUSE) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4668. Mr. CRUZ (for himself, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. COONS, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. HAWLEY, Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. LUJÁN, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. BENNET, and Mr. HICKENLOOPER) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4669. Mr. TOOMEY (for himself and Mr. CARDIN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4670. Mr. BARRASSO submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4671. Mr. TOOMEY (for himself and Mr. CASEY) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4672. Mr. KENNEDY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4673. Mr. PETERS (for himself and Mr. PORTMAN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4674. Mr. PETERS (for himself and Mr. PORTMAN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4675. Mr. SULLIVAN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4676. Ms. KLOBUCHAR submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4677. Ms. KLOBUCHAR submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4678. Mr. SCHUMER (for himself and Mr. BENNET) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4679. Mr. VAN HOLLEN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4680. Mr. BENNET (for himself, Mr. HICKENLOOPER, and Mr. CRAMER) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4681. Mr. LUJÁN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4682. Mr. RISCH submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4683. Mr. LANKFORD submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4684. Mr. KENNEDY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4685. Mrs. BLACKBURN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4686. Mr. CORNYN (for himself and Mr. KING) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4687. Mr. BENNET (for himself, Mr. HICKENLOOPER, and Mr. CRAMER) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4688. Ms. CORTEZ MASTO (for herself and Mr. DAINES) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4689. Mr. SCHUMER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4690. Mr. SULLIVAN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4691. Mr. HAGERTY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R.

4350, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4692. Mr. HAGERTY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4693. Mr. HAGERTY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4694. Mr. HAGERTY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4695. Mr. HAGERTY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4696. Mr. HAGERTY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4697. Mr. HAGERTY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4698. Mr. HAGERTY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4699. Mr. HAGERTY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4700. Mr. HAGERTY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4701. Mr. HAGERTY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4702. Mr. HAGERTY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4703. Mr. HAGERTY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4704. Mr. HAGERTY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4705. Mr. LEE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4706. Mr. COTTON submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4707. Mr. WHITEHOUSE (for himself and Ms. HASSAN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 4350, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4708. Mr. WHITEHOUSE (for himself and Mr. GRASSLEY) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 4350, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4709. Mr. VAN HOLLEN (for himself and Mr. SULLIVAN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4710. Mr. CASSIDY (for himself and Mr. SCHATZ) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4711. Mr. MCCONNELL (for himself, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. YOUNG, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. HAGERTY, and Mr. CARDIN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4712. Mr. WHITEHOUSE (for himself and Mr. PORTMAN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4713. Mr. PADILLA submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4714. Mr. REED (for himself and Mr. INHOFE) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4715. Mr. ROUNDS (for Mr. INHOFE) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4716. Mr. HAGERTY (for himself and Mrs. BLACKBURN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4717. Mr. BROWN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4718. Mr. BROWN (for himself and Mr. WARNER) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4719. Mr. BROWN (for himself and Mr. CASEY) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4720. Mr. ROUNDS (for Mr. INHOFE) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 4431 submitted by Mr. INHOFE and intended to be proposed to the amendment SA 3867 proposed by Mr. REED to the bill H.R. 4350, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4721. Mr. WARNOCK submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4722. Mr. SANDERS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4723. Mr. DAINES (for himself and Ms. WARREN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4724. Mr. KING (for himself, Mr. ROUNDS, Mr. SASSE, Ms. ROSEN, Ms. HASSAN, and Mr. OSSOFF) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4725. Ms. CORTEZ MASTO (for herself and Mr. KAINE) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4726. Mr. KING (for himself, Mr. ROUNDS, Mr. SASSE, Ms. ROSEN, Ms. HASSAN, and Mr. OSSOFF) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4727. Mr. SULLIVAN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4728. Mr. WARNER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4729. Mr. WARNER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4730. Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself and Mr. RISCH) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4731. Mr. THUNE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 4350, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4732. Mr. REED submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 4660. Mr. KENNEDY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle B of title XII, add the following:

SEC. 1216. OPPOSITION TO ALLOCATION OF SPECIAL DRAWING RIGHTS BY INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND THAT WOULD BENEFIT TALIBAN.

Section 6 of the Special Drawing Rights Act (22 U.S.C. 286q) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(c) OPPOSITION TO ALLOCATION OF SPECIAL DRAWING RIGHTS THAT WOULD BENEFIT TALIBAN.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Unless Congress by law authorizes such action, neither the President nor any person or agency shall on behalf of the United States—

''(A) vote to allocate Special Drawing Rights under article XVIII, sections 2 and 3, of the Articles of Agreement of the Fund to Afghanistan if Afghanistan would receive Special Drawing Rights under the allocation and the Taliban or any associate of the Taliban would benefit from the allocation; or

''(B) act as a counterparty, directly or indirectly, for any exchange with the Government of Afghanistan of Special Drawing Rights for currencies while the Government of Afghanistan is controlled by the Taliban, is organized by the Taliban, or is constituted so that the Taliban is part of that Government.

''(2) TALIBAN DEFINED.—In this subsection, the term 'Taliban' means the entity—

''(A) known as the Taliban and designated as a specially designated global terrorist organization 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); or

''(B) a successor entity.''.

SA 4661. Mr. COTTON submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of title XIV, add the following:

Subtitle D—Extraction and Processing of Defense Minerals in the United States

SEC. 1431. SHORT TITLE.

This subtitle may be cited as the ''Restoring Essential Energy and Security Holdings Onshore for Rare Earths and Critical Minerals Act of 2021'' or the ''REEShore Critical Minerals Act of 2021''.

SEC. 1432. DEFINITIONS.

In this subtitle:

(1) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.—The term ''appropriate congressional committees'' means—

(A) the Committee on Armed Services, the Committee on Foreign Relations, the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, and the Select Committee on Intelligence of the Senate; and

(B) the Committee on Armed Services, the Committee on Foreign Affairs, the Committee on Natural Resources, the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence of the House of Representatives.

(2) CRITICAL MINERAL.—The term ''critical mineral'' has the meaning given that term in section 7002(a) of the Energy Act of 2020 (division Z of Public Law 116–260; 30 U.S.C. 1606(a)).

(3) DEFENSE MINERAL PRODUCT.—The term ''defense mineral product'' means any product—

(A) formed or comprised of, or manufactured from, one or more critical minerals; and

(B) used in critical military defense technologies or other related applications of the Department of Defense.

(4) PROCESSED OR REFINED.—The term ''processed or refined'' means any process by which a defense mineral is extracted, separated, or otherwise manipulated to render the mineral usable for manufacturing a defense mineral product.

SEC. 1433. REPORT ON STRATEGIC CRITICAL MINERAL AND DEFENSE MINERAL PRODUCTS RESERVE.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that the storage of substantial quantities of critical minerals and defense mineral products will—

(1) diminish the vulnerability of the United States to the effects of a severe supply chain interruption; and

(2) provide limited protection from the short-term consequences of an interruption in supplies of defense mineral products.

(b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that, in procuring critical minerals and defense mineral products, the Secretary of Defense should prioritize procurement of critical minerals and defense mineral products from sources in the United States, including that are mined, produced, separated, and manufactured within the United States.

(c) REPORT REQUIRED.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 270 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the United States Geologic Survey, and the Secretary of Defense, in consultation with the Secretary of Homeland Security, the Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency, and the Director of National Intelligence, shall jointly submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report—

(A) describing the existing authorities and funding levels of the Federal Government to stockpile critical minerals and defense mineral products;

(B) assessing whether those authorities and funding levels are sufficient to meet the requirements of the United States; and

(C) including recommendations to diminish the vulnerability of the United States to disruptions in the supply chains for critical minerals and defense mineral products through changes to policy, procurement regulation, or existing law, including any additional statutory authorities that may be needed.

(2) CONSIDERATIONS.—In developing the report required by paragraph (1), the Secretary of the Interior, the Secretary of Defense, the Secretary of Commerce, the Secretary of Homeland Security, the Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency, and the Director of National Intelligence shall take into consideration the needs of the Armed Forces of the United States, the intelligence community (as defined in section 3(4) of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3003(4))), the defense industrial and technology sectors, and any places, organizations, physical infrastructure, or digital infrastructure designated as critical to the national security of the United States.

SEC. 1434. REPORT ON DISCLOSURES CONCERNING CRITICAL MINERALS BY CONTRACTORS OF DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE.

(a) REPORT REQUIRED.—Not later than December 31, 2022, the Secretary of Defense, after consultation with the Secretary of Commerce, the Secretary of State, and the Secretary of the Interior, shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report that includes—

(1) a review of the existing disclosure requirements with respect to the provenance of magnets used within defense mineral products;

(2) a review of the feasibility of imposing a requirement that any contractor of the Department of Defense provide a disclosure with respect to any system with a defense mineral product that is a permanent magnet, including an identification of the country or countries in which—

(A) the critical minerals used in the magnet were mined;

(B) the critical minerals were refined into oxides;

(C) the critical minerals were made into metals and alloys; and

(D) the magnet was sintered or bonded and magnetized; and

(3) recommendations to Congress for implementing such a requirement, including methods to ensure that any tracking or provenance system is independently verifiable.

SEC. 1435. REPORT ON PROHIBITION ON ACQUISITION OF DEFENSE MATERIALS FROM NON-ALLIED FOREIGN NATIONS.

The Secretary of Defense shall study and submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report on the potential impacts of imposing a restriction that, for any contract entered into or renewed on or after December 31, 2026, for the procurement of a system the export of which is restricted or controlled under the Arms Export Control Act (22 U.S.C. 2751 et seq.), no critical minerals processed or refined in the People's Republic of China may be included in the system.

SEC. 1436. PRODUCTION IN AND USES OF CRITICAL MINERALS BY UNITED STATES ALLIES.

(a) POLICY.—It shall be the policy of the United States to encourage countries that are allies of the United States to eliminate their dependence on non-allied countries for critical minerals to the maximum extent practicable.

(b) REPORT REQUIRED.—Not later than December 31, 2022, and annually thereafter, the Secretary of Defense, in coordination with the Secretary of State, shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report—

(1) describing in detail the discussions of such Secretaries with countries that are allies of the United States concerning supply chain security for critical minerals;

(2) assessing the likelihood of those countries discontinuing the use of critical minerals from foreign entities of concern (as defined in section 9901(6) of the William M. (Mac) Thornberry National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021 (15 U.S.C. 4651(6))) or countries that such Secretaries deem to be of concern; and

(3) assessing initiatives in other countries to increase critical mineral mining and production capabilities.

SA 4662. Mr. KING (for himself, Mr. ROUNDS, Mr. SASSE, Ms. ROSEN, Ms. HASSAN, and Mr. OSSOFF) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal

year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle G of title X, add the following:

SEC. 1064. REPORT ON CYBERSECURITY CERTIFICATIONS AND LABELING.

Not later than October 1, 2022, the National Cyber Director, in consultation with the Director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology and the Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency, shall submit to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the Committee on Homeland Security and the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology of the House of Representatives a report that—

(1) identifies and assesses existing efforts by the Federal Government to create, administer, or otherwise support the use of certifications or labels to communicate the security or security characteristics of information technology or operational technology products and services; and

(2) assesses the viability of and need for a new program at the Department of Homeland Security, or at other Federal agencies as appropriate, to better address information technology and operational technology product and service security certification and labeling efforts across the Federal Government and between the Federal Government and the private sector.

SA 4663. Mr. BLUMENTHAL (for himself and Ms. MURKOWSKI) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place in title VI, insert the following:

Subtitle ____—Arbitration Rights of Members of the Armed Forces and Veterans

SEC. 6_____. SHORT TITLE.

This subtitle may be cited as the ''Justice for Servicemembers Act of 2021''.

SEC. 6_____. PURPOSES.

The purposes of this subtitle are—

(1) to prohibit predispute arbitration agreements that force arbitration of disputes arising from claims brought under chapter 43 of title 38, United States Code, or the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act (50 U.S.C. 3901 et seq.); and

(2) to prohibit agreements and practices that interfere with the right of persons to participate in a joint, class, or collective action related to disputes arising from claims brought under the provisions of the laws described in paragraph (1).

SEC. 6_____. ARBITRATION OF DISPUTES INVOLVING THE RIGHTS OF SERVICEMEMBERS AND VETERANS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Title 9, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

''CHAPTER 4—ARBITRATION OF SERVICEMEMBER AND VETERAN DISPUTES

''Sec.
''401. Definitions.
''402. No validity or enforceability.

''§ 401. Definitions

''In this chapter:

''(1) PREDISPUTE ARBITRATION AGREEMENT.—The term 'predispute arbitration agreement' means an agreement to arbitrate a dispute that has not yet arisen at the time of the making of the agreement.

''(2) PREDISPUTE JOINT-ACTION WAIVER.—The term 'predispute joint-action waiver' means an agreement, whether or not part of a predispute arbitration agreement, that would prohibit, or waive the right of, one of the parties to the agreement to participate in a joint, class, or collective action in a judicial, arbitral, administrative, or other forum, concerning a dispute that has not yet arisen at the time of the making of the agreement.

''§ 402. No validity or enforceability

''(a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of this title, no predispute arbitration agreement or predispute joint-action waiver shall be valid or enforceable with respect to a dispute relating to disputes arising under chapter 43 of title 38 or the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act (50 U.S.C. 3901 et seq.).

''(b) APPLICABILITY.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—An issue as to whether this chapter applies with respect to a dispute shall be determined under Federal law. The applicability of this chapter to an agreement to arbitrate and the validity and enforceability of an agreement to which this chapter applies shall be determined by a court, rather than an arbitrator, irrespective of whether the party resisting arbitration challenges the arbitration agreement specifically or in conjunction with other terms of the contract containing such agreement, and irrespective of whether the agreement purports to delegate such determinations to an arbitrator.

''(2) COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENTS.—Nothing in this chapter shall apply to any arbitration provision in a contract between an employer and a labor organization or between labor organizations, except that no such arbitration provision shall have the effect of waiving the right of a worker to seek judicial enforcement of a right arising under a provision of the Constitution of the United States, a State constitution, or a Federal or State statute, or public policy arising therefrom.''.

(b) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Title 9, United States Code, is amended—

(A) in section 1 by striking ''of seamen,'' and all that follows through ''interstate commerce'' and inserting ''persons and causes of action under chapter 43 of title 38 or the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act (50 U.S.C. 3901 et seq.)'';

(B) in section 2 by inserting ''or as otherwise provided in chapter 4'' before the period at the end;

(C) in section 208—

(i) in the section heading, by striking ''**Chapter 1; residual application**'' and inserting ''**Application**''; and

(ii) by adding at the end the following: ''This chapter applies to the extent that this chapter is not in conflict with chapter 4.''; and

(D) in section 307—

(i) in the section heading, by striking ''**Chapter 1; residual application**'' and inserting ''**Application**''; and

(ii) by adding at the end the following: ''This chapter applies to the extent that this chapter is not in conflict with chapter 4.''.

(2) TABLE OF SECTIONS.—

(A) CHAPTER 2.—The table of sections for chapter 2 of title 9, United States Code, is amended by striking the item relating to section 208 and inserting the following:

''208. Application.''.

(B) CHAPTER 3.—The table of sections for chapter 3 of title 9, United States Code, is amended by striking the item relating to section 307 and inserting the following:

''307. Application.''.

(3) TABLE OF CHAPTERS.—The table of chapters of title 9, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

''4. Arbitration of servicemember and veteran disputes ..... 401''.

SEC. 6_____. LIMITATION ON WAIVER OF RIGHTS AND PROTECTIONS UNDER SERVICEMEMBERS CIVIL RELIEF ACT.

(a) AMENDMENTS.—Section 107(a) of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act (50 U.S.C. 3918(a)) is amended—

(1) in the second sentence, by inserting ''and if it is made after a specific dispute has arisen and the dispute is identified in the waiver'' before the period at the end; and

(2) in the third sentence by inserting ''and if it is made after a specific dispute has arisen and the dispute is identified in the waiver'' before the period at the end.

(b) APPLICATION OF AMENDMENTS.—The amendments made by subsection (a) shall apply with respect to waivers made on or after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 6_____. APPLICABILITY.

This subtitle, and the amendments made by this subtitle, shall apply with respect to any dispute or claim that arises or accrues on or after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SA 4664. Mr. BLUMENTHAL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle D of title VIII, add the following:

SEC. 844. UNFUNDED SMALL BUSINESS INNOVATION RESEARCH PROJECTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 10 days after the date on which the budget of the President for a fiscal year is submitted to Congress pursuant to section 1105 of title 31, United States Code, each Secretary of a military department and the Under Secretary of Defense for Research and Engineering shall submit to the Secretary of Defense, the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and the congressional defense committees a report on unfunded priorities of the Department of Defense related to high priority Small Business Innovation Research and Small Business Technology Transfer projects.

(b) ELEMENTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Each report under subsection (a) shall include identification of not more than five unfunded priority projects, with information for each project covered by such report, including the following information:

(A) A summary description of such priority, including the objectives to be achieved if such priority were to be funded (whether in whole or in part).

(B) The additional amount of funds recommended in connection with the objectives identified under subparagraph (A).

(C) Account information with respect to such priority, including, as applicable, the following:

(i) Line item number, in the case of applicable procurement accounts.

(ii) Program element number, in the case of applicable research, development, test, and evaluation accounts.

(iii) Sub-activity group, in the case of applicable operation and maintenance accounts.

(2) PRIORITY ORDER.—Each Secretary shall ensure that the unfunded priorities covered by a report under subsection (a) are listed in the order of urgency of priority, as determined by the Under Secretary.

(c) UNFUNDED PRIORITY DEFINED.—In this section, the term ''unfunded priority'', with respect to a fiscal year, means a project related to a successful project funded under Phase Two of the Small Business Innovation Research or Small Business Technology Transfer program that—

(1) is not funded in the budget of the President for that fiscal year, as submitted to Congress pursuant to section 1105 of title 31, United States Code;

(2) has the potential to—

(A) advance the national security capabilities of the United States;

(B) provide new technologies or processes, or new applications of existing technologies, that will enable new alternatives to existing programs; and

(C) provide future cost savings; and

(3) would have been recommended for funding through the budget referred to in paragraph (1) if—

(A) additional resources had been available for the budget to fund the program, activity, or mission requirement; or

(B) the program, activity, or mission requirement had emerged before the budget was formulated.

SA 4665. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle E of title VIII, add the following:

SEC. 857. AIR FORCE STRATEGY FOR ACQUISITION OF COMBAT RESCUE AIRCRAFT AND EQUIPMENT.

The Secretary of the Air Force shall submit to the congressional defense committees a strategy for the Department of the Air Force for the acquisition of combat rescue aircraft and equipment that aligns with the stated capability and capacity requirements of the Air Force to meet the national defense strategy (required under section 113(g) of title 10, United States Code), taking into account regional strategies such as those relating to the Indo-Pacific and Arctic regions.

SA 4666. Mr. SULLIVAN (for himself, Mr. KING, and Ms. HIRONO) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle E of title XII, add the following:

SEC. 1253. BRIEFING ON PROGRAMMING AND BUDGETING FOR THE PACIFIC DETERRENCE INITIATIVE.

(a) BRIEFING.—Not later than 60 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Deputy Secretary of Defense shall provide to the congressional defense committees a briefing on the processes and guidance used to program and budget for the Pacific Deterrence Initiative, including—

(1) the allocation of fiscal toplines in the program objective memorandum process to support the Pacific Deterrence Initiative at the outset of the process;

(2) the role of the combatant commanders in setting requirements for the Pacific Deterrence Initiative;

(3) the role of the military departments and other components of the Armed Forces in proposing programmatic options to meet such requirements; and

(4) the role of the combatant commanders, the military departments and other components of the Armed Forces, the Cost Assessment and Program Evaluation Office, and the Deputy Secretary of Defense in adjudicating requirements and programmatic options—

(A) before the submission of the program objective memorandum for the Pacific Deterrence Initiative; and

(B) during program review.

(b) GUIDANCE.—In establishing program objective memorandum guidance for fiscal year 2024, the Deputy Secretary of Defense shall ensure that the processes and guidance used to program and budget the Pacific Deterrence Initiative align, as appropriate, with the processes and guidance used to program and budget for the European Deterrence Initiative, including through the allocation of fiscal toplines for each such initiative in the fiscal year 2024 process.

SA 4667. Mr. SULLIVAN (for himself and Mr. WHITEHOUSE) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle F of title X, add the following:

SEC. 1054. REPORT ON EFFORTS OF COMBATANT COMMANDS TO COMBAT THREATS POSED BY ILLEGAL, UNREPORTED, AND UNREGULATED FISHING.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the Navy, in consultation with the Chief of Naval Research, the chair and deputy chairs of the Interagency Working Group on IUU Fishing, and the heads of other relevant agencies, as determined by the Secretary, shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a report on the maritime domain awareness efforts of the combatant commands to combat the threats posed by illegal, unreported, and unregulated fishing.

(b) ELEMENTS.—The report required by subsection (a) shall include a detailed summary of each of the following for each combatant command:

(1) Activities undertaken as of the date on which the report is submitted to combat the threats posed by illegal, unreported, and unregulated fishing in the geographic area of the combatant command, including the steps taken to build the capacity of partners to combat those threats.

(2) Coordination among the United States Armed Forces, partner countries, and public-private partnerships to combat the threats described in paragraph (1).

(3) Efforts undertaken to support unclassified data integration, analysis, and delivery with regional partners to combat the threats described in paragraph (1).

(4) Information sharing and coordination with efforts of the Interagency Working Group on IUU Fishing.

(5) Best practices and lessons learned from ongoing and previous efforts relating to the threats described in paragraph (1), including strategies for coordination and successes in public-private partnerships.

(6) Limitations related to affordability, resource constraints, or other gaps or factors that constrain the success or expansion of efforts related to the threats described in paragraph (1).

(7) Any new authorities needed to support efforts to combat the threats described in paragraph (1).

(c) FORM.—The report required by subsection (a) shall be submitted in unclassified form, but may include a classified annex.

(d) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS.—The term ''appropriate committees of Congress'' means—

(A) Committee on Armed Services, the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, the Committee on Foreign Relations, and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate; and

(B) the Committee on Armed Services, the Committee on Natural Resources, the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives.

(2) INTERAGENCY WORKING GROUP ON IUU FISHING.—The term ''Interagency Working Group on IUU Fishing'' means the working group established by section 3551 of the Maritime Security and Fisheries Enforcement Act (16 U.S.C. 8031).

SA 4668. Mr. CRUZ (for himself, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. COONS, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. HAWLEY, Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. LUJÁN, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. BENNET, and Mr. HICKENLOOPER) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle E of title V, add the following:

SEC. 576. PROHIBITION ON LIMITING OF CERTAIN PARENTAL GUARDIANSHIP RIGHTS OF CADETS AND MIDSHIPMEN.

(a) PROHIBITION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Defense, the Secretary of Homeland Security, and the Secretary of Transportation, in consultation with the Secretaries of the military departments and the Superintendent of each Federal service academy, as appropriate, shall prescribe in regulations policies that include the option to preserve parental guardianship

rights of cadets and midshipmen are protected consistent with individual and academic responsibilities.

(2) DEVELOPMENT OF POLICY TO PROTECT PARENTAL RIGHTS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense, the Secretary of Homeland Security, and the Secretary of Transportation shall implement a policy that includes the option to preserve the parental rights of Federal service academy students who become pregnant or father a child while attending a Federal service academy.

(B) REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense, the Secretary of Homeland Security, and the Secretary of Transportation shall submit to the congressional defense committees a report on the legislative changes needed to support the policy developed pursuant to paragraph (1).

(3) OPTIONS FOR PREGNANT CADETS AND MIDSHIPMEN.—The regulations prescribed under paragraph (1) shall provide that females who become pregnant while enrolled at a Federal service academy shall have, at a minimum, the following options to be elected by the cadet or midshipman:

(A) At the conclusion of the current semester or when otherwise deemed medically appropriate, the individual may take an unpaid leave of absence from the Federal service academy for up to one year followed by a return to full cadet or midshipman status (if remaining otherwise qualified).

(B) Seek a transfer to a university with a Reserve Officer Training Program for military service under the military department concerned.

(C) Full release from the Federal service academy and any service or financially related obligations, regardless of commitment status.

(D) Enlistment in military active-duty service, with all of the attendant benefits.

(4) TREATMENT OF MALES WHO FATHER A CHILD WHILE ENROLLED AT A FEDERAL SERVICE ACADEMY.—The regulations prescribed under paragraph (1) shall provide for the following policies regarding males who may father a child while enrolled at a Federal service academy:

(A) Academy leadership shall establish policies to allow cadets and midshipmen at least two weeks of leave to attend the birth, which must be used in conjunction with the birth; and

(B) The academy shall provide the father the same options available to a cadet or midshipman who becomes a mother while enrolled by selecting one of the options outlined in subparagraphs (B) and (C) of paragraph (3).

(b) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this section shall be construed as requiring or providing for the changing of admission requirements at any of the Federal service academies.

(c) FEDERAL SERVICE ACADEMY DEFINED.—In this section, the term ''Federal service academy'' means the following:

(1) The United States Military Academy, West Point, New York.

(2) The United States Naval Academy, Annapolis, Maryland.

(3) The United States Air Force Academy, Colorado Springs, Colorado.

(4) The United States Coast Guard Academy, New London, Connecticut.

(5) The United States Merchant Marine Academy, Kings Point, New York.

SA 4669. Mr. TOOMEY (for himself and Mr. CARDIN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of title XII, add the following:

Subtitle H—Iran Sanctions

SEC. 1291. SHORT TITLE.

This subtitle may be cited as the ''Masih Alinejad Harassment and Unlawful Targeting Act of 2021'' or the ''Masih Alinejad HUNT Act''.

SEC. 1292. FINDINGS.

Congress finds that the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran surveils, harasses, terrorizes, tortures, abducts, and murders individuals who peacefully defend human rights and freedoms in Iran, and innocent entities and individuals considered by the Government of Iran to be enemies of that regime, including United States citizens on United States soil, and takes foreign nationals hostage, including in the following instances:

(1) In 2021, Iranian intelligence agents were indicted for plotting to kidnap United States citizen, women's rights activist, and journalist Masih Alinejad, from her home in New York City, in retaliation for exercising her rights under the First Amendment to the Constitution of the United States. Iranian agents allegedly spent at least approximately half a million dollars to capture the outspoken critic of the authoritarianism of the Government of Iran, and studied evacuating her by military-style speedboats to Venezuela before rendition to Iran.

(2) Prior to the New York kidnapping plot, Ms. Alinejad's family in Iran was instructed by authorities to lure Ms. Alinejad to Turkey. In an attempt to intimidate her into silence, the Government of Iran arrested 3 of Ms. Alinejad's family members in 2019, and sentenced her brother to 8 years in prison for refusing to denounce her.

(3) According to Federal prosecutors, the same Iranian intelligence network that allegedly plotted to kidnap Ms. Alinejad is also targeting critics of the Government of Iran who live in Canada, the United Kingdom, and the United Arab Emirates.

(4) In 2021, an Iranian diplomat was convicted in Belgium of attempting to carry out a 2018 bombing of a dissident rally in France.

(5) In 2021, a Danish high court found a Norwegian citizen of Iranian descent guilty of illegal espionage and complicity in a failed plot to kill an Iranian Arab dissident figure in Denmark.

(6) In 2021, the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) appealed to the United Nations to protect BBC Persian employees in London who suffer regular harassment and threats of kidnapping by Iranian government agents.

(7) In 2021, 15 militants allegedly working on behalf of the Government of Iran were arrested in Ethiopia for plotting to attack citizens of Israel, the United States, and the United Arab Emirates, according to United States officials.

(8) In 2020, Iranian agents allegedly kidnapped United States resident and Iranian-German journalist Jamshid Sharmahd, while he was traveling to India through Dubai. Iranian authorities announced they had seized Mr. Sharmahd in ''a complex operation'', and paraded him blindfolded on state television. Mr. Sharmahd is arbitrarily detained in Iran, allegedly facing the death penalty. In 2009, Mr. Sharmahd was the target of an alleged Iran-directed assassination plot in Glendora, California.

(9) In 2020, the Government of Turkey released counterterrorism files exposing how Iranian authorities allegedly collaborated with drug gangs to kidnap Habib Chabi, an Iranian-Swedish activist for Iran's Arab minority. In 2020, the Government of Iran allegedly lured Mr. Chabi to Istanbul through a female agent posing as a potential lover. Mr. Chabi was then allegedly kidnapped from Istanbul, and smuggled into Iran where he faces execution, following a sham trial.

(10) In 2020, a United States-Iranian citizen and an Iranian resident of California pleaded guilty to charges of acting as illegal agents of the Government of Iran by surveilling Jewish student facilities, including the Hillel Center and Rohr Chabad Center at the University of Chicago, in addition to surveilling and collecting identifying information about United States citizens and nationals who are critical of the Iranian regime.

(11) In 2019, 2 Iranian intelligence officers at the Iranian consulate in Turkey allegedly orchestrated the assassination of Iranian dissident journalist Masoud Molavi Vardanjani, who was shot while walking with a friend in Istanbul. Unbeknownst to Mr. Molavi, his ''friend'' was in fact an undercover Iranian agent and the leader of the killing squad, according to a Turkish police report.

(12) In 2019, around 1,500 people were allegedly killed amid a less than 2 week crackdown by security forces on anti-government protests across Iran, including at least an alleged 23 children and 400 women.

(13) In 2019, Iranian operatives allegedly lured Paris-based Iranian journalist Ruhollah Zam to Iraq, where he was abducted, and hanged in Iran for sedition.

(14) In 2019, a Kurdistan regional court convicted an Iranian female for trying to lure Voice of America reporter Ali Javanmardi to a hotel room in Irbil, as part of a foiled Iranian intelligence plot to kidnap and extradite Mr. Javanmardi, a critic of the Government of Iran.

(15) In 2019, Federal Bureau of Investigation agents visited the rural Connecticut home of Iran-born United States author and poet Roya Hakakian to warn her that she was the target of an assassination plot orchestrated by the Government of Iran.

(16) In 2019, the Government of Denmark accused the Government of Iran of directing the assassination of Iranian Arab activist Ahmad Mola Nissi, in The Hague, and the assassination of another opposition figure, Reza Kolahi Samadi, who was murdered near Amsterdam in 2015.

(17) In 2018, German security forces searched for 10 alleged spies who were working for Iran's al-Quds Force to collect information on targets related to the local Jewish community, including kindergartens.

(18) In 2017, Germany convicted a Pakistani man for working as an Iranian agent to spy on targets including a former German lawmaker and a French-Israeli economics professor.

(19) In 2012, an Iranian American pleaded guilty to conspiring with members of the Iranian military to bomb a popular Washington, D.C., restaurant with the aim of assassinating the ambassador of Saudi Arabia to the United States.

(20) In 1996, agents of the Government of Iran allegedly assassinated 5 Iranian dissident exiles across Turkey, Pakistan, and Baghdad, over a 5-month period that year.

(21) In 1992, the Foreign and Commonwealth Office of the United Kingdom expelled 2 Iranians employed at the Iranian Embassy in London and a third Iranian on a

student visa amid allegations they were plotting to kill Indian-born British American novelist Salman Rushdie, pursuant to the fatwa issued by then supreme leader of Iran, Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini.

(22) In 1992, 4 Iranian Kurdish dissidents were assassinated at a restaurant in Berlin, Germany, allegedly by Iranian agents.

(23) In 1992, singer, actor, poet, and gay Iranian dissident Fereydoun Farrokhzad was found dead with multiple stab wounds in his apartment in Germany. His death is allegedly the work of Iran-directed agents.

(24) In 1980, Ali Akbar Tabatabaei, a leading critic of Iran and then president of the Iran Freedom Foundation, was murdered in front of his Bethesda, Maryland, home by an assassin disguised as a postal courier. The Federal Bureau of Investigation had identified the ''mailman'' as Dawud Salahuddin, born David Theodore Belfield. Mr. Salahuddin was working as a security guard at an Iranian interest office in Washington, D.C., when he claims he accepted the assignment and payment of $5,000 from the Government of Iran to kill Mr. Tabatabaei.

(25) Other exiled Iranian dissidents alleged to have been victims of the Government of Iran's murderous extraterritorial campaign include Shahriar Shafiq, Shapour Bakhtiar, and Gholam Ali Oveissi.

(26) Iranian Americans face an ongoing campaign of intimidation both in the virtual and physical world by agents and affiliates of the Government of Iran, which aims to stifle freedom of expression and eliminate the threat Iranian authorities believe democracy, justice, and gender equality pose to their rule.

SEC. 1293. DEFINITIONS.

In this subtitle:

(1) ADMISSION; ADMITTED; ALIEN.—The terms ''admission'', ''admitted'', and ''alien'' have the meanings given those terms in section 101 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101).

(2) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.—The term ''appropriate congressional committees'' means—

(A) the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs and the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate; and

(B) the Committee on Financial Services and the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives.

(3) CORRESPONDENT ACCOUNT; PAYABLE-THROUGH ACCOUNT.—The terms ''correspondent account'' and ''payable-through account'' have the meanings given those terms in section 5318A of title 31, United States Code.

(4) FOREIGN FINANCIAL INSTITUTION.—The term ''foreign financial institution'' has the meaning of that term as determined by the Secretary of the Treasury pursuant to section 104(i) of the Comprehensive Iran Sanctions, Accountability, and Divestment Act of 2010 (22 U.S.C. 8513(i)).

(5) FOREIGN PERSON.—The term ''foreign person'' means any individual or entity that is not a United States person.

(6) UNITED STATES PERSON.—The term ''United States person'' means—

(A) a United States citizen or an alien lawfully admitted for permanent residence to the United States; or

(B) an entity organized under the laws of the United States or any jurisdiction within the United States, including a foreign branch of such an entity.

SEC. 1294. REPORT AND IMPOSITION OF SANCTIONS WITH RESPECT TO PERSONS WHO ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR OR COMPLICIT IN ABUSES TOWARD DISSIDENTS ON BEHALF OF THE GOVERNMENT OF IRAN.

(a) REPORT REQUIRED.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 45 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State, in consultation with the Secretary of the Treasury, the Director of National Intelligence, and the Attorney General, shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report that—

(A) includes a detailed description and assessment of—

(i) the state of human rights and the rule of law inside Iran, including the rights and well-being of women, religious and ethnic minorities, and the LGBTQ community in Iran;

(ii) actions taken by the Government of Iran during the year preceding submission of the report to target and silence dissidents both inside and outside of Iran who advocate for human rights inside Iran;

(iii) the methods used by the Government of Iran to target and silence dissidents both inside and outside of Iran; and

(iv) the means through which the Government of Iran finances efforts to target and silence dissidents both inside and outside of Iran;

(B) identifies foreign persons working as part of the Government of Iran or acting on behalf of that Government (including members of paramilitary organizations such as Ansar-e-Hezbollah and Basij-e Mostaz'afin), that the Secretary of State determines, based on credible evidence, are knowingly responsible for, complicit in or involved in ordering, conspiring, planning or implementing the surveillance, harassment, kidnapping, illegal extradition, imprisonment, torture, killing, or assassination of citizens of Iran (including citizens of Iran of dual nationality) and citizens of the United States both inside and outside Iran who seek—

(i) to expose illegal or corrupt activity carried out by officials of the Government of Iran;

(ii) to obtain, exercise, defend, or promote internationally recognized human rights and freedoms, such as the freedoms of religion, expression, association, and assembly, and the rights to a fair trial and democratic elections, in Iran; or

(iii) to obtain, exercise, defend, or promote the rights and well-being of women, religious and ethnic minorities, and the LGBTQ community in Iran; and

(C) includes, for each foreign person identified subparagraph (B), a clear explanation for why the foreign person was so identified.

(2) UPDATES OF REPORT.—The report required by paragraph (1) shall be updated, and the updated version submitted to the appropriate congressional committees, during the 10-year period following the date of the enactment of this Act—

(A) not less frequently than annually; and

(B) with respect to matters relating to the identification of foreign persons under paragraph (1)(B), on an ongoing basis as new information becomes available.

(3) FORM OF REPORT.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Each report required by paragraph (1) and each update required by paragraph (2) shall be submitted in unclassified form but may include a classified annex.

(B) PUBLIC AVAILABILITY.—The Secretary of State shall post the unclassified portion of each report required by paragraph (1) and each update required by paragraph (2) on a publicly available internet website of the Department of State.

(b) IMPOSITION OF SANCTIONS.—In the case of a foreign person identified under paragraph (1)(B) of subsection (a) in the most recent report or update submitted under that subsection, the President shall—

(1) if the foreign person meets the criteria for the imposition of sanctions under subsection (a) of section 1263 of the Global Magnitsky Human Rights Accountability Act (subtitle F of title XII of Public Law 114–328; 22 U.S.C. 2656 note), impose sanctions under subsection (b) of that section; and

(2) if the foreign person does not meet such criteria, impose the sanctions described in subsection (c).

(c) SANCTIONS DESCRIBED.—The sanctions to be imposed under this subsection with respect to a foreign person are the following:

(1) BLOCKING OF PROPERTY.—The President shall exercise all powers granted to the President by the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.) to the extent necessary to block and prohibit all transactions in all property and interests in property of the person if such property and interests in property are in the United States, come within the United States, or are or come within the possession or control of a United States person.

(2) INELIGIBILITY FOR VISAS, ADMISSION, OR PAROLE.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—

(i) VISAS, ADMISSION, OR PAROLE.—An alien described in subsection (a)(1)(B) is—

(I) inadmissible to the United States;

(II) ineligible to receive a visa or other documentation to enter the United States; and

(III) otherwise ineligible to be admitted or paroled into the United States or to receive any other benefit under the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101 et seq.).

(ii) CURRENT VISAS REVOKED.—

(I) IN GENERAL.—The visa or other entry documentation of an alien described in subsection (a)(1)(B) shall be revoked, regardless of when such visa or other entry documentation is or was issued.

(II) IMMEDIATE EFFECT.—A revocation under subclause (I) shall—

(aa) take effect immediately; and

(bb) automatically cancel any other valid visa or entry documentation that is in the alien's possession.

(d) TERMINATION OF SANCTIONS.—The President may terminate the application of sanctions under this section with respect to a person if the President determines and reports to the appropriate congressional committees, not later than 15 days before the termination of the sanctions that—

(1) credible information exists that the person did not engage in the activity for which sanctions were imposed;

(2) the person has been prosecuted appropriately for the activity for which sanctions were imposed; or

(3) the person has—

(A) credibly demonstrated a significant change in behavior;

(B) has paid an appropriate consequence for the activity for which sanctions were imposed; and

(C) has credibly committed to not engage in an activity described in subsection (a) in the future.

SEC. 1295. REPORT AND IMPOSITION OF SANCTIONS WITH RESPECT TO FOREIGN FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS CONDUCTING SIGNIFICANT TRANSACTIONS WITH PERSONS RESPONSIBLE FOR OR COMPLICIT IN ABUSES TOWARD DISSIDENTS ON BEHALF OF THE GOVERNMENT OF IRAN.

(a) REPORT REQUIRED.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not earlier than 30 days and not later than 60 days after the Secretary of State submits to the appropriate congressional committees a report required by section 1294(a), the Secretary of the Treasury, in consultation with the Secretary of State, shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report that identifies any foreign financial institution that knowingly conducts a significant transaction with a foreign person identified in the report submitted under section 1294(a).

(2) FORM OF REPORT.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Each report required by paragraph (1) shall be submitted in unclassified form but may include a classified annex.

(B) PUBLIC AVAILABILITY.—The Secretary of the Treasury shall post the unclassified portion of each report required by paragraph (1) on a publicly available internet website of the Department of the Treasury.

(b) IMPOSITION OF SANCTIONS.—The Secretary of the Treasury may prohibit the opening, or prohibit or impose strict conditions on the maintaining, in the United States of a correspondent account or a payable-through account by a foreign financial institution identified under subsection (a)(1).

SEC. 1296. EXCEPTIONS; WAIVERS; IMPLEMENTATION.

(a) EXCEPTIONS.—

(1) EXCEPTION FOR INTELLIGENCE, LAW ENFORCEMENT, AND NATIONAL SECURITY ACTIVITIES.—Sanctions under sections 1294 and 1295 shall not apply to any authorized intelligence, law enforcement, or national security activities of the United States.

(2) EXCEPTION TO COMPLY WITH UNITED NATIONS HEADQUARTERS AGREEMENT.—Sanctions under section 1294(c)(2) shall not apply with respect to the admission of an alien to the United States if the admission of the alien is necessary to permit the United States to comply with the Agreement regarding the Headquarters of the United Nations, signed at Lake Success June 26, 1947, and entered into force November 21, 1947, between the United Nations and the United States, the Convention on Consular Relations, done at Vienna April 24, 1963, and entered into force March 19, 1967, or other applicable international obligations.

(3) EXCEPTION RELATING TO IMPORTATION OF GOODS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of this subtitle, the authorities and requirements to impose sanctions authorized under this subtitle shall not include the authority or a requirement to impose sanctions on the importation of goods.

(B) GOOD DEFINED.—In this paragraph, the term ''good'' means any article, natural or manmade substance, material, supply or manufactured product, including inspection and test equipment, and excluding technical data.

(b) NATIONAL SECURITY WAIVER.—The President may waive the application of sanctions under section 1294 with respect to a person if the President—

(1) determines that the waiver is in the national security interests of the United States; and

(2) submits to the appropriate congressional committees a report on the waiver and the reasons for the waiver.

(c) IMPLEMENTATION; PENALTIES.—

(1) IMPLEMENTATION.—The President may exercise all authorities provided to the President under sections 203 and 205 of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1702 and 1704) to carry out this subtitle.

(2) PENALTIES.—A person that violates, attempts to violate, conspires to violate, or causes a violation of section 1294(b)(1) or 1295(b) or any regulation, license, or order issued to carry out either such section shall be subject to the penalties set forth in subsections (b) and (c) of section 206 of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1705) to the same extent as a person that commits an unlawful act described in subsection (a) of that section.

SA 4670. Mr. BARRASSO submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle G of title XII, add the following:

SEC. 1283. REMOVAL OF MEMBERS OF THE UNITED NATIONS HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL THAT COMMIT HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSES.

The President shall direct the Permanent Representative of the United States to the United Nations to use the voice, vote, and influence of the United States—

(1) to reform the process for removing members of the United Nations Human Rights Council that commit gross and systemic violations of human rights, including—

(A) lowering the threshold vote at the United Nations General Assembly for removal to a simple majority;

(B) ensuring that information detailing the member country's human rights record is publicly available before the vote on removal; and

(C) making the vote of each country on the removal from the United Nations Human Rights Council publicly available;

(2) to reform the rules on electing members to the United Nations Human Rights Council to ensure that United Nations members which have committed gross and systemic violations of human rights are not elected to the Human Rights Council; and

(3) to oppose the election to the Human Rights Council of any United Nations member—

(A) that is currently designated as—

(i) a country engaged in a consistent pattern of gross violations of internationally recognized human rights pursuant to section 116 or section 502B of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2151n and 2304);

(ii) a state sponsor of terrorism; or

(iii) a Tier 3 country under the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7101 et seq.);

(B) the government of which is identified on the list published by the Secretary of State pursuant to section 404(b) of the Child Soldiers Prevention Act of 2008 (22 U.S.C. 2370c–1(b)) as a government that recruits and uses child soldiers; or

(C) the government of which the United States determines to have committed genocide or crimes against humanity.

SA 4671. Mr. TOOMEY (for himself and Mr. CASEY) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle D of title II, add the following:

SEC. 246. BRIEFING ON ADDITIVE MANUFACTURING CAPABILITIES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Director of the Army Combat Capabilities Development Command shall brief the congressional defense committees on—

(1) current research and development activities to leverage robotics, autonomy, and artificial intelligence to enhance additive manufacturing capabilities in forward-deployed, expeditionary bases; and

(2) courses of action being considered to successfully transition additive manufacturing capabilities into sustained operational capabilities.

(b) ELEMENTS.—The briefing required by subsection (a) shall include the following:

(1) A summary of research advances and innovations in expeditionary manufacturing enabled by past investments combining artificial intelligence and additive manufacturing.

(2) A summary of plans and ongoing activities to engage with operational programs and programs of record to ensure that such advances and innovations can be successfully transitioned and supported to maximize mission readiness and force resiliency.

(3) An assessment of the feasibility of initiating pilot programs between institutions of higher education, the defense industrial base, and the Army Combat Capabilities Development Command related to experimentation and demonstrations of expeditionary manufacturing techniques.

SA 4672. Mr. KENNEDY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle G of title X, add the following:

SEC. 1064. SYSTEM FOR ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION OF COMPLAINTS ABOUT THE DELIVERY OF HEALTH CARE SERVICES BY THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS.

Section 7309A(c) of title 38, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(3) Beginning not later than 18 months after the date of the enactment of this paragraph, the Director shall establish an information technology system that will allow a veteran (or the designated representative of a veteran) to electronically—

''(A) file a complaint that will be received by the appropriate patient advocate; and

''(B) at any time view the status of the complaint, including interim and final actions that have been taken to address the complaint.''.

SA 4673. Mr. PETERS (for himself and Mr. PORTMAN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end, add the following:

DIVISION E—CYBER INCIDENT REPORTING ACT OF 2021 AND CISA TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS AND IMPROVEMENTS ACT OF 2021

TITLE LI—CYBER INCIDENT REPORTING ACT OF 2021

SEC. 5101. SHORT TITLE.

This title may be cited as the ''Cyber Incident Reporting Act of 2021''.

SEC. 5102. DEFINITIONS.

In this title:

(1) COVERED CYBER INCIDENT; COVERED ENTITY; CYBER INCIDENT.—The terms ''covered cyber incident'', ''covered entity'', and ''cyber incident'' have the meanings given those terms in section 2230 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002, as added by section 5103 of this title.

(2) DIRECTOR.—The term ''Director'' means the Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency.

(3) INFORMATION SYSTEM; RANSOM PAYMENT; RANSOMWARE ATTACK; SECURITY VULNERABILITY.—The terms ''information system'', ''ransom payment'', ''ransomware attack'', and ''security vulnerability'' have the meanings given those terms in section 2200 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002, as added by section 5203 of this division.

SEC. 5103. CYBER INCIDENT REPORTING.

(a) CYBER INCIDENT REPORTING.—Title XXII of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 651 et seq.) is amended—

(1) in section 2209(b) (6 U.S.C. 659(b)), as so redesignated by section 5203(b) of this division—

(A) in paragraph (11), by striking ''and'' at the end;

(B) in paragraph (12), by striking the period at the end and inserting ''; and''; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

''(13) receiving, aggregating, and analyzing reports related to covered cyber incidents (as defined in section 2230) submitted by covered entities (as defined in section 2230) and reports related to ransom payments submitted by entities in furtherance of the activities specified in sections 2202(e), 2203, and 2231, this subsection, and any other authorized activity of the Director, to enhance the situational awareness of cybersecurity threats across critical infrastructure sectors.''; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

"Subtitle C—Cyber Incident Reporting

"SEC. 2230. DEFINITIONS.

''In this subtitle:

''(1) CENTER.—The term 'Center' means the center established under section 2209.

''(2) COUNCIL.—The term 'Council' means the Cyber Incident Reporting Council described in section 1752(c)(1)(H) of the William M. (Mac) Thornberry National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021 (6 U.S.C. 1500(c)(1)(H)).

''(3) COVERED CYBER INCIDENT.—The term 'covered cyber incident' means a substantial cyber incident experienced by a covered entity that satisfies the definition and criteria established by the Director in the final rule issued pursuant to section 2232(b).

''(4) COVERED ENTITY.—The term 'covered entity' means—

''(A) any Federal contractor; or

''(B) an entity that owns or operates critical infrastructure that satisfies the definition established by the Director in the final rule issued pursuant to section 2232(b).

''(5) CYBER INCIDENT.—The term 'cyber incident' has the meaning given the term 'incident' in section 2200.

''(6) CYBER THREAT.—The term 'cyber threat'—

''(A) has the meaning given the term 'cybersecurity threat' in section 2200; and

''(B) does not include any activity related to good faith security research, including participation in a bug-bounty program or a vulnerability disclosure program.

''(7) FEDERAL CONTRACTOR.—The term 'Federal contractor' means a business, nonprofit organization, or other private sector entity that holds a Federal Government contract or subcontract at any tier, grant, cooperative agreement, or other transaction agreement, unless that entity is a party only to—

''(A) a service contract to provide housekeeping or custodial services; or

''(B) a contract to provide products or services unrelated to information technology that is below the micro-purchase threshold, as defined in section 2.101 of title 48, Code of Federal Regulations, or any successor regulation.

''(8) FEDERAL ENTITY; INFORMATION SYSTEM; SECURITY CONTROL.—The terms 'Federal entity', 'information system', and 'security control' have the meanings given those terms in section 102 of the Cybersecurity Act of 2015 (6 U.S.C. 1501).

''(9) SIGNIFICANT CYBER INCIDENT.—The term 'significant cyber incident' means a cybersecurity incident, or a group of related cybersecurity incidents, that the Secretary determines is likely to result in demonstrable harm to the national security interests, foreign relations, or economy of the United States or to the public confidence, civil liberties, or public health and safety of the people of the United States.

''(10) SMALL ORGANIZATION.—The term 'small organization'—

''(A) means—

''(i) a small business concern, as defined in section 3 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 632); or

''(ii) any nonprofit organization, including faith-based organizations and houses of worship, or other private sector entity with fewer than 200 employees (determined on a full-time equivalent basis); and

''(B) does not include—

''(i) a business, nonprofit organization, or other private sector entity that is a covered entity; or

''(ii) a Federal contractor.

"SEC. 2231. CYBER INCIDENT REVIEW.

''(a) ACTIVITIES.—The Center shall—

''(1) receive, aggregate, analyze, and secure, using processes consistent with the processes developed pursuant to the Cybersecurity Information Sharing Act of 2015 (6 U.S.C. 1501 et seq.) reports from covered entities related to a covered cyber incident to assess the effectiveness of security controls, identify tactics, techniques, and procedures adversaries use to overcome those controls and other cybersecurity purposes, including to support law enforcement investigations, to assess potential impact of incidents on public health and safety, and to have a more accurate picture of the cyber threat to critical infrastructure and the people of the United States;

''(2) receive, aggregate, analyze, and secure reports to lead the identification of tactics, techniques, and procedures used to perpetuate cyber incidents and ransomware attacks;

''(3) coordinate and share information with appropriate Federal departments and agencies to identify and track ransom payments, including those utilizing virtual currencies;

''(4) leverage information gathered about cybersecurity incidents to—

''(A) enhance the quality and effectiveness of information sharing and coordination efforts with appropriate entities, including agencies, sector coordinating councils, information sharing and analysis organizations, technology providers, critical infrastructure owners and operators, cybersecurity and incident response firms, and security researchers; and

''(B) provide appropriate entities, including agencies, sector coordinating councils, information sharing and analysis organizations, technology providers, cybersecurity and incident response firms, and security researchers, with timely, actionable, and anonymized reports of cyber incident campaigns and trends, including, to the maximum extent practicable, related contextual information, cyber threat indicators, and defensive measures, pursuant to section 2235;

''(5) establish mechanisms to receive feedback from stakeholders on how the Agency can most effectively receive covered cyber incident reports, ransom payment reports, and other voluntarily provided information;

''(6) facilitate the timely sharing, on a voluntary basis, between relevant critical infrastructure owners and operators of information relating to covered cyber incidents and ransom payments, particularly with respect to ongoing cyber threats or security vulnerabilities and identify and disseminate ways to prevent or mitigate similar incidents in the future;

''(7) for a covered cyber incident, including a ransomware attack, that also satisfies the definition of a significant cyber incident, or is part of a group of related cyber incidents that together satisfy such definition, conduct a review of the details surrounding the covered cyber incident or group of those incidents and identify and disseminate ways to prevent or mitigate similar incidents in the future;

''(8) with respect to covered cyber incident reports under section 2232(a) and 2233 involving an ongoing cyber threat or security vulnerability, immediately review those reports for cyber threat indicators that can be anonymized and disseminated, with defensive measures, to appropriate stakeholders, in coordination with other divisions within the Agency, as appropriate;

''(9) publish quarterly unclassified, public reports that may be based on the unclassified information contained in the briefings required under subsection (c);

''(10) proactively identify opportunities and perform analyses, consistent with the protections in section 2235, to leverage and utilize data on ransomware attacks to support law enforcement operations to identify, track, and seize ransom payments utilizing virtual currencies, to the greatest extent practicable;

''(11) proactively identify opportunities, consistent with the protections in section 2235, to leverage and utilize data on cyber incidents in a manner that enables and strengthens cybersecurity research carried out by academic institutions and other private sector organizations, to the greatest extent practicable;

''(12) on a not less frequently than annual basis, analyze public disclosures made pursuant to parts 229 and 249 of title 17, Code of Federal Regulations, or any subsequent document submitted to the Securities and Exchange Commission by entities experiencing cyber incidents and compare such disclosures to reports received by the Center; and

''(13) in accordance with section 2235 and subsection (b) of this section, as soon as possible but not later than 24 hours after receiving a covered cyber incident report, ransom payment report, voluntarily submitted information pursuant to section 2233, or information received pursuant to a request for information or subpoena under section 2234, make available the information to appropriate Sector Risk Management Agencies and other appropriate Federal agencies.

''(b) INTERAGENCY SHARING.—The National Cyber Director, in consultation with the Director and the Director of the Office of Management and Budget—

''(1) may establish a specific time requirement for sharing information under subsection (a)(13); and

''(2) shall determine the appropriate Federal agencies under subsection (a)(13).

''(c) PERIODIC BRIEFING.—Not later than 60 days after the effective date of the final rule required under section 2232(b), and on the first day of each month thereafter, the Director, in consultation with the National Cyber Director, the Attorney General, and the Director of National Intelligence, shall provide to the majority leader of the Senate, the minority leader of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the minority leader of the House of Representatives, the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate, and the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives a briefing that characterizes the national cyber threat landscape, including the threat facing Federal agencies and covered entities, and applicable intelligence and law enforcement information, covered cyber incidents, and ransomware attacks, as of the date of the briefing, which shall—

''(1) include the total number of reports submitted under sections 2232 and 2233 during the preceding month, including a breakdown of required and voluntary reports;

''(2) include any identified trends in covered cyber incidents and ransomware attacks over the course of the preceding month and as compared to previous reports, including any trends related to the information collected in the reports submitted under sections 2232 and 2233, including—

''(A) the infrastructure, tactics, and techniques malicious cyber actors commonly use; and

''(B) intelligence gaps that have impeded, or currently are impeding, the ability to counter covered cyber incidents and ransomware threats;

''(3) include a summary of the known uses of the information in reports submitted under sections 2232 and 2233; and

''(4) be unclassified, but may include a classified annex.

''SEC. 2232. REQUIRED REPORTING OF CERTAIN CYBER INCIDENTS.

''(a) IN GENERAL.—

''(1) COVERED CYBER INCIDENT REPORTS.—A covered entity that is a victim of a covered cyber incident shall report the covered cyber incident to the Director not later than 72 hours after the covered entity reasonably believes that the covered cyber incident has occurred.

''(2) RANSOM PAYMENT REPORTS.—An entity, including a covered entity and except for an individual or a small organization, that makes a ransom payment as the result of a ransomware attack against the entity shall report the payment to the Director not later than 24 hours after the ransom payment has been made.

''(3) SUPPLEMENTAL REPORTS.—A covered entity shall promptly submit to the Director an update or supplement to a previously submitted covered cyber incident report if new or different information becomes available or if the covered entity makes a ransom payment after submitting a covered cyber incident report required under paragraph (1).

''(4) PRESERVATION OF INFORMATION.—Any entity subject to requirements of paragraph (1), (2), or (3) shall preserve data relevant to the covered cyber incident or ransom payment in accordance with procedures established in the final rule issued pursuant to subsection (b).

''(5) EXCEPTIONS.—

''(A) REPORTING OF COVERED CYBER INCIDENT WITH RANSOM PAYMENT.—If a covered cyber incident includes a ransom payment such that the reporting requirements under paragraphs (1) and (2) apply, the covered entity may submit a single report to satisfy the requirements of both paragraphs in accordance with procedures established in the final rule issued pursuant to subsection (b).

''(B) SUBSTANTIALLY SIMILAR REPORTED INFORMATION.—The requirements under paragraphs (1), (2), and (3) shall not apply to an entity required by law, regulation, or contract to report substantially similar information to another Federal agency within a substantially similar timeframe.

''(C) DOMAIN NAME SYSTEM.—The requirements under paragraphs (1), (2) and (3) shall not apply to an entity or the functions of an entity that the Director determines constitute critical infrastructure owned, operated, or governed by multi-stakeholder organizations that develop, implement, and enforce policies concerning the Domain Name System, such as the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers or the Internet Assigned Numbers Authority.

''(6) MANNER, TIMING, AND FORM OF REPORTS.—Reports made under paragraphs (1), (2), and (3) shall be made in the manner and form, and within the time period in the case of reports made under paragraph (3), prescribed in the final rule issued pursuant to subsection (b).

''(7) EFFECTIVE DATE.—Paragraphs (1) through (4) shall take effect on the dates prescribed in the final rule issued pursuant to subsection (b).

''(b) RULEMAKING.—

''(1) NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULEMAKING.—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this section, the Director, in consultation with Sector Risk Management Agencies, the Department of Justice, and other Federal agencies, shall publish in the Federal Register a notice of proposed rulemaking to implement subsection (a).

''(2) FINAL RULE.—Not later than 18 months after publication of the notice of proposed rulemaking under paragraph (1), the Director shall issue a final rule to implement subsection (a).

''(3) SUBSEQUENT RULEMAKINGS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The Director is authorized to issue regulations to amend or revise the final rule issued pursuant to paragraph (2).

''(B) PROCEDURES.—Any subsequent rules issued under subparagraph (A) shall comply with the requirements under chapter 5 of title 5, United States Code, including the issuance of a notice of proposed rulemaking under section 553 of such title.

''(c) ELEMENTS.—The final rule issued pursuant to subsection (b) shall be composed of the following elements:

''(1) A clear description of the types of entities that constitute covered entities, based on—

''(A) the consequences that disruption to or compromise of such an entity could cause to national security, economic security, or public health and safety;

''(B) the likelihood that such an entity may be targeted by a malicious cyber actor, including a foreign country; and

''(C) the extent to which damage, disruption, or unauthorized access to such an entity, including the accessing of sensitive cybersecurity vulnerability information or penetration testing tools or techniques, will likely enable the disruption of the reliable operation of critical infrastructure.

''(2) A clear description of the types of substantial cyber incidents that constitute covered cyber incidents, which shall—

''(A) at a minimum, require the occurrence of—

''(i) the unauthorized access to an information system or network with a substantial loss of confidentiality, integrity, or availability of such information system or network, or a serious impact on the safety and resiliency of operational systems and processes;

''(ii) a disruption of business or industrial operations due to a cyber incident; or

''(iii) an occurrence described in clause (i) or (ii) due to loss of service facilitated through, or caused by, a compromise of a cloud service provider, managed service provider, or other third-party data hosting provider or by a supply chain compromise;

''(B) consider—

''(i) the sophistication or novelty of the tactics used to perpetrate such an incident, as well as the type, volume, and sensitivity of the data at issue;

''(ii) the number of individuals directly or indirectly affected or potentially affected by such an incident; and

''(iii) potential impacts on industrial control systems, such as supervisory control and data acquisition systems, distributed control systems, and programmable logic controllers; and

''(C) exclude—

''(i) any event where the cyber incident is perpetuated by good faith security research or in response to an invitation by the owner or operator of the information system for third parties to find vulnerabilities in the information system, such as through a vulnerability disclosure program or the use of authorized penetration testing services; and

''(ii) the threat of disruption as extortion, as described in section 2201(9)(A).

''(3) A requirement that, if a covered cyber incident or a ransom payment occurs following an exempted threat described in paragraph (2)(C)(ii), the entity shall comply with the requirements in this subtitle in reporting the covered cyber incident or ransom payment.

''(4) A clear description of the specific required contents of a report pursuant to subsection (a)(1), which shall include the following information, to the extent applicable and available, with respect to a covered cyber incident:

''(A) A description of the covered cyber incident, including—

''(i) identification and a description of the function of the affected information systems, networks, or devices that were, or are reasonably believed to have been, affected by such incident;

''(ii) a description of the unauthorized access with substantial loss of confidentiality, integrity, or availability of the affected information system or network or disruption of business or industrial operations;

''(iii) the estimated date range of such incident; and

''(iv) the impact to the operations of the covered entity.

''(B) Where applicable, a description of the vulnerabilities, tactics, techniques, and procedures used to perpetuate the covered cyber incident.

''(C) Where applicable, any identifying or contact information related to each actor reasonably believed to be responsible for such incident.

''(D) Where applicable, identification of the category or categories of information that were, or are reasonably believed to have been, accessed or acquired by an unauthorized person.

''(E) The name and other information that clearly identifies the entity impacted by the covered cyber incident.

''(F) Contact information, such as telephone number or electronic mail address, that the Center may use to contact the covered entity or an authorized agent of such covered entity, or, where applicable, the service provider of such covered entity acting with the express permission of, and at the direction of, the covered entity to assist

with compliance with the requirements of this subtitle.

''(5) A clear description of the specific required contents of a report pursuant to subsection (a)(2), which shall be the following information, to the extent applicable and available, with respect to a ransom payment:

''(A) A description of the ransomware attack, including the estimated date range of the attack.

''(B) Where applicable, a description of the vulnerabilities, tactics, techniques, and procedures used to perpetuate the ransomware attack.

''(C) Where applicable, any identifying or contact information related to the actor or actors reasonably believed to be responsible for the ransomware attack.

''(D) The name and other information that clearly identifies the entity that made the ransom payment.

''(E) Contact information, such as telephone number or electronic mail address, that the Center may use to contact the entity that made the ransom payment or an authorized agent of such covered entity, or, where applicable, the service provider of such covered entity acting with the express permission of, and at the direction of, that entity to assist with compliance with the requirements of this subtitle.

''(F) The date of the ransom payment.

''(G) The ransom payment demand, including the type of virtual currency or other commodity requested, if applicable.

''(H) The ransom payment instructions, including information regarding where to send the payment, such as the virtual currency address or physical address the funds were requested to be sent to, if applicable.

''(I) The amount of the ransom payment.

''(6) A clear description of the types of data required to be preserved pursuant to subsection (a)(4) and the period of time for which the data is required to be preserved.

''(7) Deadlines for submitting reports to the Director required under subsection (a)(3), which shall—

''(A) be established by the Director in consultation with the Council;

''(B) consider any existing regulatory reporting requirements similar in scope, purpose, and timing to the reporting requirements to which such a covered entity may also be subject, and make efforts to harmonize the timing and contents of any such reports to the maximum extent practicable; and

''(C) balance the need for situational awareness with the ability of the covered entity to conduct incident response and investigations.

''(8) Procedures for—

''(A) entities to submit reports required by paragraphs (1), (2), and (3) of subsection (a), including the manner and form thereof, which shall include, at a minimum, a concise, user-friendly web-based form;

''(B) the Agency to carry out the enforcement provisions of section 2233, including with respect to the issuance, service, withdrawal, and enforcement of subpoenas, appeals and due process procedures, the suspension and debarment provisions in section 2234(c), and other aspects of noncompliance;

''(C) implementing the exceptions provided in subsection (a)(5); and

''(D) protecting privacy and civil liberties consistent with processes adopted pursuant to section 105(b) of the Cybersecurity Act of 2015 (6 U.S.C. 1504(b)) and anonymizing and safeguarding, or no longer retaining, information received and disclosed through covered cyber incident reports and ransom payment reports that is known to be personal information of a specific individual or information that identifies a specific individual that is not directly related to a cybersecurity threat.

''(9) A clear description of the types of entities that constitute other private sector entities for purposes of section 2230(b)(7).

''(d) THIRD PARTY REPORT SUBMISSION AND RANSOM PAYMENT.—

''(1) REPORT SUBMISSION.—An entity, including a covered entity, that is required to submit a covered cyber incident report or a ransom payment report may use a third party, such as an incident response company, insurance provider, service provider, information sharing and analysis organization, or law firm, to submit the required report under subsection (a).

''(2) RANSOM PAYMENT.—If an entity impacted by a ransomware attack uses a third party to make a ransom payment, the third party shall not be required to submit a ransom payment report for itself under subsection (a)(2).

''(3) DUTY TO REPORT.—Third-party reporting under this subparagraph does not relieve a covered entity or an entity that makes a ransom payment from the duty to comply with the requirements for covered cyber incident report or ransom payment report submission.

''(4) RESPONSIBILITY TO ADVISE.—Any third party used by an entity that knowingly makes a ransom payment on behalf of an entity impacted by a ransomware attack shall advise the impacted entity of the responsibilities of the impacted entity regarding reporting ransom payments under this section.

''(e) OUTREACH TO COVERED ENTITIES.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Director shall conduct an outreach and education campaign to inform likely covered entities, entities that offer or advertise as a service to customers to make or facilitate ransom payments on behalf of entities impacted by ransomware attacks, potential ransomware attack victims, and other appropriate entities of the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (3) of subsection (a).

''(2) ELEMENTS.—The outreach and education campaign under paragraph (1) shall include the following:

''(A) An overview of the final rule issued pursuant to subsection (b).

''(B) An overview of mechanisms to submit to the Center covered cyber incident reports and information relating to the disclosure, retention, and use of incident reports under this section.

''(C) An overview of the protections afforded to covered entities for complying with the requirements under paragraphs (1), (2), and (3) of subsection (a).

''(D) An overview of the steps taken under section 2234 when a covered entity is not in compliance with the reporting requirements under subsection (a).

''(E) Specific outreach to cybersecurity vendors, incident response providers, cybersecurity insurance entities, and other entities that may support covered entities or ransomware attack victims.

''(F) An overview of the privacy and civil liberties requirements in this subtitle.

''(3) COORDINATION.—In conducting the outreach and education campaign required under paragraph (1), the Director may coordinate with—

''(A) the Critical Infrastructure Partnership Advisory Council established under section 871;

''(B) information sharing and analysis organizations;

''(C) trade associations;

''(D) information sharing and analysis centers;

''(E) sector coordinating councils; and

''(F) any other entity as determined appropriate by the Director.

''(f) ORGANIZATION OF REPORTS.—Notwithstanding chapter 35 of title 44, United States Code (commonly known as the 'Paperwork Reduction Act'), the Director may request information within the scope of the final rule issued under subsection (b) by the alteration of existing questions or response fields and the reorganization and reformatting of the means by which covered cyber incident reports, ransom payment reports, and any voluntarily offered information is submitted to the Center.

''SEC. 2233. VOLUNTARY REPORTING OF OTHER CYBER INCIDENTS.

''(a) IN GENERAL.—Entities may voluntarily report incidents or ransom payments to the Director that are not required under paragraph (1), (2), or (3) of section 2232(a), but may enhance the situational awareness of cyber threats.

''(b) VOLUNTARY PROVISION OF ADDITIONAL INFORMATION IN REQUIRED REPORTS.—Entities may voluntarily include in reports required under paragraph (1), (2), or (3) of section 2232(a) information that is not required to be included, but may enhance the situational awareness of cyber threats.

''(c) APPLICATION OF PROTECTIONS.—The protections under section 2235 applicable to covered cyber incident reports shall apply in the same manner and to the same extent to reports and information submitted under subsections (a) and (b).

''SEC. 2234. NONCOMPLIANCE WITH REQUIRED REPORTING.

''(a) PURPOSE.—In the event that an entity that is required to submit a report under section 2232(a) fails to comply with the requirement to report, the Director may obtain information about the incident or ransom payment by engaging the entity directly to request information about the incident or ransom payment, and if the Director is unable to obtain information through such engagement, by issuing a subpoena to the entity, pursuant to subsection (c), to gather information sufficient to determine whether a covered cyber incident or ransom payment has occurred, and, if so, whether additional action is warranted pursuant to subsection (d).

''(b) INITIAL REQUEST FOR INFORMATION.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—If the Director has reason to believe, whether through public reporting or other information in the possession of the Federal Government, including through analysis performed pursuant to paragraph (1) or (2) of section 2231(a), that an entity has experienced a covered cyber incident or made a ransom payment but failed to report such incident or payment to the Center within 72 hours in accordance with section 2232(a), the Director shall request additional information from the entity to confirm whether or not a covered cyber incident or ransom payment has occurred.

''(2) TREATMENT.—Information provided to the Center in response to a request under paragraph (1) shall be treated as if it was submitted through the reporting procedures established in section 2232.

''(c) AUTHORITY TO ISSUE SUBPOENAS AND DEBAR.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—If, after the date that is 72 hours from the date on which the Director made the request for information in subsection (b), the Director has received no response from the entity from which such information was requested, or received an inadequate response, the Director may issue to such entity a subpoena to compel disclosure of information the Director deems necessary to determine whether a covered cyber incident or ransom payment has occurred and obtain the information required to be reported pursuant to section 2232 and any implementing regulations.

''(2) CIVIL ACTION.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—If an entity fails to comply with a subpoena, the Director may refer the matter to the Attorney General to bring a civil action in a district court of the United States to enforce such subpoena.

''(B) VENUE.—An action under this paragraph may be brought in the judicial district in which the entity against which the action is brought resides, is found, or does business.

''(C) CONTEMPT OF COURT.—A court may punish a failure to comply with a subpoena issued under this subsection as contempt of court.

''(3) NON-DELEGATION.—The authority of the Director to issue a subpoena under this subsection may not be delegated.

''(4) DEBARMENT OF FEDERAL CONTRACTORS.—If a covered entity that is a Federal contractor fails to comply with a subpoena issued under this subsection—

''(A) the Director may refer the matter to the Administrator of General Services; and

''(B) upon receiving a referral from the Director, the Administrator of General Services may impose additional available penalties, including suspension or debarment.

''(5) AUTHENTICATION.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Any subpoena issued electronically pursuant to this subsection shall be authenticated with a cryptographic digital signature of an authorized representative of the Agency, or other comparable successor technology, that allows the Agency to demonstrate that such subpoena was issued by the Agency and has not been altered or modified since such issuance.

''(B) INVALID IF NOT AUTHENTICATED.—Any subpoena issued electronically pursuant to this subsection that is not authenticated in accordance with subparagraph (A) shall not be considered to be valid by the recipient of such subpoena.

''(d) ACTIONS BY ATTORNEY GENERAL AND FEDERAL REGULATORY AGENCIES.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding section 2235(a) and subsection (b)(2) of this section, if the Attorney General or the appropriate Federal regulatory agency determines, based on information provided in response to a subpoena issued pursuant to subsection (c), that the facts relating to the covered cyber incident or ransom payment at issue may constitute grounds for a regulatory enforcement action or criminal prosecution, the Attorney General or the appropriate Federal regulatory agency may use that information for a regulatory enforcement action or criminal prosecution.

''(2) APPLICATION TO CERTAIN ENTITIES AND THIRD PARTIES.—A covered cyber incident or ransom payment report submitted to the Center by an entity that makes a ransom payment or third party under section 2232 shall not be used by any Federal, State, Tribal, or local government to investigate or take another law enforcement action against the entity that makes a ransom payment or third party.

''(3) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this subtitle shall be construed to provide an entity that submits a covered cyber incident report or ransom payment report under section 2232 any immunity from law enforcement action for making a ransom payment otherwise prohibited by law.

''(e) CONSIDERATIONS.—When determining whether to exercise the authorities provided under this section, the Director shall take into consideration—

''(1) the size and complexity of the entity;

''(2) the complexity in determining if a covered cyber incident has occurred; and

''(3) prior interaction with the Agency or awareness of the entity of the policies and procedures of the Agency for reporting covered cyber incidents and ransom payments.

''(f) EXCLUSIONS.—This section shall not apply to a State, local, Tribal, or territorial government entity.

''(g) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—The Director shall submit to Congress an annual report on the number of times the Director—

''(1) issued an initial request for information pursuant to subsection (b);

''(2) issued a subpoena pursuant to subsection (c); or

''(3) referred a matter to the Attorney General for a civil action pursuant to subsection (c)(2).

''(h) PUBLICATION OF THE ANNUAL REPORT.—The Director shall publish a version of the annual report required under subsection (g) on the website of the Agency, which shall include, at a minimum, the number of times the Director—

''(1) issued an initial request for information pursuant to subsection (b); or

''(2) issued a subpoena pursuant to subsection (c).

''(i) ANONYMIZATION OF REPORTS.—The Director shall ensure any victim information contained in a report required to be published under subsection (h) be anonymized before the report is published.

''SEC. 2235. INFORMATION SHARED WITH OR PROVIDED TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT.

''(a) DISCLOSURE, RETENTION, AND USE.—

''(1) AUTHORIZED ACTIVITIES.—Information provided to the Center or Agency pursuant to section 2232 or 2233 may be disclosed to, retained by, and used by, consistent with otherwise applicable provisions of Federal law, any Federal agency or department, component, officer, employee, or agent of the Federal Government solely for—

''(A) a cybersecurity purpose;

''(B) the purpose of identifying—

''(i) a cyber threat, including the source of the cyber threat; or

''(ii) a security vulnerability;

''(C) the purpose of responding to, or otherwise preventing or mitigating, a specific threat of death, a specific threat of serious bodily harm, or a specific threat of serious economic harm, including a terrorist act or use of a weapon of mass destruction;

''(D) the purpose of responding to, investigating, prosecuting, or otherwise preventing or mitigating, a serious threat to a minor, including sexual exploitation and threats to physical safety; or

''(E) the purpose of preventing, investigating, disrupting, or prosecuting an offense arising out of a cyber incident reported pursuant to section 2232 or 2233 or any of the offenses listed in section 105(d)(5)(A)(v) of the Cybersecurity Act of 2015 (6 U.S.C. 1504(d)(5)(A)(v)).

''(2) AGENCY ACTIONS AFTER RECEIPT.—

''(A) RAPID, CONFIDENTIAL SHARING OF CYBER THREAT INDICATORS.—Upon receiving a covered cyber incident or ransom payment report submitted pursuant to this section, the center shall immediately review the report to determine whether the incident that is the subject of the report is connected to an ongoing cyber threat or security vulnerability and where applicable, use such report to identify, develop, and rapidly disseminate to appropriate stakeholders actionable, anonymized cyber threat indicators and defensive measures.

''(B) STANDARDS FOR SHARING SECURITY VULNERABILITIES.—With respect to information in a covered cyber incident or ransom payment report regarding a security vulnerability referred to in paragraph (1)(B)(ii), the Director shall develop principles that govern the timing and manner in which information relating to security vulnerabilities may be shared, consistent with common industry best practices and United States and international standards.

''(3) PRIVACY AND CIVIL LIBERTIES.—Information contained in covered cyber incident and ransom payment reports submitted to the Center or the Agency pursuant to section 2232 shall be retained, used, and disseminated, where permissible and appropriate, by the Federal Government in accordance with processes to be developed for the protection of personal information consistent with processes adopted pursuant to section 105 of the Cybersecurity Act of 2015 (6 U.S.C. 1504) and in a manner that protects from unauthorized use or disclosure any information that may contain—

''(A) personal information of a specific individual; or

''(B) information that identifies a specific individual that is not directly related to a cybersecurity threat.

''(4) DIGITAL SECURITY.—The Center and the Agency shall ensure that reports submitted to the Center or the Agency pursuant to section 2232, and any information contained in those reports, are collected, stored, and protected at a minimum in accordance with the requirements for moderate impact Federal information systems, as described in Federal Information Processing Standards Publication 199, or any successor document.

''(5) PROHIBITION ON USE OF INFORMATION IN REGULATORY ACTIONS.—A Federal, State, local, or Tribal government shall not use information about a covered cyber incident or ransom payment obtained solely through reporting directly to the Center or the Agency in accordance with this subtitle to regulate, including through an enforcement action, the activities of the covered entity or entity that made a ransom payment.

''(b) NO WAIVER OF PRIVILEGE OR PROTECTION.—The submission of a report to the Center or the Agency under section 2232 shall not constitute a waiver of any applicable privilege or protection provided by law, including trade secret protection and attorney-client privilege.

''(c) EXEMPTION FROM DISCLOSURE.—Information contained in a report submitted to the Office under section 2232 shall be exempt from disclosure under section 552(b)(3)(B) of title 5, United States Code (commonly known as the 'Freedom of Information Act') and any State, Tribal, or local provision of law requiring disclosure of information or records.

''(d) EX PARTE COMMUNICATIONS.—The submission of a report to the Agency under section 2232 shall not be subject to a rule of any Federal agency or department or any judicial doctrine regarding ex parte communications with a decision-making official.

''(e) LIABILITY PROTECTIONS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—No cause of action shall lie or be maintained in any court by any person or entity and any such action shall be promptly dismissed for the submission of a report pursuant to section 2232(a) that is submitted in conformance with this subtitle and the rule promulgated under section 2232(b), except that this subsection shall not apply with regard to an action by the Federal Government pursuant to section 2234(c)(2).

''(2) SCOPE.—The liability protections provided in subsection (e) shall only apply to or affect litigation that is solely based on the submission of a covered cyber incident report or ransom payment report to the Center or the Agency.

''(3) RESTRICTIONS.—Notwithstanding paragraph (2), no report submitted to the Agency pursuant to this subtitle or any communication, document, material, or other record, created for the sole purpose of preparing, drafting, or submitting such report, may be received in evidence, subject to discovery, or otherwise used in any trial, hearing, or other proceeding in or before any court, regulatory body, or other authority of the United

States, a State, or a political subdivision thereof, provided that nothing in this subtitle shall create a defense to discovery or otherwise affect the discovery of any communication, document, material, or other record not created for the sole purpose of preparing, drafting, or submitting such report.

''(f) SHARING WITH NON-FEDERAL ENTITIES.—The Agency shall anonymize the victim who reported the information when making information provided in reports received under section 2232 available to critical infrastructure owners and operators and the general public.

''(g) PROPRIETARY INFORMATION.—Information contained in a report submitted to the Agency under section 2232 shall be considered the commercial, financial, and proprietary information of the covered entity when so designated by the covered entity.

''(h) STORED COMMUNICATIONS ACT.—Nothing in this subtitle shall be construed to permit or require disclosure by a provider of a remote computing service or a provider of an electronic communication service to the public of information not otherwise permitted or required to be disclosed under chapter 121 of title 18, United States Code (commonly known as the 'Stored Communications Act').''.

(b) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of contents in section 1(b) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (Public Law 107–296; 116 Stat. 2135) is amended by inserting after the items relating to subtitle B of title XXII the following:

''Subtitle C—Cyber Incident Reporting

''Sec. 2230. Definitions.
''Sec. 2231. Cyber Incident Review.
''Sec. 2232. Required reporting of certain cyber incidents.
''Sec. 2233. Voluntary reporting of other cyber incidents.
''Sec. 2234. Noncompliance with required reporting.
''Sec. 2235. Information shared with or provided to the Federal Government.''.

SEC. 5104. FEDERAL SHARING OF INCIDENT REPORTS.

(a) CYBER INCIDENT REPORTING SHARING.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law or regulation, any Federal agency, including any independent establishment (as defined in section 104 of title 5, United States Code), that receives a report from an entity of a cyber incident, including a ransomware attack, shall provide the report to the Director as soon as possible, but not later than 24 hours after receiving the report, unless a shorter period is required by an agreement made between the Cybersecurity Infrastructure Security Agency and the recipient Federal agency. The Director shall share and coordinate each report pursuant to section 2231(b) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002, as added by section 5103 of this title.

(2) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—The requirements described in paragraph (1) shall not be construed to be a violation of any provision of law or policy that would otherwise prohibit disclosure within the executive branch.

(3) PROTECTION OF INFORMATION.—The Director shall comply with any obligations of the recipient Federal agency described in paragraph (1) to protect information, including with respect to privacy, confidentiality, or information security, if those obligations would impose greater protection requirements than this title or the amendments made by this title.

(4) FOIA EXEMPTION.—Any report received by the Director pursuant to paragraph (1) shall be exempt from disclosure under section 552(b)(3) of title 5, United States Code (commonly known as the ''Freedom of Information Act'').

(b) CREATION OF COUNCIL.—Section 1752(c) of the William M. (Mac) Thornberry National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021 (6 U.S.C. 1500(c)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)—

(A) in subparagraph (G), by striking ''and'' at the end;

(B) by redesignating subparagraph (H) as subparagraph (I); and

(C) by inserting after subparagraph (G) the following:

''(H) lead an intergovernmental Cyber Incident Reporting Council, in coordination with the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, the Attorney General, and the Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency and in consultation with Sector Risk Management Agencies (as defined in section 2201 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 651)) and other appropriate Federal agencies, to coordinate, deconflict, and harmonize Federal incident reporting requirements, including those issued through regulations, for covered entities (as defined in section 2230 of such Act) and entities that make a ransom payment (as defined in such section 2201 (6 U.S.C. 651)); and''; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

''(3) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in paragraph (1)(H) shall be construed to provide any additional regulatory authority to any Federal entity.''.

(c) HARMONIZING REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.—The National Cyber Director shall, in consultation with the Director, the Attorney General, the Cyber Incident Reporting Council described in section 1752(c)(1)(H) of the William M. (Mac) Thornberry National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021 (6 U.S.C. 1500(c)(1)(H)), and the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, to the maximum extent practicable—

(1) periodically review existing regulatory requirements, including the information required in such reports, to report cyber incidents and ensure that any such reporting requirements and procedures avoid conflicting, duplicative, or burdensome requirements; and

(2) coordinate with the Director, the Attorney General, and regulatory authorities that receive reports relating to cyber incidents to identify opportunities to streamline reporting processes, and where feasible, facilitate interagency agreements between such authorities to permit the sharing of such reports, consistent with applicable law and policy, without impacting the ability of such agencies to gain timely situational awareness of a covered cyber incident or ransom payment.

SEC. 5105. RANSOMWARE VULNERABILITY WARNING PILOT PROGRAM.

(a) PROGRAM.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Director shall establish a ransomware vulnerability warning program to leverage existing authorities and technology to specifically develop processes and procedures for, and to dedicate resources to, identifying information systems that contain security vulnerabilities associated with common ransomware attacks, and to notify the owners of those vulnerable systems of their security vulnerability.

(b) IDENTIFICATION OF VULNERABLE SYSTEMS.—The pilot program established under subsection (a) shall—

(1) identify the most common security vulnerabilities utilized in ransomware attacks and mitigation techniques; and

(2) utilize existing authorities to identify Federal and other relevant information systems that contain the security vulnerabilities identified in paragraph (1).

(c) ENTITY NOTIFICATION.—

(1) IDENTIFICATION.—If the Director is able to identify the entity at risk that owns or operates a vulnerable information system identified in subsection (b), the Director may notify the owner of the information system.

(2) NO IDENTIFICATION.—If the Director is not able to identify the entity at risk that owns or operates a vulnerable information system identified in subsection (b), the Director may utilize the subpoena authority pursuant to section 2209 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 659) to identify and notify the entity at risk pursuant to the procedures within that section.

(3) REQUIRED INFORMATION.—A notification made under paragraph (1) shall include information on the identified security vulnerability and mitigation techniques.

(d) PRIORITIZATION OF NOTIFICATIONS.—To the extent practicable, the Director shall prioritize covered entities for identification and notification activities under the pilot program established under this section.

(e) LIMITATION ON PROCEDURES.—No procedure, notification, or other authorities utilized in the execution of the pilot program established under subsection (a) shall require an owner or operator of a vulnerable information system to take any action as a result of a notice of a security vulnerability made pursuant to subsection (c).

(f) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this section shall be construed to provide additional authorities to the Director to identify vulnerabilities or vulnerable systems.

(g) TERMINATION.—The pilot program established under subsection (a) shall terminate on the date that is 4 years after the date of enactment of this Act.

SEC. 5106. RANSOMWARE THREAT MITIGATION ACTIVITIES.

(a) JOINT RANSOMWARE TASK FORCE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the National Cyber Director, in consultation with the Attorney General and the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, shall establish and chair the Joint Ransomware Task Force to coordinate an ongoing nationwide campaign against ransomware attacks, and identify and pursue opportunities for international cooperation.

(2) COMPOSITION.—The Joint Ransomware Task Force shall consist of participants from Federal agencies, as determined appropriate by the National Cyber Director in consultation with the Secretary of Homeland Security.

(3) RESPONSIBILITIES.—The Joint Ransomware Task Force, utilizing only existing authorities of each participating agency, shall coordinate across the Federal Government the following activities:

(A) Prioritization of intelligence-driven operations to disrupt specific ransomware actors.

(B) Consult with relevant private sector, State, local, Tribal, and territorial governments and international stakeholders to identify needs and establish mechanisms for providing input into the Task Force.

(C) Identifying, in consultation with relevant entities, a list of highest threat ransomware entities updated on an ongoing basis, in order to facilitate—

(i) prioritization for Federal action by appropriate Federal agencies; and

(ii) identify metrics for success of said actions.

(D) Disrupting ransomware criminal actors, associated infrastructure, and their finances.

(E) Facilitating coordination and collaboration between Federal entities and relevant entities, including the private sector, to improve Federal actions against ransomware threats.

(F) Collection, sharing, and analysis of ransomware trends to inform Federal actions.

(G) Creation of after-action reports and other lessons learned from Federal actions that identify successes and failures to improve subsequent actions.

(H) Any other activities determined appropriate by the task force to mitigate the threat of ransomware attacks against Federal and non-Federal entities.

(b) CLARIFYING PRIVATE SECTOR LAWFUL DEFENSIVE MEASURES.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the National Cyber Director, in coordination with the Secretary of Homeland Security and the Attorney General, shall submit to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs and the Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate and the Committee on Homeland Security, the Committee on the Judiciary, and the Committee on Oversight and Reform of the House of Representatives a report that describes defensive measures that private sector actors can take when countering ransomware attacks and what laws need to be clarified to enable that action.

(c) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this section shall be construed to provide any additional authority to any Federal agency.

SEC. 5107. CONGRESSIONAL REPORTING.

(a) REPORT ON STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT.—Not later than 30 days after the date on which the Director issues the final rule under section 2232(b) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002, as added by section 5103(b) of this title, the Director shall submit to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives a report that describes how the Director engaged stakeholders in the development of the final rule.

(b) REPORT ON OPPORTUNITIES TO STRENGTHEN SECURITY RESEARCH.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Director shall submit to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives a report describing how the National Cybersecurity and Communications Integration Center established under section 2209 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 659) has carried out activities under section 2231(a)(9) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002, as added by section 5103(a) of this title, by proactively identifying opportunities to use cyber incident data to inform and enable cybersecurity research within the academic and private sector.

(c) REPORT ON RANSOMWARE VULNERABILITY WARNING PILOT PROGRAM.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter for the duration of the pilot program established under section 5105, the Director shall submit to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives a report, which may include a classified annex, on the effectiveness of the pilot program, which shall include a discussion of the following:

(1) The effectiveness of the notifications under section 5105(c) in mitigating security vulnerabilities and the threat of ransomware.

(2) Identification of the most common vulnerabilities utilized in ransomware.

(3) The number of notifications issued during the preceding year.

(4) To the extent practicable, the number of vulnerable devices or systems mitigated under this pilot by the Agency during the preceding year.

(d) REPORT ON HARMONIZATION OF REPORTING REGULATIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date on which the National Cyber Director convenes the Council described in section 1752(c)(1)(H) of the William M. (Mac) Thornberry National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021 (6 U.S.C. 1500(c)(1)(H)), the National Cyber Director shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report that includes—

(A) a list of duplicative Federal cyber incident reporting requirements on covered entities and entities that make a ransom payment;

(B) a description of any challenges in harmonizing the duplicative reporting requirements;

(C) any actions the National Cyber Director intends to take to facilitate harmonizing the duplicative reporting requirements; and

(D) any proposed legislative changes necessary to address the duplicative reporting.

(2) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in paragraph (1) shall be construed to provide any additional regulatory authority to any Federal agency.

(e) GAO REPORTS.—

(1) IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS TITLE.—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives a report on the implementation of this title and the amendments made by this title.

(2) EXEMPTIONS TO REPORTING.—Not later than 1 year after the date on which the Director issues the final rule required under section 2232(b) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002, as added by section 5103 of this title, the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives a report on the exemptions to reporting under paragraphs (2) and (5) of section 2232(a) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002, as added by section 5103 of this title, which shall include—

(A) to the extent practicable, an evaluation of the quantity of incidents not reported to the Federal Government;

(B) an evaluation of the impact on impacted entities, homeland security, and the national economy of the ransomware criminal ecosystem of incidents and ransom payments, including a discussion on the scope of impact of incidents that were not reported to the Federal Government;

(C) an evaluation of the burden, financial and otherwise, on entities required to report cyber incidents under this title, including an analysis of entities that meet the definition of a small organization and would be exempt from ransom payment reporting but not for being a covered entity; and

(D) a description of the consequences and effects of the exemptions.

(f) REPORT ON EFFECTIVENESS OF ENFORCEMENT MECHANISMS.—Not later than 1 year after the date on which the Director issues the final rule required under section 2232(b) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002, as added by section 5103 of this title, the Director shall submit to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives a report on the effectiveness of the enforcement mechanisms within section 2234 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002, as added by section 5103 of this title.

TITLE LII—CISA TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS AND IMPROVEMENTS ACT OF 2021

SEC. 5201. SHORT TITLE.

This title may be cited as the ''CISA Technical Corrections and Improvements Act of 2021''.

SEC. 5202. REDESIGNATIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subtitle A of title XXII of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 651 et seq.) is amended—

(1) by redesignating section 2217 (6 U.S.C. 665f) as section 2220;

(2) by redesignating section 2216 (6 U.S.C. 665e) as section 2219;

(3) by redesignating the fourth section 2215 (relating to Sector Risk Management Agencies) (6 U.S.C. 665d) as section 2218;

(4) by redesignating the third section 2215 (relating to the Cybersecurity State Coordinator) (6 U.S.C. 665c) as section 2217; and

(5) by redesignating the second section 2215 (relating to the Joint Cyber Planning Office) (6 U.S.C. 665b) as section 2216.

(b) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—Section 2202(c) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 652(c)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (11), by striking ''and'' at the end;

(2) in the first paragraph (12)—

(A) by striking ''section 2215'' and inserting ''section 2217''; and

(B) by striking ''and'' at the end; and

(3) by redesignating the second and third paragraphs (12) as paragraphs (13) and (14), respectively.

(c) ADDITIONAL TECHNICAL AMENDMENT.—

(1) AMENDMENT.—Section 904(b)(1) of the DOTGOV Act of 2020 (title IX of division U of Public Law 116–260) is amended, in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking ''Homeland Security Act'' and inserting ''Homeland Security Act of 2002''.

(2) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by paragraph (1) shall take effect as if enacted as part of the DOTGOV Act of 2020 (title IX of division U of Public Law 116–260).

SEC. 5203. CONSOLIDATION OF DEFINITIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Title XXII of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 651) is amended by inserting before the subtitle A heading the following:

''SEC. 2200. DEFINITIONS.

''Except as otherwise specifically provided, in this title:

''(1) AGENCY.—The term 'Agency' means the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency.

''(2) AGENCY INFORMATION.—The term 'agency information' means information collected or maintained by or on behalf of an agency.

''(3) AGENCY INFORMATION SYSTEM.—The term 'agency information system' means an information system used or operated by an agency or by another entity on behalf of an agency.

''(4) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.—The term 'appropriate congressional committees' means—

''(A) the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate; and

''(B) the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives.

''(5) CLOUD SERVICE PROVIDER.—The term 'cloud service provider' means an entity offering products or services related to cloud computing, as defined by the National Institutes of Standards and Technology in NIST Special Publication 800–145 and any amendatory or superseding document relating thereto.

''(6) CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE INFORMATION.—The term 'critical infrastructure information' means information not customarily in the public domain and related to the security of critical infrastructure or protected systems, including—

''(A) actual, potential, or threatened interference with, attack on, compromise of, or incapacitation of critical infrastructure or protected systems by either physical or computer-based attack or other similar conduct (including the misuse of or unauthorized access to all types of communications and data transmission systems) that violates Federal, State, or local law, harms interstate commerce of the United States, or threatens public health or safety;

''(B) the ability of any critical infrastructure or protected system to resist such interference, compromise, or incapacitation, including any planned or past assessment, projection, or estimate of the vulnerability of critical infrastructure or a protected system, including security testing, risk evaluation thereto, risk management planning, or risk audit; or

''(C) any planned or past operational problem or solution regarding critical infrastructure or protected systems, including repair, recovery, reconstruction, insurance, or continuity, to the extent it is related to such interference, compromise, or incapacitation.

''(7) CYBER THREAT INDICATOR.—The term 'cyber threat indicator' means information that is necessary to describe or identify—

''(A) malicious reconnaissance, including anomalous patterns of communications that appear to be transmitted for the purpose of gathering technical information related to a cybersecurity threat or security vulnerability;

''(B) a method of defeating a security control or exploitation of a security vulnerability;

''(C) a security vulnerability, including anomalous activity that appears to indicate the existence of a security vulnerability;

''(D) a method of causing a user with legitimate access to an information system or information that is stored on, processed by, or transiting an information system to unwittingly enable the defeat of a security control or exploitation of a security vulnerability;

''(E) malicious cyber command and control;

''(F) the actual or potential harm caused by an incident, including a description of the information exfiltrated as a result of a particular cybersecurity threat;

''(G) any other attribute of a cybersecurity threat, if disclosure of such attribute is not otherwise prohibited by law; or

''(H) any combination thereof.

''(8) CYBERSECURITY PURPOSE.—The term 'cybersecurity purpose' means the purpose of protecting an information system or information that is stored on, processed by, or transiting an information system from a cybersecurity threat or security vulnerability.

''(9) CYBERSECURITY RISK.—The term 'cybersecurity risk'—

''(A) means threats to and vulnerabilities of information or information systems and any related consequences caused by or resulting from unauthorized access, use, disclosure, degradation, disruption, modification, or destruction of such information or information systems, including such related consequences caused by an act of terrorism; and

''(B) does not include any action that solely involves a violation of a consumer term of service or a consumer licensing agreement.

''(10) CYBERSECURITY THREAT.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subparagraph (B), the term 'cybersecurity threat' means an action, not protected by the First Amendment to the Constitution of the United States, on or through an information system that may result in an unauthorized effort to adversely impact the security, availability, confidentiality, or integrity of an information system or information that is stored on, processed by, or transiting an information system.

''(B) EXCLUSION.—The term 'cybersecurity threat' does not include any action that solely involves a violation of a consumer term of service or a consumer licensing agreement.

''(11) DEFENSIVE MEASURE.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subparagraph (B), the term 'defensive measure' means an action, device, procedure, signature, technique, or other measure applied to an information system or information that is stored on, processed by, or transiting an information system that detects, prevents, or mitigates a known or suspected cybersecurity threat or security vulnerability.

''(B) EXCLUSION.—The term 'defensive measure' does not include a measure that destroys, renders unusable, provides unauthorized access to, or substantially harms an information system or information stored on, processed by, or transiting such information system not owned by—

''(i) the entity operating the measure; or

''(ii) another entity or Federal entity that is authorized to provide consent and has provided consent to that private entity for operation of such measure.

''(12) HOMELAND SECURITY ENTERPRISE.—The term 'Homeland Security Enterprise' means relevant governmental and nongovernmental entities involved in homeland security, including Federal, State, local, and Tribal government officials, private sector representatives, academics, and other policy experts.

''(13) INCIDENT.—The term 'incident' means an occurrence that actually or imminently jeopardizes, without lawful authority, the integrity, confidentiality, or availability of information on an information system, or actually or imminently jeopardizes, without lawful authority, an information system.

''(14) INFORMATION SHARING AND ANALYSIS ORGANIZATION.—The term 'Information Sharing and Analysis Organization' means any formal or informal entity or collaboration created or employed by public or private sector organizations, for purposes of—

''(A) gathering and analyzing critical infrastructure information, including information related to cybersecurity risks and incidents, in order to better understand security problems and interdependencies related to critical infrastructure, including cybersecurity risks and incidents, and protected systems, so as to ensure the availability, integrity, and reliability thereof;

''(B) communicating or disclosing critical infrastructure information, including cybersecurity risks and incidents, to help prevent, detect, mitigate, or recover from the effects of a interference, compromise, or a incapacitation problem related to critical infrastructure, including cybersecurity risks and incidents, or protected systems; and

''(C) voluntarily disseminating critical infrastructure information, including cybersecurity risks and incidents, to its members, State, local, and Federal Governments, or any other entities that may be of assistance in carrying out the purposes specified in subparagraphs (A) and (B).

''(15) INFORMATION SYSTEM.—The term 'information system' has the meaning given the term in section 3502 of title 44, United States Code.

''(16) INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY.—The term 'intelligence community' has the meaning given the term in section 3(4) of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3003(4)).

''(17) MANAGED SERVICE PROVIDER.—The term 'managed service provider' means an entity that delivers services, such as network, application, infrastructure, or security services, via ongoing and regular support and active administration on the premises of a customer, in the data center of the entity (such as hosting), or in a third party data center.

''(18) MONITOR.—The term 'monitor' means to acquire, identify, or scan, or to possess, information that is stored on, processed by, or transiting an information system.

''(19) NATIONAL CYBERSECURITY ASSET RESPONSE ACTIVITIES.—The term 'national cybersecurity asset response activities' means—

''(A) furnishing cybersecurity technical assistance to entities affected by cybersecurity risks to protect assets, mitigate vulnerabilities, and reduce impacts of cyber incidents;

''(B) identifying other entities that may be at risk of an incident and assessing risk to the same or similar vulnerabilities;

''(C) assessing potential cybersecurity risks to a sector or region, including potential cascading effects, and developing courses of action to mitigate such risks;

''(D) facilitating information sharing and operational coordination with threat response; and

''(E) providing guidance on how best to utilize Federal resources and capabilities in a timely, effective manner to speed recovery from cybersecurity risks.

''(20) NATIONAL SECURITY SYSTEM.—The term 'national security system' has the meaning given the term in section 11103 of title 40, United States Code.

''(21) RANSOM PAYMENT.—The term 'ransom payment' means the transmission of any money or other property or asset, including virtual currency, or any portion thereof, which has at any time been delivered as ransom in connection with a ransomware attack.

''(22) RANSOMWARE ATTACK.—The term 'ransomware attack'—

''(A) means a cyber incident that includes the use or threat of use of unauthorized or malicious code on an information system, or the use or threat of use of another digital mechanism such as a denial of service attack, to interrupt or disrupt the operations of an information system or compromise the confidentiality, availability, or integrity of electronic data stored on, processed by, or transiting an information system to extort a demand for a ransom payment; and

''(B) does not include any such event where the demand for payment is made by a Federal Government entity, good faith security research, or in response to an invitation by the owner or operator of the information system for third parties to identify vulnerabilities in the information system.

''(23) SECTOR RISK MANAGEMENT AGENCY.—The term 'Sector Risk Management Agency' means a Federal department or agency, designated by law or Presidential directive, with responsibility for providing institutional knowledge and specialized expertise of a sector, as well as leading, facilitating, or supporting programs and associated activities of its designated critical infrastructure sector in the all hazards environment in coordination with the Department.

''(24) SECURITY CONTROL.—The term 'security control' means the management, operational, and technical controls used to protect against an unauthorized effort to adversely affect the confidentiality, integrity, and availability of an information system or its information.

''(25) SECURITY VULNERABILITY.—The term 'security vulnerability' means any attribute of hardware, software, process, or procedure that could enable or facilitate the defeat of a security control.

''(26) SHARING.—The term 'sharing' (including all conjugations thereof) means providing, receiving, and disseminating (including all conjugations of each such terms).

''(27) SUPPLY CHAIN COMPROMISE.—The term 'supply chain compromise' means a cyber incident within the supply chain of an information system that an adversary can leverage to jeopardize the confidentiality, integrity, or availability of the information technology system or the information the system processes, stores, or transmits, and can occur at any point during the life cycle.

''(28) VIRTUAL CURRENCY.—The term 'virtual currency' means the digital representation of value that functions as a medium of exchange, a unit of account, or a store of value.

''(29) VIRTUAL CURRENCY ADDRESS.—The term 'virtual currency address' means a unique public cryptographic key identifying the location to which a virtual currency payment can be made.''.

(b) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—The Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 101 et seq.) is amended—

(1) by amending section 2201 to read as follows:

''SEC. 2201. DEFINITION.

''In this subtitle, the term 'Cybersecurity Advisory Committee' means the advisory committee established under section 2219(a).'';

(2) in section 2202—

(A) in subsection (a)(1), by striking ''(in this subtitle referred to as the Agency)'';

(B) in subsection (f)—

(i) in paragraph (1), by inserting ''Executive'' before ''Assistant Director''; and

(ii) in paragraph (2), by inserting ''Executive'' before ''Assistant Director'';

(3) in section 2203(a)(2), by striking ''as the 'Assistant Director' '' and inserting ''as the 'Executive Assistant Director' '';

(4) in section 2204(a)(2), by striking ''as the 'Assistant Director' '' and inserting ''as the 'Executive Assistant Director' '';

(5) in section 2209—

(A) by striking subsection (a);

(B) by redesignating subsections (b) through (o) as subsections (a) through (n), respectively;

(C) in subsection (c)(1)—

(i) in subparagraph (A)(iii), as so redesignated, by striking '', as that term is defined under section 3(4) of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3003(4))''; and

(ii) in subparagraph (B)(ii), by striking ''information sharing and analysis organizations'' and inserting ''Information Sharing and Analysis Organizations'';

(D) in subsection (d), as so redesignated—

(i) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking ''subsection (c)'' and inserting ''subsection (b)''; and

(ii) in paragraph (1)(E)(ii)(II), by striking ''information sharing and analysis organizations'' and inserting ''Information Sharing and Analysis Organizations'';

(E) in subsection (j), as so redesignated, by striking ''subsection (c)(8)'' and inserting ''subsection (b)(8)''; and

(F) in subsection (n), as so redesignated—

(i) in paragraph (2)(A), by striking ''subsection (c)(12)'' and inserting ''subsection (b)(12)''; and

(ii) in paragraph (3)(B)(i), by striking ''subsection (c)(12)'' and inserting ''subsection (b)(12)'';

(6) in section 2210—

(A) by striking subsection (a);

(B) by redesignating subsections (b) through (d) as subsections (a) through (c), respectively;

(C) in subsection (b), as so redesignated—

(i) by striking ''information sharing and analysis organizations (as defined in section 2222(5))'' and inserting ''Information Sharing and Analysis Organizations''; and

(ii) by striking ''(as defined in section 2209)''; and

(D) in subsection (c), as so redesignated, by striking ''subsection (c)'' and inserting ''subsection (b)'';

(7) in section 2211, by striking subsection (h);

(8) in section 2212, by striking ''information sharing and analysis organizations (as defined in section 2222(5))'' and inserting ''Information Sharing and Analysis Organizations'';

(9) in section 2213—

(A) by striking subsection (a);

(B) by redesignating subsections (b) through (f) as subsections (a) through (e); respectively;

(C) in subsection (b), as so redesignated, by striking ''subsection (b)'' each place it appears and inserting ''subsection (a)'';

(D) in subsection (c), as so redesignated, in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking ''subsection (b)'' and inserting ''subsection (a)''; and

(E) in subsection (d), as so redesignated—

(i) in paragraph (1)—

(I) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking ''subsection (c)(2)'' and inserting ''subsection (b)(2)'';

(II) in subparagraph (A), by striking ''subsection (c)(1)'' and inserting ''subsection (b)(1)''; and

(III) in subparagraph (B), by striking ''subsection (c)(2)'' and inserting ''subsection (b)(2)''; and

(ii) in paragraph (2), by striking ''subsection (c)(2)'' and inserting ''subsection (b)(2)'';

(10) in section 2216, as so redesignated—

(A) in subsection (d)(2), by striking ''information sharing and analysis organizations'' and inserting ''Information Sharing and Analysis Organizations''; and

(B) by striking subsection (f) and inserting the following:

''(f) CYBER DEFENSE OPERATION DEFINED.—In this section, the term 'cyber defense operation' means the use of a defensive measure.'';

(11) in section 2218(c)(4)(A), as so redesignated, by striking ''information sharing and analysis organizations'' and inserting ''Information Sharing and Analysis Organizations''; and

(12) in section 2222—

(A) by striking paragraphs (3), (5), and (8);

(B) by redesignating paragraph (4) as paragraph (3); and

(C) by redesignating paragraphs (6) and (7) as paragraphs (4) and (5), respectively.

(c) TABLE OF CONTENTS AMENDMENTS.—The table of contents in section 1(b) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (Public Law 107–296; 116 Stat. 2135) is amended—

(1) by inserting before the item relating to subtitle A of title XXII the following:

''Sec. 2200. Definitions.'';

(2) by striking the item relating to section 2201 and inserting the following:

''Sec. 2201. Definition.''; and

(3) by striking the item relating to section 2214 and all that follows through the item relating to section 2217 and inserting the following:

''Sec. 2214. National Asset Database.
''Sec. 2215. Duties and authorities relating to .gov internet domain.
''Sec. 2216. Joint Cyber Planning Office.
''Sec. 2217. Cybersecurity State Coordinator.
''Sec. 2218. Sector Risk Management Agencies.
''Sec. 2219. Cybersecurity Advisory Committee.
''Sec. 2220. Cybersecurity Education and Training Programs.''.

(d) CYBERSECURITY ACT OF 2015 DEFINITIONS.—Section 102 of the Cybersecurity Act of 2015 (6 U.S.C. 1501) is amended—

(1) by striking paragraphs (4) through (7) and inserting the following:

''(4) CYBERSECURITY PURPOSE.—The term 'cybersecurity purpose' has the meaning given the term in section 2200 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002.

''(5) CYBERSECURITY THREAT.—The term 'cybersecurity threat' has the meaning given the term in section 2200 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002.

''(6) CYBER THREAT INDICATOR.—The term 'cyber threat indicator' has the meaning given the term in section 2200 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002.

''(7) DEFENSIVE MEASURE.—The term 'defensive measure' has the meaning given the term in section 2200 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002.'';

(2) by striking paragraph (13) and inserting the following:

''(13) MONITOR.— The term 'monitor' has the meaning given the term in section 2200 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002.''; and

(3) by striking paragraphs (16) and (17) and inserting the following:

''(16) SECURITY CONTROL.—The term 'security control' has the meaning given the term in section 2200 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002.

''(17) SECURITY VULNERABILITY.—The term 'security vulnerability' has the meaning given the term in section 2200 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002.''.

SEC. 5204. ADDITIONAL TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.

(a) FEDERAL CYBERSECURITY ENHANCEMENT ACT OF 2015.—The Federal Cybersecurity Enhancement Act of 2015 (6 U.S.C. 1521 et seq.) is amended—

(1) in section 222 (6 U.S.C. 1521)—

(A) in paragraph (2), by striking ''section 2210'' and inserting ''section 2200''; and

(B) in paragraph (4), by striking ''section 2209'' and inserting ''section 2200'';

(2) in section 223(b) (6 U.S.C. 151 note), by striking ''section 2213(b)(1)'' each place it appears and inserting ''section 2213(a)(1)'';

(3) in section 226 (6 U.S.C. 1524)—

(A) in subsection (a)—

(i) in paragraph (1), by striking ''section 2213'' and inserting ''section 2200'';

(ii) in paragraph (2), by striking ''section 102'' and inserting ''section 2200 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002'';

(iii) in paragraph (4), by striking ''section 2210(b)(1)'' and inserting ''section 2210(a)(1)''; and

(iv) in paragraph (5), by striking ''section 2213(b)'' and inserting ''section 2213(a)''; and

(B) in subsection (c)(1)(A)(vi), by striking ''section 2213(c)(5)'' and inserting ''section 2213(b)(5)''; and

(4) in section 227(b) (6 U.S.C. 1525(b)), by striking ''section 2213(d)(2)'' and inserting ''section 2213(c)(2)''.

(b) PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE ACT.—Section 2811(b)(4)(D) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 300hh–10(b)(4)(D)) is amended by striking ''section 228(c) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 149(c))'' and inserting ''section 2210(b) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 660(b))''.

(c) WILLIAM M. (MAC) THORNBERRY NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT OF FISCAL YEAR 2021.—Section 9002 of the William M. (Mac) Thornberry National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021 (6 U.S.C. 652a) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) in paragraph (5), by striking ''section 2222(5) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 671(5))'' and inserting ''section 2200 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002''; and

(B) by amending paragraph (7) to read as follows:

''(7) SECTOR RISK MANAGEMENT AGENCY.—The term 'Sector Risk Management Agency' has the meaning given the term in section 2200 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002.'';

(2) in subsection (c)(3)(B), by striking ''section 2201(5)'' and inserting ''section 2200''; and

(3) in subsection (d)—

(A) by striking ''section 2215'' and inserting ''section 2218''; and

(B) by striking '', as added by this section''.

(d) NATIONAL SECURITY ACT OF 1947.—Section 113B of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3049a(b)(4)) is amended by striking ''section 226 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 147)'' and inserting ''section 2208 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 658)''.

(e) IOT CYBERSECURITY IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2020.—Section 5(b)(3) of the IoT Cybersecurity Improvement Act of 2020 (15 U.S.C. 278g–3c) is amended by striking ''section 2209(m) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 659(m))'' and inserting ''section 2209(l) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 659(l))''.

(f) SMALL BUSINESS ACT.—Section 21(a)(8)(B) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 648(a)(8)(B)) is amended by striking ''section 2209(a)'' and inserting ''section 2200''.

(g) TITLE 46.—Section 70101(2) of title 46, United States Code, is amended by striking ''section 227 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 148)'' and inserting ''section 2200 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002''.

SA 4674. Mr. PETERS (for himself and Mr. PORTMAN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end, add the following:

DIVISION E—FEDERAL INFORMATION SECURITY MODERNIZATION ACT OF 2021

SEC. 5101. SHORT TITLE.

This division may be cited as the ''Federal Information Security Modernization Act of 2021''.

SEC. 5102. DEFINITIONS.

In this division, unless otherwise specified:

(1) ADDITIONAL CYBERSECURITY PROCEDURE.—The term ''additional cybersecurity procedure'' has the meaning given the term in section 3552(b) of title 44, United States Code, as amended by this division.

(2) AGENCY.—The term ''agency'' has the meaning given the term in section 3502 of title 44, United States Code.

(3) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.—The term ''appropriate congressional committees'' means—

(A) the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate;

(B) the Committee on Oversight and Reform of the House of Representatives; and

(C) the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives.

(4) DIRECTOR.—The term ''Director'' means the Director of the Office of Management and Budget.

(5) INCIDENT.—The term ''incident'' has the meaning given the term in section 3552(b) of title 44, United States Code.

(6) NATIONAL SECURITY SYSTEM.—The term ''national security system'' has the meaning given the term in section 3552(b) of title 44, United States Code.

(7) PENETRATION TEST.—The term ''penetration test'' has the meaning given the term in section 3552(b) of title 44, United States Code, as amended by this division.

(8) THREAT HUNTING.—The term ''threat hunting'' means proactively and iteratively searching for threats to systems that evade detection by automated threat detection systems.

TITLE LI—UPDATES TO FISMA

SEC. 5121. TITLE 44 AMENDMENTS.

(a) SUBCHAPTER I AMENDMENTS.—Subchapter I of chapter 35 of title 44, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in section 3504—

(A) in subsection (a)(1)(B)—

(i) by striking clause (v) and inserting the following:

''(v) confidentiality, privacy, disclosure, and sharing of information;'';

(ii) by redesignating clause (vi) as clause (vii); and

(iii) by inserting after clause (v) the following:

''(vi) in consultation with the National Cyber Director and the Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency, security of information; and''; and

(B) in subsection (g), by striking paragraph (1) and inserting the following:

''(1) develop, and in consultation with the Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency and the National Cyber Director, oversee the implementation of policies, principles, standards, and guidelines on privacy, confidentiality, security, disclosure and sharing of information collected or maintained by or for agencies; and'';

(2) in section 3505—

(A) in paragraph (3) of the first subsection designated as subsection (c)—

(i) in subparagraph (B)—

(I) by inserting ''the Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency, the National Cyber Director, and'' before ''the Comptroller General''; and

(II) by striking ''and'' at the end;

(ii) in subparagraph (C)(v), by striking the period at the end and inserting ''; and''; and

(iii) by adding at the end the following:

''(D) maintained on a continual basis through the use of automation, machine-readable data, and scanning.''; and

(B) by striking the second subsection designated as subsection (c);

(3) in section 3506—

(A) in subsection (b)(1)(C), by inserting '', availability'' after ''integrity''; and

(B) in subsection (h)(3), by inserting ''security,'' after ''efficiency,''; and

(4) in section 3513—

(A) by redesignating subsection (c) as subsection (d); and

(B) by inserting after subsection (b) the following:

''(c) Each agency providing a written plan under subsection (b) shall provide any portion of the written plan addressing information security or cybersecurity to the Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency.''.

(b) SUBCHAPTER II DEFINITIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 3552(b) of title 44, United States Code, is amended—

(A) by redesignating paragraphs (1), (2), (3), (4), (5), (6), and (7) as paragraphs (2), (3), (4), (5), (6), (9), and (11), respectively;

(B) by inserting before paragraph (2), as so redesignated, the following:

''(1) The term 'additional cybersecurity procedure' means a process, procedure, or other activity that is established in excess of the information security standards promulgated under section 11331(b) of title 40 to increase the security and reduce the cybersecurity risk of agency systems.'';

(C) by inserting after paragraph (6), as so redesignated, the following:

''(7) The term 'high value asset' means information or an information system that the head of an agency determines so critical to the agency that the loss or corruption of the information or the loss of access to the information system would have a serious impact on the ability of the agency to perform the mission of the agency or conduct business.

''(8) The term 'major incident' has the meaning given the term in guidance issued by the Director under section 3598(a).'';

(D) by inserting after paragraph (9), as so redesignated, the following:

''(10) The term 'penetration test' means a specialized type of assessment that—

''(A) is conducted on an information system or a component of an information system; and

''(B) emulates an attack or other exploitation capability of a potential adversary, typically under specific constraints, in order to identify any vulnerabilities of an information system or a component of an information system that could be exploited.''; and

(E) by inserting after paragraph (11), as so redesignated, the following:

''(12) The term 'shared service' means a centralized business or mission capability that is provided to multiple organizations within an agency or to multiple agencies.''.

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(A) HOMELAND SECURITY ACT OF 2002.—Section 1001(c)(1)(A) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 511(1)(A)) is amended by striking ''section 3552(b)(5)'' and inserting ''section 3552(b)''.

(B) TITLE 10.—

(i) SECTION 2222.—Section 2222(i)(8) of title 10, United States Code, is amended by striking ''section 3552(b)(6)(A)'' and inserting ''section 3552(b)(9)(A)''.

(ii) SECTION 2223.—Section 2223(c)(3) of title 10, United States Code, is amended by striking ''section 3552(b)(6)'' and inserting ''section 3552(b)''.

(iii) SECTION 2315.—Section 2315 of title 10, United States Code, is amended by striking ''section 3552(b)(6)'' and inserting ''section 3552(b)''.

(iv) SECTION 2339A.—Section 2339a(e)(5) of title 10, United States Code, is amended by striking ''section 3552(b)(6)'' and inserting ''section 3552(b)''.

(C) HIGH-PERFORMANCE COMPUTING ACT OF 1991.—Section 207(a) of the High-Performance Computing Act of 1991 (15 U.S.C. 5527(a)) is amended by striking ''section 3552(b)(6)(A)(i)'' and inserting ''section 3552(b)(9)(A)(i)''.

(D) INTERNET OF THINGS CYBERSECURITY IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2020.—Section 3(5) of the Internet of Things Cybersecurity Improvement Act of 2020 (15 U.S.C. 278g–3a) is amended by striking ''section 3552(b)(6)'' and inserting ''section 3552(b)''.

(E) NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2013.—Section 933(e)(1)(B) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2013 (10 U.S.C. 2224 note) is amended by striking ''section 3542(b)(2)'' and inserting ''section 3552(b)''.

(F) IKE SKELTON NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2011.—The Ike Skelton National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2011 (Public Law 111–383) is amended—

(i) in section 806(e)(5) (10 U.S.C. 2304 note), by striking ''section 3542(b)'' and inserting ''section 3552(b)'';

(ii) in section 931(b)(3) (10 U.S.C. 2223 note), by striking ''section 3542(b)(2)'' and inserting ''section 3552(b)''; and

(iii) in section 932(b)(2) (10 U.S.C. 2224 note), by striking ''section 3542(b)(2)'' and inserting ''section 3552(b)''.

(G) E-GOVERNMENT ACT OF 2002.—Section 301(c)(1)(A) of the E-Government Act of 2002 (44 U.S.C. 3501 note) is amended by striking

''section 3542(b)(2)'' and inserting ''section 3552(b)''.

(H) NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF STANDARDS AND TECHNOLOGY ACT.—Section 20 of the National Institute of Standards and Technology Act (15 U.S.C. 278g–3) is amended—

(i) in subsection (a)(2), by striking ''section 3552(b)(5)'' and inserting ''section 3552(b)''; and

(ii) in subsection (f)—

(I) in paragraph (3), by striking ''section 3532(1)'' and inserting ''section 3552(b)''; and

(II) in paragraph (5), by striking ''section 3532(b)(2)'' and inserting ''section 3552(b)''.

(c) SUBCHAPTER II AMENDMENTS.—Subchapter II of chapter 35 of title 44, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in section 3551—

(A) in paragraph (4), by striking ''diagnose and improve'' and inserting ''integrate, deliver, diagnose, and improve'';

(B) in paragraph (5), by striking ''and'' at the end;

(C) in paragraph (6), by striking the period at the end and inserting a semi colon; and

(D) by adding at the end the following:

''(7) recognize that each agency has specific mission requirements and, at times, unique cybersecurity requirements to meet the mission of the agency;

''(8) recognize that each agency does not have the same resources to secure agency systems, and an agency should not be expected to have the capability to secure the systems of the agency from advanced adversaries alone; and

''(9) recognize that a holistic Federal cybersecurity model is necessary to account for differences between the missions and capabilities of agencies.'';

(2) in section 3553—

(A) by striking the section heading and inserting ''**Authority and functions of the Director and the Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency**''.

(B) in subsection (a)—

(i) in paragraph (1), by inserting '', in consultation with the Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency and the National Cyber Director,'' before ''overseeing'';

(ii) in paragraph (5), by striking ''and'' at the end; and

(iii) by adding at the end the following:

''(8) promoting, in consultation with the Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency and the Director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology—

''(A) the use of automation to improve Federal cybersecurity and visibility with respect to the implementation of Federal cybersecurity; and

''(B) the use of presumption of compromise and least privilege principles to improve resiliency and timely response actions to incidents on Federal systems.'';

(C) in subsection (b)—

(i) by striking the subsection heading and inserting ''CYBERSECURITY AND INFRASTRUCTURE SECURITY AGENCY'';

(ii) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking ''The Secretary, in consultation with the Director'' and inserting ''The Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency, in consultation with the Director and the National Cyber Director'';

(iii) in paragraph (2)—

(I) in subparagraph (A), by inserting ''and reporting requirements under subchapter IV of this title'' after ''section 3556''; and

(II) in subparagraph (D), by striking ''the Director or Secretary'' and inserting ''the Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency'';

(iv) in paragraph (5), by striking ''coordinating'' and inserting ''leading the coordination of'';

(v) in paragraph (8), by striking ''the Secretary's discretion'' and inserting ''the Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency's discretion''; and

(vi) in paragraph (9), by striking ''as the Director or the Secretary, in consultation with the Director,'' and inserting ''as the Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency'';

(D) in subsection (c)—

(i) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking ''each year'' and inserting ''each year during which agencies are required to submit reports under section 3554(c)'';

(ii) by striking paragraph (1);

(iii) by redesignating paragraphs (2), (3), and (4) as paragraphs (1), (2), and (3), respectively;

(iv) in paragraph (3), as so redesignated, by striking ''and'' at the end;

(v) by inserting after paragraph (3), as so redesignated the following:

''(4) a summary of each assessment of Federal risk posture performed under subsection (i);''; and

(vi) in paragraph (5), by striking the period at the end and inserting ''; and'';

(E) by redesignating subsections (i), (j), (k), and (l) as subsections (j), (k), (l), and (m) respectively;

(F) by inserting after subsection (h) the following:

''(i) FEDERAL RISK ASSESSMENTS.—On an ongoing and continuous basis, the Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency shall perform assessments of Federal risk posture using any available information on the cybersecurity posture of agencies, and brief the Director and National Cyber Director on the findings of those assessments including—

''(1) the status of agency cybersecurity remedial actions described in section 3554(b)(7);

''(2) any vulnerability information relating to the systems of an agency that is known by the agency;

''(3) analysis of incident information under section 3597;

''(4) evaluation of penetration testing performed under section 3559A;

''(5) evaluation of vulnerability disclosure program information under section 3559B;

''(6) evaluation of agency threat hunting results;

''(7) evaluation of Federal and non-Federal cyber threat intelligence;

''(8) data on agency compliance with standards issued under section 11331 of title 40;

''(9) agency system risk assessments performed under section 3554(a)(1)(A); and

''(10) any other information the Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency determines relevant.''; and

(G) in subsection (j), as so redesignated—

(i) by striking ''regarding the specific'' and inserting ''that includes a summary of—

''(1) the specific'';

(ii) in paragraph (1), as so designated, by striking the period at the end and inserting ''; and'' and

(iii) by adding at the end the following:

''(2) the trends identified in the Federal risk assessment performed under subsection (i).''; and

(H) by adding at the end the following:

''(n) BINDING OPERATIONAL DIRECTIVES.—If the Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency issues a binding operational directive or an emergency directive under this section, not later than 2 days after the date on which the binding operational directive requires an agency to take an action, the Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency shall provide to the appropriate reporting entities the status of the implementation of the binding operational directive at the agency.'';

(3) in section 3554—

(A) in subsection (a)—

(i) in paragraph (1)—

(I) by redesignating subparagraphs (A), (B), and (C) as subparagraphs (B), (C), and (D), respectively;

(II) by inserting before subparagraph (B), as so redesignated, the following:

''(A) on an ongoing and continuous basis, performing agency system risk assessments that—

''(i) identify and document the high value assets of the agency using guidance from the Director;

''(ii) evaluate the data assets inventoried under section 3511 for sensitivity to compromises in confidentiality, integrity, and availability;

''(iii) identify agency systems that have access to or hold the data assets inventoried under section 3511;

''(iv) evaluate the threats facing agency systems and data, including high value assets, based on Federal and non-Federal cyber threat intelligence products, where available;

''(v) evaluate the vulnerability of agency systems and data, including high value assets, including by analyzing—

''(I) the results of penetration testing performed by the Department of Homeland Security under section 3553(b)(9);

''(II) the results of penetration testing performed under section 3559A;

''(III) information provided to the agency through the vulnerability disclosure program of the agency under section 3559B;

''(IV) incidents; and

''(V) any other vulnerability information relating to agency systems that is known to the agency;

''(vi) assess the impacts of potential agency incidents to agency systems, data, and operations based on the evaluations described in clauses (ii) and (iv) and the agency systems identified under clause (iii); and

''(vii) assess the consequences of potential incidents occurring on agency systems that would impact systems at other agencies, including due to interconnectivity between different agency systems or operational reliance on the operations of the system or data in the system;'';

(III) in subparagraph (B), as so redesignated, in the matter preceding clause (i), by striking ''providing information'' and inserting ''using information from the assessment conducted under subparagraph (A), providing, in consultation with the Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency, information'';

(IV) in subparagraph (C), as so redesignated—

(aa) in clause (ii) by inserting ''binding'' before ''operational''; and

(bb) in clause (vi), by striking ''and'' at the end; and

(V) by adding at the end the following:

''(E) providing an update on the ongoing and continuous assessment performed under subparagraph (A)—

''(i) upon request, to the inspector general of the agency or the Comptroller General of the United States; and

''(ii) on a periodic basis, as determined by guidance issued by the Director but not less frequently than annually, to—

''(I) the Director;

''(II) the Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency; and

''(III) the National Cyber Director;

''(F) in consultation with the Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency and not less frequently than once every 3 years, performing an evaluation of whether additional cybersecurity procedures are appropriate for securing a system of, or under the supervision of, the agency, which shall—

''(i) be completed considering the agency system risk assessment performed under subparagraph (A); and

''(ii) include a specific evaluation for high value assets;

''(G) not later than 30 days after completing the evaluation performed under subparagraph (F), providing the evaluation and an implementation plan, if applicable, for using additional cybersecurity procedures determined to be appropriate to—

''(i) the Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency;

''(ii) the Director; and

''(iii) the National Cyber Director; and

''(H) if the head of the agency determines there is need for additional cybersecurity procedures, ensuring that those additional cybersecurity procedures are reflected in the budget request of the agency in accordance with the risk-based cyber budget model developed pursuant to section 3553(a)(7);'';

(ii) in paragraph (2)—

(I) in subparagraph (A), by inserting ''in accordance with the agency system risk assessment performed under paragraph (1)(A)'' after ''information systems'';

(II) in subparagraph (B)—

(aa) by striking ''in accordance with standards'' and inserting ''in accordance with—

''(i) standards''; and

(bb) by adding at the end the following:

''(ii) the evaluation performed under paragraph (1)(F); and

''(iii) the implementation plan described in paragraph (1)(G);''; and

(III) in subparagraph (D), by inserting '', through the use of penetration testing, the vulnerability disclosure program established under section 3559B, and other means,'' after ''periodically'';

(iii) in paragraph (3)—

(I) in subparagraph (A)—

(aa) in clause (iii), by striking ''and'' at the end;

(bb) in clause (iv), by adding ''and'' at the end; and

(cc) by adding at the end the following:

''(v) ensure that—

''(I) senior agency information security officers of component agencies carry out responsibilities under this subchapter, as directed by the senior agency information security officer of the agency or an equivalent official; and

''(II) senior agency information security officers of component agencies report to—

''(aa) the senior information security officer of the agency or an equivalent official; and

''(bb) the Chief Information Officer of the component agency or an equivalent official;''; and

(iv) in paragraph (5), by inserting ''and the Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency'' before ''on the effectiveness'';

(B) in subsection (b)—

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

''(1) pursuant to subsection (a)(1)(A), performing ongoing and continuous agency system risk assessments, which may include using guidelines and automated tools consistent with standards and guidelines promulgated under section 11331 of title 40, as applicable;'';

(ii) in paragraph (2)—

(I) by striking subparagraph (B) and inserting the following:

''(B) comply with the risk-based cyber budget model developed pursuant to section 3553(a)(7);''; and

(II) in subparagraph (D)—

(aa) by redesignating clauses (iii) and (iv) as clauses (iv) and (v), respectively;

(bb) by inserting after clause (ii) the following:

''(iii) binding operational directives and emergency directives promulgated by the Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency under section 3553;''; and

(cc) in clause (iv), as so redesignated, by striking ''as determined by the agency; and'' and inserting ''as determined by the agency, considering—

''(I) the agency risk assessment performed under subsection (a)(1)(A); and

''(II) the determinations of applying more stringent standards and additional cybersecurity procedures pursuant to section 11331(c)(1) of title 40; and'';

(iii) in paragraph (5)(A), by inserting '', including penetration testing, as appropriate,'' after ''shall include testing'';

(iv) in paragraph (6), by striking ''planning, implementing, evaluating, and documenting'' and inserting ''planning and implementing and, in consultation with the Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency, evaluating and documenting'';

(v) by redesignating paragraphs (7) and (8) as paragraphs (8) and (9), respectively;

(vi) by inserting after paragraph (6) the following:

''(7) a process for providing the status of every remedial action and known system vulnerability to the Director and the Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency, using automation and machine-readable data to the greatest extent practicable;''; and

(vii) in paragraph (8)(C), as so redesignated—

(I) by striking clause (ii) and inserting the following:

''(ii) notifying and consulting with the Federal information security incident center established under section 3556 pursuant to the requirements of section 3594;'';

(II) by redesignating clause (iii) as clause (iv);

(III) by inserting after clause (ii) the following:

''(iii) performing the notifications and other activities required under subchapter IV of this title; and''; and

(IV) in clause (iv), as so redesignated—

(aa) in subclause (I), by striking ''and relevant offices of inspectors general'';

(bb) in subclause (II), by adding ''and'' at the end;

(cc) by striking subclause (III); and

(dd) by redesignating subclause (IV) as subclause (III);

(C) in subsection (c)—

(i) by redesignating paragraph (2) as paragraph (5);

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

''(1) BIANNUAL REPORT.—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of the Federal Information Security Modernization Act of 2021 and not less frequently than once every 2 years thereafter, using the continuous and ongoing agency system risk assessment under subsection (a)(1)(A), the head of each agency shall submit to the Director, the Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency, the majority and minority leaders of the Senate, the Speaker and minority leader of the House of Representatives, the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate, the Committee on Oversight and Reform of the House of Representatives, the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives, the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate, the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology of the House of Representatives, the appropriate authorization and appropriations committees of Congress, the National Cyber Director, and the Comptroller General of the United States a report that—

''(A) summarizes the agency system risk assessment performed under subsection (a)(1)(A);

''(B) evaluates the adequacy and effectiveness of information security policies, procedures, and practices of the agency to address the risks identified in the agency system risk assessment performed under subsection (a)(1)(A), including an analysis of the agency's cybersecurity and incident response capabilities using the metrics established under section 224(c) of the Cybersecurity Act of 2015 (6 U.S.C. 1522(c));

''(C) summarizes the evaluation and implementation plans described in subparagraphs (F) and (G) of subsection (a)(1) and whether those evaluation and implementation plans call for the use of additional cybersecurity procedures determined to be appropriate by the agency; and

''(D) summarizes the status of remedial actions identified by inspector general of the agency, the Comptroller General of the United States, and any other source determined appropriate by the head of the agency.

''(2) UNCLASSIFIED REPORTS.—Each report submitted under paragraph (1)—

''(A) shall be, to the greatest extent practicable, in an unclassified and otherwise uncontrolled form; and

''(B) may include a classified annex.

''(3) ACCESS TO INFORMATION.—The head of an agency shall ensure that, to the greatest extent practicable, information is included in the unclassified form of the report submitted by the agency under paragraph (2)(A).

''(4) BRIEFINGS.—During each year during which a report is not required to be submitted under paragraph (1), the Director shall provide to the congressional committees described in paragraph (1) a briefing summarizing current agency and Federal risk postures.''; and

(iii) in paragraph (5), as so redesignated, by inserting ''including the reporting procedures established under section 11315(d) of title 40 and subsection (a)(3)(A)(v) of this section''; and

(D) in subsection (d)(1), in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by inserting ''and the Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency'' after ''the Director''; and

(4) in section 3555—

(A) in the section heading, by striking ''**ANNUAL INDEPENDENT**'' and inserting ''**INDEPENDENT**'';

(B) in subsection (a)—

(i) in paragraph (1), by inserting ''during which a report is required to be submitted under section 3553(c),'' after ''Each year'';

(ii) in paragraph (2)(A), by inserting '', including by penetration testing and analyzing the vulnerability disclosure program of the agency'' after ''information systems''; and

(iii) by adding at the end the following:

''(3) An evaluation under this section may include recommendations for improving the cybersecurity posture of the agency.'';

(C) in subsection (b)(1), by striking ''annual'';

(D) in subsection (e)(1), by inserting ''during which a report is required to be submitted under section 3553(c)'' after ''Each year'';

(E) by striking subsection (f) and inserting the following:

''(f) PROTECTION OF INFORMATION.—(1) Agencies, evaluators, and other recipients of information that, if disclosed, may cause grave harm to the efforts of Federal information security officers shall take appropriate steps to ensure the protection of that information, including safeguarding the information from public disclosure.

''(2) The protections required under paragraph (1) shall be commensurate with the risk and comply with all applicable laws and regulations.

''(3) With respect to information that is not related to national security systems, agencies and evaluators shall make a summary of the information unclassified and publicly available, including information that does not identify—

''(A) specific information system incidents; or

''(B) specific information system vulnerabilities.'';

(F) in subsection (g)(2)—

(i) by striking ''this subsection shall'' and inserting ''this subsection—

''(A) shall'';

(ii) in subparagraph (A), as so designated, by striking the period at the end and inserting ''; and''; and

(iii) by adding at the end the following:

''(B) identify any entity that performs an independent evaluation under subsection (b).''; and

(G) by striking subsection (j) and inserting the following:

''(j) GUIDANCE.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Director, in consultation with the Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency, the Chief Information Officers Council, the Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency, and other interested parties as appropriate, shall ensure the development of guidance for evaluating the effectiveness of an information security program and practices

''(2) PRIORITIES.—The guidance developed under paragraph (1) shall prioritize the identification of—

''(A) the most common threat patterns experienced by each agency;

''(B) the security controls that address the threat patterns described in subparagraph (A); and

''(C) any other security risks unique to the networks of each agency.''; and

(5) in section 3556(a)—

(A) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by inserting ''within the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency'' after ''incident center''; and

(B) in paragraph (4), by striking ''3554(b)'' and inserting ''3554(a)(1)(A)''.

(d) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) TABLE OF SECTIONS.—The table of sections for chapter 35 of title 44, United States Code, is amended—

(A) by striking the item relating to section 3553 and inserting the following:

''3553. Authority and functions of the Director and the Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency.''; and

(B) by striking the item relating to section 3555 and inserting the following:

''3555. Independent evaluation.''.

(2) OMB REPORTS.—Section 226(c) of the Cybersecurity Act of 2015 (6 U.S.C. 1524(c)) is amended—

(A) in paragraph (1)(B), in the matter preceding clause (i), by striking ''annually thereafter'' and inserting ''thereafter during the years during which a report is required to be submitted under section 3553(c) of title 44, United States Code''; and

(B) in paragraph (2)(B), in the matter preceding clause (i)—

(i) by striking ''annually thereafter'' and inserting ''thereafter during the years during which a report is required to be submitted under section 3553(c) of title 44, United States Code''; and

(ii) by striking ''the report required under section 3553(c) of title 44, United States Code'' and inserting ''that report''.

(3) NIST RESPONSIBILITIES.—Section 20(d)(3)(B) of the National Institute of Standards and Technology Act (15 U.S.C. 278g–3(d)(3)(B)) is amended by striking ''annual''.

(e) FEDERAL SYSTEM INCIDENT RESPONSE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 35 of title 44, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

''SUBCHAPTER IV—FEDERAL SYSTEM INCIDENT RESPONSE

''§ 3591. Definitions

''(a) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subsection (b), the definitions under sections 3502 and 3552 shall apply to this subchapter.

''(b) ADDITIONAL DEFINITIONS.—As used in this subchapter:

''(1) APPROPRIATE REPORTING ENTITIES.—The term 'appropriate reporting entities' means—

''(A) the majority and minority leaders of the Senate;

''(B) the Speaker and minority leader of the House of Representatives;

''(C) the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate;

''(D) the Committee on Oversight and Reform of the House of Representatives;

''(E) the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives;

''(F) the appropriate authorization and appropriations committees of Congress;

''(G) the Director;

''(H) the Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency;

''(I) the National Cyber Director;

''(J) the Comptroller General of the United States; and

''(K) the inspector general of any impacted agency.

''(2) AWARDEE.—The term 'awardee'—

''(A) means a person, business, or other entity that receives a grant from, or is a party to a cooperative agreement or an other transaction agreement with, an agency; and

''(B) includes any subgrantee of a person, business, or other entity described in subparagraph (A).

''(3) BREACH.—The term 'breach' means—

''(A) a compromise of the security, confidentiality, or integrity of data in electronic form that results in unauthorized access to, or an acquisition of, personal information; or

''(B) a loss of data in electronic form that results in unauthorized access to, or an acquisition of, personal information.

''(4) CONTRACTOR.—The term 'contractor' means—

''(A) a prime contractor of an agency or a subcontractor of a prime contractor of an agency; and

''(B) any person or business that collects or maintains information, including personally identifiable information, on behalf of an agency.

''(5) FEDERAL INFORMATION.—The term 'Federal information' means information created, collected, processed, maintained, disseminated, disclosed, or disposed of by or for the Federal Government in any medium or form.

''(6) FEDERAL INFORMATION SYSTEM.—The term 'Federal information system' means an information system used or operated by an agency, a contractor, an awardee, or another organization on behalf of an agency.

''(7) INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY.—The term 'intelligence community' has the meaning given the term in section 3 of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3003).

''(8) NATIONWIDE CONSUMER REPORTING AGENCY.—The term 'nationwide consumer reporting agency' means a consumer reporting agency described in section 603(p) of the Fair Credit Reporting Act (15 U.S.C. 1681a(p)).

''(9) VULNERABILITY DISCLOSURE.—The term 'vulnerability disclosure' means a vulnerability identified under section 3559B.

''§ 3592. Notification of breach

''(a) NOTIFICATION.—As expeditiously as practicable and without unreasonable delay, and in any case not later than 45 days after an agency has a reasonable basis to conclude that a breach has occurred, the head of the agency, in consultation with a senior privacy officer of the agency, shall—

''(1) determine whether notice to any individual potentially affected by the breach is appropriate based on an assessment of the risk of harm to the individual that considers—

''(A) the nature and sensitivity of the personally identifiable information affected by the breach;

''(B) the likelihood of access to and use of the personally identifiable information affected by the breach;

''(C) the type of breach; and

''(D) any other factors determined by the Director; and

''(2) as appropriate, provide written notice in accordance with subsection (b) to each individual potentially affected by the breach—

''(A) to the last known mailing address of the individual; or

''(B) through an appropriate alternative method of notification that the head of the agency or a designated senior-level individual of the agency selects based on factors determined by the Director.

''(b) CONTENTS OF NOTICE.—Each notice of a breach provided to an individual under subsection (a)(2) shall include—

''(1) a brief description of the rationale for the determination that notice should be provided under subsection (a);

''(2) if possible, a description of the types of personally identifiable information affected by the breach;

''(3) contact information of the agency that may be used to ask questions of the agency, which—

''(A) shall include an e-mail address or another digital contact mechanism; and

''(B) may include a telephone number or a website;

''(4) information on any remedy being offered by the agency;

''(5) any applicable educational materials relating to what individuals can do in response to a breach that potentially affects their personally identifiable information, including relevant contact information for Federal law enforcement agencies and each nationwide consumer reporting agency; and

''(6) any other appropriate information, as determined by the head of the agency or established in guidance by the Director.

''(c) DELAY OF NOTIFICATION.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Attorney General, the Director of National Intelligence, or the Secretary of Homeland Security may delay a notification required under subsection (a) if the notification would—

''(A) impede a criminal investigation or a national security activity;

''(B) reveal sensitive sources and methods;

''(C) cause damage to national security; or

''(D) hamper security remediation actions.

''(2) DOCUMENTATION.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Any delay under paragraph (1) shall be reported in writing to the Director, the Attorney General, the Director of National Intelligence, the Secretary of Homeland Security, the Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency, and the head of the agency and the inspector general of the agency that experienced the breach.

''(B) CONTENTS.—A report required under subparagraph (A) shall include a written statement from the entity that delayed the notification explaining the need for the delay.

''(C) FORM.—The report required under subparagraph (A) shall be unclassified but may include a classified annex.

''(3) RENEWAL.—A delay under paragraph (1) shall be for a period of 60 days and may be renewed.

''(d) UPDATE NOTIFICATION.—If an agency determines there is a significant change in the reasonable basis to conclude that a breach occurred, a significant change to the determination made under subsection (a)(1), or that it is necessary to update the details of the information provided to impacted individuals as described in subsection (b), the agency shall as expeditiously as practicable and without unreasonable delay, and in any case not later than 30 days after such a determination, notify each individual who received a notification pursuant to subsection (a) of those changes.

''(e) EXEMPTION FROM NOTIFICATION.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The head of an agency, in consultation with the inspector general of the agency, may request an exemption from the Director from complying with the notification requirements under subsection (a) if the information affected by the breach is determined by an independent evaluation to be unreadable, including, as appropriate, instances in which the information is—

''(A) encrypted; and

''(B) determined by the Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency to be of sufficiently low risk of exposure.

''(2) APPROVAL.—The Director shall determine whether to grant an exemption requested under paragraph (1) in consultation with—

''(A) the Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency; and

''(B) the Attorney General.

''(3) DOCUMENTATION.—Any exemption granted by the Director under paragraph (1) shall be reported in writing to the head of the agency and the inspector general of the agency that experienced the breach and the Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency.

''(f) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this section shall be construed to limit—

''(1) the Director from issuing guidance relating to notifications or the head of an agency from notifying individuals potentially affected by breaches that are not determined to be major incidents; or

''(2) the Director from issuing guidance relating to notifications of major incidents or the head of an agency from providing more information than described in subsection (b) when notifying individuals potentially affected by breaches.

''§ 3593. Congressional and Executive Branch reports

''(a) INITIAL REPORT.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 72 hours after an agency has a reasonable basis to conclude that a major incident occurred, the head of the agency impacted by the major incident shall submit to the appropriate reporting entities a written report and, to the extent practicable, provide a briefing to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate, the Committee on Oversight and Reform of the House of Representatives, the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives, and the appropriate authorization and appropriations committees of Congress, taking into account—

''(A) the information known at the time of the report;

''(B) the sensitivity of the details associated with the major incident; and

''(C) the classification level of the information contained in the report.

''(2) CONTENTS.—A report required under paragraph (1) shall include, in a manner that excludes or otherwise reasonably protects personally identifiable information and to the extent permitted by applicable law, including privacy and statistical laws—

''(A) a summary of the information available about the major incident, including how the major incident occurred, information indicating that the major incident may be a breach, and information relating to the major incident as a breach, based on information available to agency officials as of the date on which the agency submits the report;

''(B) if applicable, a description and any associated documentation of any circumstances necessitating a delay in or exemption to notification to individuals potentially affected by the major incident under subsection (c) or (e) of section 3592; and

''(C) if applicable, an assessment of the impacts to the agency, the Federal Government, or the security of the United States, based on information available to agency officials on the date on which the agency submits the report.

''(b) SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT.—Within a reasonable amount of time, but not later than 30 days after the date on which an agency submits a written report under subsection (a), the head of the agency shall provide to the appropriate reporting entities written updates on the major incident and, to the extent practicable, provide a briefing to the congressional committees described in subsection (a)(1), including summaries of—

''(1) vulnerabilities, means by which the major incident occurred, and impacts to the agency relating to the major incident;

''(2) any risk assessment and subsequent risk-based security implementation of the affected information system before the date on which the major incident occurred;

''(3) the status of compliance of the affected information system with applicable security requirements at the time of the major incident;

''(4) an estimate of the number of individuals potentially affected by the major incident based on information available to agency officials as of the date on which the agency provides the update;

''(5) an assessment of the risk of harm to individuals potentially affected by the major incident based on information available to agency officials as of the date on which the agency provides the update;

''(6) an update to the assessment of the risk to agency operations, or to impacts on other agency or non-Federal entity operations, affected by the major incident based on information available to agency officials as of the date on which the agency provides the update; and

''(7) the detection, response, and remediation actions of the agency, including any support provided by the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency under section 3594(d) and status updates on the notification process described in section 3592(a), including any delay or exemption described in subsection (c) or (e), respectively, of section 3592, if applicable.

''(c) UPDATE REPORT.—If the agency determines that there is any significant change in the understanding of the agency of the scope, scale, or consequence of a major incident for which an agency submitted a written report under subsection (a), the agency shall provide an updated report to the appropriate reporting entities that includes information relating to the change in understanding.

''(d) ANNUAL REPORT.—Each agency shall submit as part of the annual report required under section 3554(c)(1) of this title a description of each major incident that occurred during the 1-year period preceding the date on which the report is submitted.

''(e) DELAY AND EXEMPTION REPORT.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Director shall submit to the appropriate notification entities an annual report on all notification delays and exemptions granted pursuant to subsections (c) and (d) of section 3592.

''(2) COMPONENT OF OTHER REPORT.—The Director may submit the report required under paragraph (1) as a component of the annual report submitted under section 3597(b).

''(f) REPORT DELIVERY.—Any written report required to be submitted under this section may be submitted in a paper or electronic format.

''(g) THREAT BRIEFING.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 7 days after the date on which an agency has a reasonable basis to conclude that a major incident occurred, the head of the agency, jointly with the National Cyber Director and any other Federal entity determined appropriate by the National Cyber Director, shall provide a briefing to the congressional committees described in subsection (a)(1) on the threat causing the major incident.

''(2) COMPONENTS.—The briefing required under paragraph (1)—

''(A) shall, to the greatest extent practicable, include an unclassified component; and

''(B) may include a classified component.

''(h) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this section shall be construed to limit—

''(1) the ability of an agency to provide additional reports or briefings to Congress; or

''(2) Congress from requesting additional information from agencies through reports, briefings, or other means.

''§ 3594. Government information sharing and incident response

''(a) IN GENERAL.—

''(1) INCIDENT REPORTING.—The head of each agency shall provide any information relating to any incident, whether the information is obtained by the Federal Government directly or indirectly, to the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency and the Office of Management and Budget.

''(2) CONTENTS.—A provision of information relating to an incident made by the head of an agency under paragraph (1) shall—

''(A) include detailed information about the safeguards that were in place when the incident occurred;

''(B) whether the agency implemented the safeguards described in subparagraph (A) correctly;

''(C) in order to protect against a similar incident, identify—

''(i) how the safeguards described in subparagraph (A) should be implemented differently; and

''(ii) additional necessary safeguards; and

''(D) include information to aid in incident response, such as—

''(i) a description of the affected systems or networks;

''(ii) the estimated dates of when the incident occurred; and

''(iii) information that could reasonably help identify the party that conducted the incident.

''(3) INFORMATION SHARING.—To the greatest extent practicable, the Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency shall share information relating to an incident with any agencies that may be impacted by the incident.

''(4) NATIONAL SECURITY SYSTEMS.—Each agency operating or exercising control of a national security system shall share information about incidents that occur on national security systems with the Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency to the extent consistent with standards and guidelines for national security systems issued in accordance with law and as directed by the President.

''(b) COMPLIANCE.—The information provided under subsection (a) shall take into account the level of classification of the information and any information sharing limitations and protections, such as limitations and protections relating to law enforcement, national security, privacy, statistical confidentiality, or other factors determined by the Director

''(c) INCIDENT RESPONSE.—Each agency that has a reasonable basis to conclude that a major incident occurred involving Federal information in electronic medium or form, as defined by the Director and not involving a national security system, regardless of delays from notification granted for a major incident, shall coordinate with the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency regarding—

''(1) incident response and recovery; and

''(2) recommendations for mitigating future incidents.

''§ 3595. Responsibilities of contractors and awardees

''(a) NOTIFICATION.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Unless otherwise specified in a contract, grant, cooperative agreement, or an other transaction agreement, any contractor or awardee of an agency shall report to the agency within the same amount of time such agency is required to report an incident to the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency, if the contractor or awardee has a reasonable basis to conclude that—

''(A) an incident or breach has occurred with respect to Federal information collected, used, or maintained by the contractor or awardee in connection with the contract, grant, cooperative agreement, or other transaction agreement of the contractor or awardee;

''(B) an incident or breach has occurred with respect to a Federal information system used or operated by the contractor or awardee in connection with the contract, grant, cooperative agreement, or other transaction agreement of the contractor or awardee; or

''(C) the contractor or awardee has received information from the agency that the contractor or awardee is not authorized to receive in connection with the contract, grant, cooperative agreement, or other transaction agreement of the contractor or awardee.

''(2) PROCEDURES.—

''(A) MAJOR INCIDENT.—Following a report of a breach or major incident by a contractor or awardee under paragraph (1), the agency, in consultation with the contractor or awardee, shall carry out the requirements under sections 3592, 3593, and 3594 with respect to the major incident.

''(B) INCIDENT.—Following a report of an incident by a contractor or awardee under paragraph (1), an agency, in consultation with the contractor or awardee, shall carry out the requirements under section 3594 with respect to the incident.

''(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This section shall apply on and after the date that is 1 year after the date of enactment of the Federal Information Security Modernization Act of 2021.

''§ 3596. Training

''(a) COVERED INDIVIDUAL DEFINED.—In this section, the term 'covered individual' means an individual who obtains access to Federal information or Federal information systems because of the status of the individual as an employee, contractor, awardee, volunteer, or intern of an agency.

''(b) REQUIREMENT.—The head of each agency shall develop training for covered individuals on how to identify and respond to an incident, including—

''(1) the internal process of the agency for reporting an incident; and

''(2) the obligation of a covered individual to report to the agency a confirmed major incident and any suspected incident involving information in any medium or form, including paper, oral, and electronic.

''(c) INCLUSION IN ANNUAL TRAINING.—The training developed under subsection (b) may be included as part of an annual privacy or security awareness training of an agency.

''§ 3597. Analysis and report on Federal incidents

''(a) ANALYSIS OF FEDERAL INCIDENTS.—

''(1) QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE ANALYSES.—The Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency shall develop, in consultation with the Director and the National Cyber Director, and perform continuous monitoring and quantitative and qualitative analyses of incidents at agencies, including major incidents, including—

''(A) the causes of incidents, including—

''(i) attacker tactics, techniques, and procedures; and

''(ii) system vulnerabilities, including zero days, unpatched systems, and information system misconfigurations;

''(B) the scope and scale of incidents at agencies;

''(C) cross Federal Government root causes of incidents at agencies;

''(D) agency incident response, recovery, and remediation actions and the effectiveness of those actions, as applicable;

''(E) lessons learned and recommendations in responding to, recovering from, remediating, and mitigating future incidents; and

''(F) trends in cross-Federal Government cybersecurity and incident response capabilities using the metrics established under section 224(c) of the Cybersecurity Act of 2015 (6 U.S.C. 1522(c)).

''(2) AUTOMATED ANALYSIS.—The analyses developed under paragraph (1) shall, to the greatest extent practicable, use machine readable data, automation, and machine learning processes.

''(3) SHARING OF DATA AND ANALYSIS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The Director shall share on an ongoing basis the analyses required under this subsection with agencies and the National Cyber Director to—

''(i) improve the understanding of cybersecurity risk of agencies; and

''(ii) support the cybersecurity improvement efforts of agencies.

''(B) FORMAT.—In carrying out subparagraph (A), the Director shall share the analyses—

''(i) in human-readable written products; and

''(ii) to the greatest extent practicable, in machine-readable formats in order to enable automated intake and use by agencies.

''(b) ANNUAL REPORT ON FEDERAL INCIDENTS.—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this section, and not less frequently than annually thereafter, the Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency, in consultation with the Director and other Federal agencies as appropriate, shall submit to the appropriate notification entities a report that includes—

''(1) a summary of causes of incidents from across the Federal Government that categorizes those incidents as incidents or major incidents;

''(2) the quantitative and qualitative analyses of incidents developed under subsection (a)(1) on an agency-by-agency basis and comprehensively across the Federal Government, including—

''(A) a specific analysis of breaches; and

''(B) an analysis of the Federal Government's performance against the metrics established under section 224(c) of the Cybersecurity Act of 2015 (6 U.S.C. 1522(c)); and

''(3) an annex for each agency that includes—

''(A) a description of each major incident;

''(B) the total number of compromises of the agency; and

''(C) an analysis of the agency's performance against the metrics established under section 224(c) of the Cybersecurity Act of 2015 (6 U.S.C. 1522(c)).

''(c) PUBLICATION.—A version of each report submitted under subsection (b) shall be made publicly available on the website of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency during the year in which the report is submitted.

''(d) INFORMATION PROVIDED BY AGENCIES.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The analysis required under subsection (a) and each report submitted under subsection (b) shall use information provided by agencies under section 3594(a).

''(2) NONCOMPLIANCE REPORTS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subparagraph (B), during any year during which the head of an agency does not provide data for an incident to the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency in accordance with section 3594(a), the head of the agency, in coordination with the Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency and the Director, shall submit to the appropriate reporting entities a report that includes—

''(i) data for the incident; and

''(ii) the information described in subsection (b) with respect to the agency.

''(B) EXCEPTION FOR NATIONAL SECURITY SYSTEMS.—The head of an agency that owns or exercises control of a national security system shall not include data for an incident that occurs on a national security system in any report submitted under subparagraph (A).

''(3) NATIONAL SECURITY SYSTEM REPORTS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Annually, the head of an agency that operates or exercises control of a national security system shall submit a report that includes the information described in subsection (b) with respect to the agency to the extent that the submission is consistent with standards and guidelines for national security systems issued in accordance with law and as directed by the President to—

''(i) the majority and minority leaders of the Senate,

''(ii) the Speaker and minority leader of the House of Representatives;

''(iii) the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate;

''(iv) the Select Committee on Intelligence of the Senate;

''(v) the Committee on Armed Services of the Senate;

''(vi) the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate;

''(vii) the Committee on Oversight and Reform of the House of Representatives;

''(viii) the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives;

''(ix) the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence of the House of Representatives;

''(x) the Committee on Armed Services of the House of Representatives; and

''(xi) the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives.

''(B) CLASSIFIED FORM.—A report required under subparagraph (A) may be submitted in a classified form.

''(e) REQUIREMENT FOR COMPILING INFORMATION.—In publishing the public report required under subsection (c), the Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency shall sufficiently compile information such that no specific incident of an agency can be identified, except with the concurrence of the Director of the Office of

Management and Budget and in consultation with the impacted agency.

"§ 3598. Major incident definition

''(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of the Federal Information Security Modernization Act of 2021, the Director, in coordination with the Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency and the National Cyber Director, shall develop and promulgate guidance on the definition of the term 'major incident' for the purposes of subchapter II and this subchapter.

''(b) REQUIREMENTS.—With respect to the guidance issued under subsection (a), the definition of the term 'major incident' shall—

''(1) include, with respect to any information collected or maintained by or on behalf of an agency or an information system used or operated by an agency or by a contractor of an agency or another organization on behalf of an agency—

''(A) any incident the head of the agency determines is likely to have an impact on—

''(i) the national security, homeland security, or economic security of the United States; or

''(ii) the civil liberties or public health and safety of the people of the United States;

''(B) any incident the head of the agency determines likely to result in an inability for the agency, a component of the agency, or the Federal Government, to provide 1 or more critical services;

''(C) any incident that the head of an agency, in consultation with a senior privacy officer of the agency, determines is likely to have a significant privacy impact on 1 or more individual;

''(D) any incident that the head of the agency, in consultation with a senior privacy official of the agency, determines is likely to have a substantial privacy impact on a significant number of individuals;

''(E) any incident the head of the agency determines impacts the operations of a high value asset owned or operated by the agency;

''(F) any incident involving the exposure of sensitive agency information to a foreign entity, such as the communications of the head of the agency, the head of a component of the agency, or the direct reports of the head of the agency or the head of a component of the agency; and

''(G) any other type of incident determined appropriate by the Director;

''(2) stipulate that the National Cyber Director shall declare a major incident at each agency impacted by an incident if the Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency determines that an incident—

''(A) occurs at not less than 2 agencies; and

''(B) is enabled by—

''(i) a common technical root cause, such as a supply chain compromise, a common software or hardware vulnerability; or

''(ii) the related activities of a common threat actor; and

''(3) stipulate that, in determining whether an incident constitutes a major incident because that incident—

''(A) is any incident described in paragraph (1), the head of an agency shall consult with the Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency;

''(B) is an incident described in paragraph (1)(A), the head of the agency shall consult with the National Cyber Director; and

''(C) is an incident described in subparagraph (C) or (D) of paragraph (1), the head of the agency shall consult with—

''(i) the Privacy and Civil Liberties Oversight Board; and

''(ii) the Chair of the Federal Trade Commission.

''(c) SIGNIFICANT NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS.—In determining what constitutes a significant number of individuals under subsection (b)(1)(D), the Director—

''(1) may determine a threshold for a minimum number of individuals that constitutes a significant amount; and

''(2) may not determine a threshold described in paragraph (1) that exceeds 5,000 individuals.

''(d) EVALUATION AND UPDATES.—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of the Federal Information Security Modernization Act of 2021, and not less frequently than every 2 years thereafter, the Director shall submit to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Oversight and Reform of the House of Representatives an evaluation, which shall include—

''(1) an update, if necessary, to the guidance issued under subsection (a);

''(2) the definition of the term 'major incident' included in the guidance issued under subsection (a); and

''(3) an explanation of, and the analysis that led to, the definition described in paragraph (2).''.

(2) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections for chapter 35 of title 44, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

''SUBCHAPTER IV—FEDERAL SYSTEM INCIDENT RESPONSE

''3591. Definitions.
''3592. Notification of breach.
''3593. Congressional and Executive Branch reports.
''3594. Government information sharing and incident response.
''3595. Responsibilities of contractors and awardees.
''3596. Training.
''3597. Analysis and report on Federal incidents.
''3598. Major incident definition.''.

SEC. 5122. AMENDMENTS TO SUBTITLE III OF TITLE 40.

(a) MODERNIZING GOVERNMENT TECHNOLOGY.—Subtitle G of title X of Division A of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2018 (40 U.S.C. 11301 note) is amended—

(1) in section 1077(b)—

(A) in paragraph (5)(A), by inserting ''improving the cybersecurity of systems and'' before ''cost savings activities''; and

(B) in paragraph (7)—

(i) in the paragraph heading, by striking ''CIO'' and inserting ''CIO'';

(ii) by striking ''In evaluating projects'' and inserting the following:

''(A) CONSIDERATION OF GUIDANCE.—In evaluating projects'';

(iii) in subparagraph (A), as so designated, by striking ''under section 1094(b)(1)'' and inserting ''by the Director''; and

(iv) by adding at the end the following:

''(B) CONSULTATION.—In using funds under paragraph (3)(A), the Chief Information Officer of the covered agency shall consult with the necessary stakeholders to ensure the project appropriately addresses cybersecurity risks, including the Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency, as appropriate.''; and

(2) in section 1078—

(A) by striking subsection (a) and inserting the following:

''(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

''(1) AGENCY.—The term 'agency' has the meaning given the term in section 551 of title 5, United States Code.

''(2) HIGH VALUE ASSET.—The term 'high value asset' has the meaning given the term in section 3552 of title 44, United States Code.'';

(B) in subsection (b), by adding at the end the following:

''(8) PROPOSAL EVALUATION.—The Director shall—

''(A) give consideration for the use of amounts in the Fund to improve the security of high value assets; and

''(B) require that any proposal for the use of amounts in the Fund includes a cybersecurity plan, including a supply chain risk management plan, to be reviewed by the member of the Technology Modernization Board described in subsection (c)(5)(C).''; and

(C) in subsection (c)—

(i) in paragraph (2)(A)(i), by inserting '', including a consideration of the impact on high value assets'' after ''operational risks'';

(ii) in paragraph (5)—

(I) in subparagraph (A), by striking ''and'' at the end;

(II) in subparagraph (B), by striking the period at the end and inserting ''and''; and

(III) by adding at the end the following:

''(C) a senior official from the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency of the Department of Homeland Security, appointed by the Director.''; and

(iii) in paragraph (6)(A), by striking ''shall be—'' and all that follows through ''4 employees'' and inserting ''shall be 4 employees''.

(b) SUBCHAPTER I.—Subchapter I of subtitle III of title 40, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in section 11302—

(A) in subsection (b), by striking ''use, security, and disposal of'' and inserting ''use, and disposal of, and, in consultation with the Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency and the National Cyber Director, promote and improve the security of,'';

(B) in subsection (c)—

(i) in paragraph (3)—

(I) in subparagraph (A)—

(aa) by striking ''including data'' and inserting ''which shall—

''(i) include data'';

(bb) in clause (i), as so designated, by striking '', and performance'' and inserting ''security, and performance; and''; and

(cc) by adding at the end the following:

''(ii) specifically denote cybersecurity funding under the risk-based cyber budget model developed pursuant to section 3553(a)(7) of title 44.''; and

(II) in subparagraph (B), adding at the end the following:

''(iii) The Director shall provide to the National Cyber Director any cybersecurity funding information described in subparagraph (A)(ii) that is provided to the Director under clause (ii) of this subparagraph.''; and

(ii) in paragraph (4)(B), in the matter preceding clause (i), by inserting ''not later than 30 days after the date on which the review under subparagraph (A) is completed,'' before ''the Administrator'';

(C) in subsection (f)—

(i) by striking ''heads of executive agencies to develop'' and inserting ''heads of executive agencies to—

''(1) develop'';

(ii) in paragraph (1), as so designated, by striking the period at the end and inserting ''; and''; and

(iii) by adding at the end the following:

''(2) consult with the Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency for the development and use of supply chain security best practices.''; and

(D) in subsection (h), by inserting '', including cybersecurity performances,'' after ''the performances''; and

(2) in section 11303(b)—

(A) in paragraph (2)(B)—

(i) in clause (i), by striking ''or'' at the end;

(ii) in clause (ii), by adding ''or'' at the end; and

(iii) by adding at the end the following:

''(iii) whether the function should be performed by a shared service offered by another executive agency;''; and

(B) in paragraph (5)(B)(i), by inserting '', while taking into account the risk-based cyber budget model developed pursuant to section 3553(a)(7) of title 44'' after ''title 31''.

(c) SUBCHAPTER II.—Subchapter II of subtitle III of title 40, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in section 11312(a), by inserting '', including security risks'' after ''managing the risks'';

(2) in section 11313(1), by striking ''efficiency and effectiveness'' and inserting ''efficiency, security, and effectiveness'';

(3) in section 11315, by adding at the end the following:

''(d) COMPONENT AGENCY CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICERS.—The Chief Information Officer or an equivalent official of a component agency shall report to—

''(1) the Chief Information Officer designated under section 3506(a)(2) of title 44 or an equivalent official of the agency of which the component agency is a component; and

''(2) the head of the component agency.'';

(4) in section 11317, by inserting ''security,'' before ''or schedule''; and

(5) in section 11319(b)(1), in the paragraph heading, by striking ''CIOS'' and inserting ''CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICERS''.

(d) SUBCHAPTER III.—Section 11331 of title 40, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subsection (a), by striking ''section 3532(b)(1)'' and inserting ''section 3552(b)'';

(2) in subsection (b)(1)(A), by striking ''the Secretary of Homeland Security'' and inserting ''the Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency'';

(3) by striking subsection (c) and inserting the following:

''(c) APPLICATION OF MORE STRINGENT STANDARDS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The head of an agency shall—

''(A) evaluate, in consultation with the senior agency information security officers, the need to employ standards for cost-effective, risk-based information security for all systems, operations, and assets within or under the supervision of the agency that are more stringent than the standards promulgated by the Director under this section, if such standards contain, at a minimum, the provisions of those applicable standards made compulsory and binding by the Director; and

''(B) to the greatest extent practicable and if the head of the agency determines that the standards described in subparagraph (A) are necessary, employ those standards.

''(2) EVALUATION OF MORE STRINGENT STANDARDS.—In evaluating the need to employ more stringent standards under paragraph (1), the head of an agency shall consider available risk information, such as—

''(A) the status of cybersecurity remedial actions of the agency;

''(B) any vulnerability information relating to agency systems that is known to the agency;

''(C) incident information of the agency;

''(D) information from—

''(i) penetration testing performed under section 3559A of title 44; and

''(ii) information from the vulnerability disclosure program established under section 3559B of title 44;

''(E) agency threat hunting results under section 5145 of the Federal Information Security Modernization Act of 2021;

''(F) Federal and non-Federal cyber threat intelligence;

''(G) data on compliance with standards issued under this section;

''(H) agency system risk assessments performed under section 3554(a)(1)(A) of title 44; and

''(I) any other information determined relevant by the head of the agency.'';

(4) in subsection (d)(2)—

(A) in the paragraph heading, by striking ''NOTICE AND COMMENT'' and inserting ''CONSULTATION, NOTICE, AND COMMENT'';

(B) by inserting ''promulgate,'' before ''significantly modify''; and

(C) by striking ''shall be made after the public is given an opportunity to comment on the Director's proposed decision.'' and inserting ''shall be made—

''(A) for a decision to significantly modify or not promulgate such a proposed standard, after the public is given an opportunity to comment on the Director's proposed decision;

''(B) in consultation with the Chief Information Officers Council, the Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency, the National Cyber Director, the Comptroller General of the United States, and the Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency;

''(C) considering the Federal risk assessments performed under section 3553(i) of title 44; and

''(D) considering the extent to which the proposed standard reduces risk relative to the cost of implementation of the standard.''; and

(5) by adding at the end the following:

''(e) REVIEW OF OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET GUIDANCE AND POLICY.—

''(1) CONDUCT OF REVIEW.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Not less frequently than once every 3 years, the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, in consultation with the Chief Information Officers Council, the Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency, the National Cyber Director, the Comptroller General of the United States, and the Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency shall review the efficacy of the guidance and policy promulgated by the Director in reducing cybersecurity risks, including an assessment of the requirements for agencies to report information to the Director, and determine whether any changes to that guidance or policy is appropriate.

''(B) FEDERAL RISK ASSESSMENTS.—In conducting the review described in subparagraph (A), the Director shall consider the Federal risk assessments performed under section 3553(i) of title 44.

''(2) UPDATED GUIDANCE.—Not later than 90 days after the date on which a review is completed under paragraph (1), the Director of the Office of Management and Budget shall issue updated guidance or policy to agencies determined appropriate by the Director, based on the results of the review.

''(3) PUBLIC REPORT.—Not later than 30 days after the date on which a review is completed under paragraph (1), the Director of the Office of Management and Budget shall make publicly available a report that includes—

''(A) an overview of the guidance and policy promulgated under this section that is currently in effect;

''(B) the cybersecurity risk mitigation, or other cybersecurity benefit, offered by each guidance or policy document described in subparagraph (A); and

''(C) a summary of the guidance or policy to which changes were determined appropriate during the review and what the changes are anticipated to include.

''(4) CONGRESSIONAL BRIEFING.—Not later than 30 days after the date on which a review is completed under paragraph (1), the Director shall provide to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Oversight and Reform of the House of Representatives a briefing on the review.

''(f) AUTOMATED STANDARD IMPLEMENTATION VERIFICATION.—When the Director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology issues a proposed standard pursuant to paragraphs (2) and (3) of section 20(a) of the National Institute of Standards and Technology Act (15 U.S.C. 278g–3(a)), the Director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology shall consider developing and, if appropriate and practical, develop, in consultation with the Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency, specifications to enable the automated verification of the implementation of the controls within the standard.''.

SEC. 5123. ACTIONS TO ENHANCE FEDERAL INCIDENT RESPONSE.

(a) RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE CYBERSECURITY AND INFRASTRUCTURE SECURITY AGENCY.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency shall—

(A) develop a plan for the development of the analysis required under section 3597(a) of title 44, United States Code, as added by this division, and the report required under subsection (b) of that section that includes—

(i) a description of any challenges the Director anticipates encountering; and

(ii) the use of automation and machine-readable formats for collecting, compiling, monitoring, and analyzing data; and

(B) provide to the appropriate congressional committees a briefing on the plan developed under subparagraph (A).

(2) BRIEFING.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency shall provide to the appropriate congressional committees a briefing on—

(A) the execution of the plan required under paragraph (1)(A); and

(B) the development of the report required under section 3597(b) of title 44, United States Code, as added by this division.

(b) RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET.—

(1) FISMA.—Section 2 of the Federal Information Security Modernization Act of 2014 (44 U.S.C. 3554 note) is amended—

(A) by striking subsection (b); and

(B) by redesignating subsections (c) through (f) as subsections (b) through (e), respectively.

(2) INCIDENT DATA SHARING.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The Director shall develop guidance, to be updated not less frequently than once every 2 years, on the content, timeliness, and format of the information provided by agencies under section 3594(a) of title 44, United States Code, as added by this division.

(B) REQUIREMENTS.—The guidance developed under subparagraph (A) shall—

(i) prioritize the availability of data necessary to understand and analyze—

(I) the causes of incidents;

(II) the scope and scale of incidents within the environments and systems of an agency;

(III) a root cause analysis of incidents that—

(aa) are common across the Federal Government; or

(bb) have a Government-wide impact;

(IV) agency response, recovery, and remediation actions and the effectiveness of those actions; and

(V) the impact of incidents;

(ii) enable the efficient development of—

(I) lessons learned and recommendations in responding to, recovering from, remediating, and mitigating future incidents; and

(II) the report on Federal incidents required under section 3597(b) of title 44, United States Code, as added by this division;

(iii) include requirements for the timeliness of data production; and

(iv) include requirements for using automation and machine-readable data for data sharing and availability.

(3) GUIDANCE ON RESPONDING TO INFORMATION REQUESTS.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Director shall develop guidance for agencies to implement the requirement under section 3594(c) of title 44, United States Code, as added by this division, to provide information to other agencies experiencing incidents.

(4) STANDARD GUIDANCE AND TEMPLATES.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Director, in consultation with the Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency, shall develop guidance and templates, to be reviewed and, if necessary, updated not less frequently than once every 2 years, for use by Federal agencies in the activities required under sections 3592, 3593, and 3596 of title 44, United States Code, as added by this division.

(5) CONTRACTOR AND AWARDEE GUIDANCE.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Director, in coordination with the Secretary of Homeland Security, the Secretary of Defense, the Administrator of General Services, and the heads of other agencies determined appropriate by the Director, shall issue guidance to Federal agencies on how to deconflict, to the greatest extent practicable, existing regulations, policies, and procedures relating to the responsibilities of contractors and awardees established under section 3595 of title 44, United States Code, as added by this division.

(B) EXISTING PROCESSES.—To the greatest extent practicable, the guidance issued under subparagraph (A) shall allow contractors and awardees to use existing processes for notifying Federal agencies of incidents involving information of the Federal Government.

(6) UPDATED BRIEFINGS.—Not less frequently than once every 2 years, the Director shall provide to the appropriate congressional committees an update on the guidance and templates developed under paragraphs (2) through (4).

(c) UPDATE TO THE PRIVACY ACT OF 1974.—Section 552a(b) of title 5, United States Code (commonly known as the ''Privacy Act of 1974'') is amended—

(1) in paragraph (11), by striking ''or'' at the end;

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

(3) by adding at the end the following:

''(13) to another agency in furtherance of a response to an incident (as defined in section 3552 of title 44) and pursuant to the information sharing requirements in section 3594 of title 44 if the head of the requesting agency has made a written request to the agency that maintains the record specifying the particular portion desired and the activity for which the record is sought.''.

SEC. 5124. ADDITIONAL GUIDANCE TO AGENCIES ON FISMA UPDATES.

Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Director, in coordination with the Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency, shall issue guidance for agencies on—

(1) performing the ongoing and continuous agency system risk assessment required under section 3554(a)(1)(A) of title 44, United States Code, as amended by this division;

(2) implementing additional cybersecurity procedures, which shall include resources for shared services;

(3) establishing a process for providing the status of each remedial action under section 3554(b)(7) of title 44, United States Code, as amended by this division, to the Director and the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency using automation and machine-readable data, as practicable, which shall include—

(A) specific guidance for the use of automation and machine-readable data; and

(B) templates for providing the status of the remedial action;

(4) interpreting the definition of ''high value asset'' under section 3552 of title 44, United States Code, as amended by this division; and

(5) a requirement to coordinate with inspectors general of agencies to ensure consistent understanding and application of agency policies for the purpose of evaluations by inspectors general.

SEC. 5125. AGENCY REQUIREMENTS TO NOTIFY PRIVATE SECTOR ENTITIES IMPACTED BY INCIDENTS.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) REPORTING ENTITY.—The term ''reporting entity'' means private organization or governmental unit that is required by statute or regulation to submit sensitive information to an agency.

(2) SENSITIVE INFORMATION.—The term ''sensitive information'' has the meaning given the term by the Director in guidance issued under subsection (b).

(b) GUIDANCE ON NOTIFICATION OF REPORTING ENTITIES.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Director shall issue guidance requiring the head of each agency to notify a reporting entity of an incident that is likely to substantially affect—

(1) the confidentiality or integrity of sensitive information submitted by the reporting entity to the agency pursuant to a statutory or regulatory requirement; or

(2) the agency information system or systems used in the transmission or storage of the sensitive information described in paragraph (1).

TITLE LII—IMPROVING FEDERAL CYBERSECURITY

SEC. 5141. MOBILE SECURITY STANDARDS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Director shall—

(1) evaluate mobile application security guidance promulgated by the Director; and

(2) issue guidance to secure mobile devices, including for mobile applications, for every agency.

(b) CONTENTS.—The guidance issued under subsection (a)(2) shall include—

(1) a requirement, pursuant to section 3506(b)(4) of title 44, United States Code, for every agency to maintain a continuous inventory of every—

(A) mobile device operated by or on behalf of the agency; and

(B) vulnerability identified by the agency associated with a mobile device; and

(2) a requirement for every agency to perform continuous evaluation of the vulnerabilities described in paragraph (1)(B) and other risks associated with the use of applications on mobile devices.

(c) INFORMATION SHARING.—The Director, in coordination with the Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency, shall issue guidance to agencies for sharing the inventory of the agency required under subsection (b)(1) with the Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency, using automation and machine-readable data to the greatest extent practicable.

(d) BRIEFING.—Not later than 60 days after the date on which the Director issues guidance under subsection (a)(2), the Director, in coordination with the Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency, shall provide to the appropriate congressional committees a briefing on the guidance.

SEC. 5142. DATA AND LOGGING RETENTION FOR INCIDENT RESPONSE.

(a) RECOMMENDATIONS.—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act, and not less frequently than every 2 years thereafter, the Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency, in consultation with the Attorney General, shall submit to the Director recommendations on requirements for logging events on agency systems and retaining other relevant data within the systems and networks of an agency.

(b) CONTENTS.—The recommendations provided under subsection (a) shall include—

(1) the types of logs to be maintained;

(2) the time periods to retain the logs and other relevant data;

(3) the time periods for agencies to enable recommended logging and security requirements;

(4) how to ensure the confidentiality, integrity, and availability of logs;

(5) requirements to ensure that, upon request, in a manner that excludes or otherwise reasonably protects personally identifiable information, and to the extent permitted by applicable law (including privacy and statistical laws), agencies provide logs to—

(A) the Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency for a cybersecurity purpose; and

(B) the Federal Bureau of Investigation to investigate potential criminal activity; and

(6) requirements to ensure that, subject to compliance with statistical laws and other relevant data protection requirements, the highest level security operations center of each agency has visibility into all agency logs.

(c) GUIDANCE.—Not later than 90 days after receiving the recommendations submitted under subsection (a), the Director, in consultation with the Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency and the Attorney General, shall, as determined to be appropriate by the Director, update guidance to agencies regarding requirements for logging, log retention, log management, sharing of log data with other appropriate agencies, or any other logging activity determined to be appropriate by the Director.

SEC. 5143. CISA AGENCY ADVISORS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 120 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency shall assign not less than 1 cybersecurity professional employed by the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency to be the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency advisor to the senior agency information security officer of each agency.

(b) QUALIFICATIONS.—Each advisor assigned under subsection (a) shall have knowledge of—

(1) cybersecurity threats facing agencies, including any specific threats to the assigned agency;

(2) performing risk assessments of agency systems; and

(3) other Federal cybersecurity initiatives.

(c) DUTIES.—The duties of each advisor assigned under subsection (a) shall include—

(1) providing ongoing assistance and advice, as requested, to the agency Chief Information Officer;

(2) serving as an incident response point of contact between the assigned agency and the

Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency; and

(3) familiarizing themselves with agency systems, processes, and procedures to better facilitate support to the agency in responding to incidents.

(d) LIMITATION.—An advisor assigned under subsection (a) shall not be a contractor.

(e) MULTIPLE ASSIGNMENTS.—One individual advisor may be assigned to multiple agency Chief Information Officers under subsection (a).

SEC. 5144. FEDERAL PENETRATION TESTING POLICY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter II of chapter 35 of title 44, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

"§ 3559A. Federal penetration testing

''(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

''(1) AGENCY OPERATIONAL PLAN.—The term 'agency operational plan' means a plan of an agency for the use of penetration testing.

''(2) RULES OF ENGAGEMENT.—The term 'rules of engagement' means a set of rules established by an agency for the use of penetration testing.

''(b) GUIDANCE.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Director shall issue guidance that—

''(A) requires agencies to use, when and where appropriate, penetration testing on agency systems; and

''(B) requires agencies to develop an agency operational plan and rules of engagement that meet the requirements under subsection (c).

''(2) PENETRATION TESTING GUIDANCE.—The guidance issued under this section shall—

''(A) permit an agency to use, for the purpose of performing penetration testing—

''(i) a shared service of the agency or another agency; or

''(ii) an external entity, such as a vendor; and

''(B) require agencies to provide the rules of engagement and results of penetration testing to the Director and the Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency, without regard to the status of the entity that performs the penetration testing.

''(c) AGENCY PLANS AND RULES OF ENGAGEMENT.—The agency operational plan and rules of engagement of an agency shall—

''(1) require the agency to—

''(A) perform penetration testing on the high value assets of the agency; or

''(B) coordinate with the Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency to ensure that penetration testing is being performed;

''(2) establish guidelines for avoiding, as a result of penetration testing—

''(A) adverse impacts to the operations of the agency;

''(B) adverse impacts to operational environments and systems of the agency; and

''(C) inappropriate access to data;

''(3) require the results of penetration testing to include feedback to improve the cybersecurity of the agency; and

''(4) include mechanisms for providing consistently formatted, and, if applicable, automated and machine-readable, data to the Director and the Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency.

''(d) RESPONSIBILITIES OF CISA.—The Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency shall—

''(1) establish a process to assess the performance of penetration testing by both Federal and non-Federal entities that establishes minimum quality controls for penetration testing;

''(2) develop operational guidance for instituting penetration testing programs at agencies;

''(3) develop and maintain a centralized capability to offer penetration testing as a service to Federal and non-Federal entities; and

''(4) provide guidance to agencies on the best use of penetration testing resources.

''(e) RESPONSIBILITIES OF OMB.—The Director, in coordination with the Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency, shall—

''(1) not less frequently than annually, inventory all Federal penetration testing assets; and

''(2) develop and maintain a standardized process for the use of penetration testing.

''(f) PRIORITIZATION OF PENETRATION TESTING RESOURCES.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Director, in coordination with the Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency, shall develop a framework for prioritizing Federal penetration testing resources among agencies.

''(2) CONSIDERATIONS.—In developing the framework under this subsection, the Director shall consider—

''(A) agency system risk assessments performed under section 3554(a)(1)(A);

''(B) the Federal risk assessment performed under section 3553(i);

''(C) the analysis of Federal incident data performed under section 3597; and

''(D) any other information determined appropriate by the Director or the Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency.

''(g) EXCEPTION FOR NATIONAL SECURITY SYSTEMS.—The guidance issued under subsection (b) shall not apply to national security systems.

''(h) DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY FOR CERTAIN SYSTEMS.—The authorities of the Director described in subsection (b) shall be delegated—

''(1) to the Secretary of Defense in the case of systems described in section 3553(e)(2); and

''(2) to the Director of National Intelligence in the case of systems described in 3553(e)(3).''.

(b) DEADLINE FOR GUIDANCE.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Director shall issue the guidance required under section 3559A(b) of title 44, United States Code, as added by subsection (a).

(c) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections for chapter 35 of title 44, United States Code, is amended by adding after the item relating to section 3559 the following:

''3559A. Federal penetration testing.''.

(d) PENETRATION TESTING BY THE SECRETARY OF HOMELAND SECURITY.—Section 3553(b) of title 44, United States Code, as amended by section 5121, is further amended—

(1) in paragraph (8)(B), by striking ''and'' at the end;

(2) by redesignating paragraph (9) as paragraph (10); and

(3) by inserting after paragraph (8) the following:

''(9) performing penetration testing with or without advance notice to, or authorization from, agencies, to identify vulnerabilities within Federal information systems; and''.

SEC. 5145. ONGOING THREAT HUNTING PROGRAM.

(a) THREAT HUNTING PROGRAM.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 540 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency shall establish a program to provide ongoing, hypothesis-driven threat-hunting services on the network of each agency.

(2) PLAN.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency shall develop a plan to establish the program required under paragraph (1) that describes how the Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency plans to—

(A) determine the method for collecting, storing, accessing, and analyzing appropriate agency data;

(B) provide on-premises support to agencies;

(C) staff threat hunting services;

(D) allocate available human and financial resources to implement the plan; and

(E) provide input to the heads of agencies on the use of—

(i) more stringent standards under section 11331(c)(1) of title 40, United States Code; and

(ii) additional cybersecurity procedures under section 3554 of title 44, United States Code.

(b) REPORTS.—The Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees—

(1) not later than 30 days after the date on which the Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency completes the plan required under subsection (a)(2), a report on the plan to provide threat hunting services to agencies;

(2) not less than 30 days before the date on which the Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency begins providing threat hunting services under the program under subsection (a)(1), a report providing any updates to the plan developed under subsection (a)(2); and

(3) not later than 1 year after the date on which the Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency begins providing threat hunting services to agencies other than the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency, a report describing lessons learned from providing those services.

SEC. 5146. CODIFYING VULNERABILITY DISCLOSURE PROGRAMS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 35 of title 44, United States Code, is amended by inserting after section 3559A, as added by section 5144 of this division, the following:

"§ 3559B. Federal vulnerability disclosure programs

''(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

''(1) REPORT.—The term 'report' means a vulnerability disclosure made to an agency by a reporter.

''(2) REPORTER.—The term 'reporter' means an individual that submits a vulnerability report pursuant to the vulnerability disclosure process of an agency.

''(b) RESPONSIBILITIES OF OMB.—

''(1) LIMITATION ON LEGAL ACTION.—The Director, in consultation with the Attorney General, shall issue guidance to agencies to not recommend or pursue legal action against a reporter or an individual that conducts a security research activity that the head of the agency determines—

''(A) represents a good faith effort to follow the vulnerability disclosure policy of the agency developed under subsection (d)(2); and

''(B) is authorized under the vulnerability disclosure policy of the agency developed under subsection (d)(2).

''(2) SHARING INFORMATION WITH CISA.—The Director, in coordination with the Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency and in consultation with the National Cyber Director, shall issue guidance to agencies on sharing relevant information in a consistent, automated, and machine readable manner with the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency, including—

''(A) any valid or credible reports of newly discovered or not publicly known vulnerabilities (including misconfigurations) on Federal information systems that use commercial software or services;

''(B) information relating to vulnerability disclosure, coordination, or remediation activities of an agency, particularly as those activities relate to outside organizations—

''(i) with which the head of the agency believes the Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency can assist; or

''(ii) about which the head of the agency believes the Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency should know; and

''(C) any other information with respect to which the head of the agency determines helpful or necessary to involve the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency.

''(3) AGENCY VULNERABILITY DISCLOSURE POLICIES.—The Director shall issue guidance to agencies on the required minimum scope of agency systems covered by the vulnerability disclosure policy of an agency required under subsection (d)(2).

''(c) RESPONSIBILITIES OF CISA.—The Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency shall—

''(1) provide support to agencies with respect to the implementation of the requirements of this section;

''(2) develop tools, processes, and other mechanisms determined appropriate to offer agencies capabilities to implement the requirements of this section; and

''(3) upon a request by an agency, assist the agency in the disclosure to vendors of newly identified vulnerabilities in vendor products and services.

''(d) RESPONSIBILITIES OF AGENCIES.—

''(1) PUBLIC INFORMATION.—The head of each agency shall make publicly available, with respect to each internet domain under the control of the agency that is not a national security system—

''(A) an appropriate security contact; and

''(B) the component of the agency that is responsible for the internet accessible services offered at the domain.

''(2) VULNERABILITY DISCLOSURE POLICY.—The head of each agency shall develop and make publicly available a vulnerability disclosure policy for the agency, which shall—

''(A) describe—

''(i) the scope of the systems of the agency included in the vulnerability disclosure policy;

''(ii) the type of information system testing that is authorized by the agency;

''(iii) the type of information system testing that is not authorized by the agency; and

''(iv) the disclosure policy of the agency for sensitive information;

''(B) with respect to a report to an agency, describe—

''(i) how the reporter should submit the report; and

''(ii) if the report is not anonymous, when the reporter should anticipate an acknowledgment of receipt of the report by the agency;

''(C) include any other relevant information; and

''(D) be mature in scope, to cover all Federal information systems used or operated by that agency or on behalf of that agency.

''(3) IDENTIFIED VULNERABILITIES.—The head of each agency shall incorporate any vulnerabilities reported under paragraph (2) into the vulnerability management process of the agency in order to track and remediate the vulnerability.

''(e) PAPERWORK REDUCTION ACT EXEMPTION.—The requirements of subchapter I (commonly known as the 'Paperwork Reduction Act') shall not apply to a vulnerability disclosure program established under this section.

''(f) CONGRESSIONAL REPORTING.—Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of the Federal Information Security Modernization Act of 2021, and annually thereafter for a 3-year period, the Director shall provide to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Oversight and Reform of the House of Representatives a briefing on the status of the use of vulnerability disclosure policies under this section at agencies, including, with respect to the guidance issued under subsection (b)(3), an identification of the agencies that are compliant and not compliant.

''(g) EXEMPTIONS.—The authorities and functions of the Director and Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency under this section shall not apply to national security systems.

''(h) DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY FOR CERTAIN SYSTEMS.—The authorities of the Director and the Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency described in this section shall be delegated—

''(1) to the Secretary of Defense in the case of systems described in section 3553(e)(2); and

''(2) to the Director of National Intelligence in the case of systems described in section 3553(e)(3).''.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections for chapter 35 of title 44, United States Code, is amended by adding after the item relating to section 3559A, as added by section 204, the following:

''3559B. Federal vulnerability disclosure programs.''.

SEC. 5147. IMPLEMENTING PRESUMPTION OF COMPROMISE AND LEAST PRIVILEGE PRINCIPLES.

(a) GUIDANCE.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Director shall provide an update to the appropriate congressional committees on progress in increasing the internal defenses of agency systems, including—

(1) shifting away from ''trusted networks'' to implement security controls based on a presumption of compromise;

(2) implementing principles of least privilege in administering information security programs;

(3) limiting the ability of entities that cause incidents to move laterally through or between agency systems;

(4) identifying incidents quickly;

(5) isolating and removing unauthorized entities from agency systems quickly;

(6) otherwise increasing the resource costs for entities that cause incidents to be successful; and

(7) a summary of the agency progress reports required under subsection (b).

(b) AGENCY PROGRESS REPORTS.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the head of each agency shall submit to the Director a progress report on implementing an information security program based on the presumption of compromise and least privilege principles, which shall include—

(1) a description of any steps the agency has completed, including progress toward achieving requirements issued by the Director;

(2) an identification of activities that have not yet been completed and that would have the most immediate security impact; and

(3) a schedule to implement any planned activities.

SEC. 5148. AUTOMATION REPORTS.

(a) OMB REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Director shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report on the use of automation under paragraphs (1), (5)(C) and (8)(B) of section 3554(b) of title 44, United States Code.

(b) GAO REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall perform a study on the use of automation and machine readable data across the Federal Government for cybersecurity purposes, including the automated updating of cybersecurity tools, sensors, or processes by agencies.

SEC. 5149. EXTENSION OF FEDERAL ACQUISITION SECURITY COUNCIL.

Section 1328 of title 41, United States Code, is amended by striking ''the date that'' and all that follows and inserting ''December 31, 2026.''.

SEC. 5150. COUNCIL OF THE INSPECTORS GENERAL ON INTEGRITY AND EFFICIENCY DASHBOARD.

(a) DASHBOARD REQUIRED.—Section 11(e)(2) of the Inspector General Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App.) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (A), by striking ''and'' at the end;

(2) by redesignating subparagraph (B) as subparagraph (C); and

(3) by inserting after subparagraph (A) the following:

''(B) that shall include a dashboard of open information security recommendations identified in the independent evaluations required by section 3555(a) of title 44, United States Code; and''.

SEC. 5151. QUANTITATIVE CYBERSECURITY METRICS.

(a) DEFINITION OF COVERED METRICS.—In this section, the term ''covered metrics'' means the metrics established, reviewed, and updated under section 224(c) of the Cybersecurity Act of 2015 (6 U.S.C. 1522(c)).

(b) UPDATING AND ESTABLISHING METRICS.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency, in coordination with the Director, shall—

(1) evaluate any covered metrics established as of the date of enactment of this Act; and

(2) as appropriate and pursuant to section 224(c) of the Cybersecurity Act of 2015 (6 U.S.C. 1522(c))—

(A) update the covered metrics; and

(B) establish new covered metrics.

(c) IMPLEMENTATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 540 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Director, in coordination with the Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency, shall promulgate guidance that requires each agency to use covered metrics to track trends in the cybersecurity and incident response capabilities of the agency.

(2) PERFORMANCE DEMONSTRATION.—The guidance issued under paragraph (1) and any subsequent guidance shall require agencies to share with the Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency data demonstrating the performance of the agency using the covered metrics included in the guidance.

(3) PENETRATION TESTS.—On not less than 2 occasions during the 2-year period following the date on which guidance is promulgated under paragraph (1), the Director shall ensure that not less than 3 agencies are subjected to substantially similar penetration tests, as determined by the Director, in coordination with the Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency, in order to validate the utility of the covered metrics.

(4) ANALYSIS CAPACITY.—The Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency shall develop a capability that

allows for the analysis of the covered metrics, including cross-agency performance of agency cybersecurity and incident response capability trends.

(d) CONGRESSIONAL REPORTS.—

(1) UTILITY OF METRICS.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report on the utility of the covered metrics.

(2) USE OF METRICS.—Not later than 180 days after the date on which the Director promulgates guidance under subsection (c)(1), the Director shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report on the results of the use of the covered metrics by agencies.

(e) CYBERSECURITY ACT OF 2015 UPDATES.—Section 224 of the Cybersecurity Act of 2015 (6 U.S.C. 1522) is amended—

(1) by striking subsection (c) and inserting the following:

''(c) IMPROVED METRICS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency, in coordination with the Director, shall establish, review, and update metrics to measure the cybersecurity and incident response capabilities of agencies in accordance with the responsibilities of agencies under section 3554 of title 44, United States Code.

''(2) QUALITIES.—With respect to the metrics established, reviewed, and updated under paragraph (1)—

''(A) not less than 2 of the metrics shall be time-based, such as a metric of—

''(i) the amount of time it takes for an agency to detect an incident; and

''(ii) the amount of time that passes between—

''(I) the detection of an incident and the remediation of the incident; and

''(II) the remediation of an incident and the recovery from the incident; and

''(B) the metrics may include other measurable outcomes.'';

(2) by striking subsection (e); and

(3) by redesignating subsection (f) as subsection (e).

TITLE LIII—RISK-BASED BUDGET MODEL

SEC. 5161. DEFINITIONS.

In this title:

(1) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.—The term ''appropriate congressional committees'' means—

(A) the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate; and

(B) the Committee on Homeland Security and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives.

(2) COVERED AGENCY.—The term ''covered agency'' has the meaning given the term ''executive agency'' in section 133 of title 41, United States Code.

(3) DIRECTOR.—The term ''Director'' means the Director of the Office of Management and Budget.

(4) INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY.—The term ''information technology''—

(A) has the meaning given the term in section 11101 of title 40, United States Code; and

(B) includes the hardware and software systems of a Federal agency that monitor and control physical equipment and processes of the Federal agency.

(5) RISK-BASED BUDGET.—The term ''risk-based budget'' means a budget—

(A) developed by identifying and prioritizing cybersecurity risks and vulnerabilities, including impact on agency operations in the case of a cyber attack, through analysis of cyber threat intelligence, incident data, and tactics, techniques, procedures, and capabilities of cyber threats; and

(B) that allocates resources based on the risks identified and prioritized under subparagraph (A).

SEC. 5162. ESTABLISHMENT OF RISK-BASED BUDGET MODEL.

(a) IN GENERAL.—

(1) MODEL.—Not later than 1 year after the first publication of the budget submitted by the President under section 1105 of title 31, United States Code, following the date of enactment of this Act, the Director, in consultation with the Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency and the National Cyber Director and in coordination with the Director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology, shall develop a standard model for creating a risk-based budget for cybersecurity spending.

(2) RESPONSIBILITY OF DIRECTOR.—Section 3553(a) of title 44, United States Code, as amended by section 5121 of this division, is further amended by inserting after paragraph (6) the following:

''(7) developing a standard risk-based budget model to inform Federal agency cybersecurity budget development; and''.

(3) CONTENTS OF MODEL.—The model required to be developed under paragraph (1) shall—

(A) consider Federal and non-Federal cyber threat intelligence products, where available, to identify threats, vulnerabilities, and risks;

(B) consider the impact of agency operations of compromise of systems, including the interconnectivity to other agency systems and the operations of other agencies;

(C) indicate where resources should be allocated to have the greatest impact on mitigating current and future threats and current and future cybersecurity capabilities;

(D) be used to inform acquisition and sustainment of—

(i) information technology and cybersecurity tools;

(ii) information technology and cybersecurity architectures;

(iii) information technology and cybersecurity personnel; and

(iv) cybersecurity and information technology concepts of operations; and

(E) be used to evaluate and inform Government-wide cybersecurity programs of the Department of Homeland Security.

(4) REQUIRED UPDATES.—Not less frequently than once every 3 years, the Director shall review, and update as necessary, the model required to be developed under this subsection.

(5) PUBLICATION.—The Director shall publish the model required to be developed under this subsection, and any updates necessary under paragraph (4), on the public website of the Office of Management and Budget.

(6) REPORTS.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter for each of the 2 following fiscal years or until the date on which the model required to be developed under this subsection is completed, whichever is sooner, the Director shall submit a report to Congress on the development of the model.

(b) REQUIRED USE OF RISK-BASED BUDGET MODEL.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 2 years after the date on which the model developed under subsection (a) is published, the head of each covered agency shall use the model to develop the annual cybersecurity and information technology budget requests of the agency.

(2) AGENCY PERFORMANCE PLANS.—Section 3554(d)(2) of title 44, United States Code, is amended by inserting ''and the risk-based budget model required under section 3553(a)(7)'' after ''paragraph (1)''.

(c) VERIFICATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 1105(a)(35)(A)(i) of title 31, United States Code, is amended—

(A) in the matter preceding subclause (I), by striking ''by agency, and by initiative area (as determined by the administration)'' and inserting ''and by agency'';

(B) in subclause (III), by striking ''and'' at the end; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

''(V) a validation that the budgets submitted were developed using a risk-based methodology; and

''(VI) a report on the progress of each agency on closing recommendations identified under the independent evaluation required by section 3555(a)(1) of title 44.''.

(2) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by paragraph (1) shall take effect on the date that is 2 years after the date on which the model developed under subsection (a) is published.

(d) REPORTS.—

(1) INDEPENDENT EVALUATION.—Section 3555(a)(2) of title 44, United States Code, is amended—

(A) in subparagraph (B), by striking ''and'' at the end;

(B) in subparagraph (C), by striking the period at the end and inserting ''; and''; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

''(D) an assessment of how the agency implemented the risk-based budget model required under section 3553(a)(7) and an evaluation of whether the model mitigates agency cyber vulnerabilities.''.

(2) ASSESSMENT.—Section 3553(c) of title 44, United States Code, as amended by section 5121, is further amended by inserting after paragraph (5) the following:

''(6) an assessment of—

''(A) Federal agency implementation of the model required under subsection (a)(7);

''(B) how cyber vulnerabilities of Federal agencies changed from the previous year; and

''(C) whether the model mitigates the cyber vulnerabilities of the Federal Government.''.

(e) GAO REPORT.—Not later than 3 years after the date on which the first budget of the President is submitted to Congress containing the validation required under section 1105(a)(35)(A)(i)(V) of title 31, United States Code, as amended by subsection (c), the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report that includes—

(1) an evaluation of the success of covered agencies in developing risk-based budgets;

(2) an evaluation of the success of covered agencies in implementing risk-based budgets;

(3) an evaluation of whether the risk-based budgets developed by covered agencies mitigate cyber vulnerability, including the extent to which the risk-based budgets inform Federal Government-wide cybersecurity programs; and

(4) any other information relating to risk-based budgets the Comptroller General determines appropriate.

TITLE LIV—PILOT PROGRAMS TO ENHANCE FEDERAL CYBERSECURITY

SEC. 5181. ACTIVE CYBER DEFENSIVE STUDY.

(a) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term ''active defense technique''—

(1) means an action taken on the systems of an entity to increase the security of information on the network of an agency by misleading an adversary; and

(2) includes a honeypot, deception, or purposefully feeding false or misleading data to an adversary when the adversary is on the systems of the entity.

(b) STUDY.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure

Security Agency, in coordination with the Director, shall perform a study on the use of active defense techniques to enhance the security of agencies, which shall include—

(1) a review of legal restrictions on the use of different active cyber defense techniques in Federal environments, in consultation with the Department of Justice;

(2) an evaluation of—

(A) the efficacy of a selection of active defense techniques determined by the Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency; and

(B) factors that impact the efficacy of the active defense techniques evaluated under subparagraph (A);

(3) recommendations on safeguards and procedures that shall be established to require that active defense techniques are adequately coordinated to ensure that active defense techniques do not impede threat response efforts, criminal investigations, and national security activities, including intelligence collection; and

(4) the development of a framework for the use of different active defense techniques by agencies.

SEC. 5182. SECURITY OPERATIONS CENTER AS A SERVICE PILOT.

(a) PURPOSE.—The purpose of this section is for the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency to run a security operation center on behalf of another agency, alleviating the need to duplicate this function at every agency, and empowering a greater centralized cybersecurity capability.

(b) PLAN.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency shall develop a plan to establish a centralized Federal security operations center shared service offering within the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency.

(c) CONTENTS.—The plan required under subsection (b) shall include considerations for—

(1) collecting, organizing, and analyzing agency information system data in real time;

(2) staffing and resources; and

(3) appropriate interagency agreements, concepts of operations, and governance plans.

(d) PILOT PROGRAM.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date on which the plan required under subsection (b) is developed, the Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency, in consultation with the Director, shall enter into a 1-year agreement with not less than 2 agencies to offer a security operations center as a shared service.

(2) ADDITIONAL AGREEMENTS.—After the date on which the briefing required under subsection (e)(1) is provided, the Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency, in consultation with the Director, may enter into additional 1-year agreements described in paragraph (1) with agencies.

(e) BRIEFING AND REPORT.—

(1) BRIEFING.—Not later than 260 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency shall provide to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Homeland Security and the Committee on Oversight and Reform of the House of Representatives a briefing on the parameters of any 1-year agreements entered into under subsection (d)(1).

(2) REPORT.—Not later than 90 days after the date on which the first 1-year agreement entered into under subsection (d) expires, the Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency shall submit to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Homeland Security and the Committee on Oversight and Reform of the House of Representatives a report on—

(A) the agreement; and

(B) any additional agreements entered into with agencies under subsection (d).

SA 4675. Mr. SULLIVAN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle E of title VIII, add the following:

SEC. 857. PROHIBITION ON CONTRACTS THAT BENEFIT CHINESE COMMUNIST PARTY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Defense may not enter into a contract for defense articles or services that are—

(1) developed or manufactured by, or include parts from, the Chinese Communist Party;

(2) provided by an entity that has suspected ties to the Chinese Communist Party; or

(3) provided by an entity that provides defense articles or services, including research, engineering, and technology, to the Chinese Communist Party.

(b) DEFENSE ARTICLES OR SERVICES DEFINED.—In this section, the term ''defense articles or services'' means defense articles or services designated by the President under section 38(a)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act (22 U.S.C. 2778(a)(1)).

SA 4676. Ms. KLOBUCHAR submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place in title X, insert the following:

SEC. _____. VETERANS CYBERSECURITY AND DIGITAL LITERACY GRANT PROGRAM.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

(1) Adversaries from Russia, China, and Iran are using information warfare to influence democracies across the world, and extremist organizations often use digital communications to recruit members. Influence campaigns from foreign adversaries reached tens of millions of voters during the 2016 and 2018 elections with racially and divisively targeted messages. The Unites States can fight these influences by ensuring that citizens of the United States possess the necessary skills to discern disinformation and misinformation and protect themselves from foreign influence campaigns.

(2) Researchers have documented persistent, pervasive, and coordinated online targeting of members of the Armed Forces, veterans, and their families by foreign adversaries seeking to undermine United States democracy in part because of public trust placed in these communities.

(3) A 2017 report by the University of Oxford's Graphika Institute, titled ''Social Media Disinformation Campaigns Against US Military Personnel and Veterans'', concluded that ''The pubic tends to place trust in military personnel and veterans, making them potentially influential voters and community leaders. Given this trust and their role in ensuring national security, these individuals have the potential to become particular targets for influence operations and information campaigns conducted on social media. There are already reports of US service personnel being confronted by foreign intelligence agencies while posted abroad, with details of their personal lives gleaned from social media.''.

(4) The Select Committee on Intelligence of the Senate found in its investigation of the interference in the 2016 election that social media posts by the Internet Research Agency (IRA) of Russia reached tens of millions of voters in 2016 and were meant to pit the people of the United States against one another and sow discord. Volume II of the Committee's investigation found that the Internet Research Agency's Instagram account with the second largest reach used the handle ''@american.veterans'' and was ''aimed at patriotic, conservative audiences, collected 215,680 followers, and generated nearly 18.5 million engagements.''.

(5) A 2019 investigative report by the Vietnam Veterans of America (VVA) titled ''An Investigation into Foreign Entities who are Targeting Troops and Veterans Online'', found that the Internet Research Agency targeted veterans and the followers of several congressionally chartered veterans service organizations with at least 113 advertisements during and following the 2016 election and that ''this represents a fraction of the Russian activity that targeted this community with divisive propaganda.''. The report also found that foreign actors have been impersonating veterans through social-media accounts and interacting with veterans and veterans groups on social media to spread propaganda and disinformation. To counter these acts, Vietnam Veterans of America recommended that the Department of Veterans Affairs ''immediately develop plans to make the cyber-hygiene of veterans an urgent priority within the Department of Veterans Affairs. The VA must educate and train veterans on personal cybersecurity: how to mitigate vulnerabilities, vigilantly maintain safe practices, and recognize threats, including how to identify instances of online manipulation.''.

(6) The Cyberspace Solarium Commission, a bicameral and bipartisan commission, established by section 1652 of the John S. McCain National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2019 (Public Law 115–232), concluded in its finished report that the ''U.S. government should promote digital literacy, civics education, and public awareness to build societal resilience to foreign, malign cyber-enabled information operations and that the U.S. government must ensure that individual Americans have both the digital literacy tools and the civics education they need to secure their networks and their democracy from cyber-enabled information operations.''. The report recommended that Congress authorizing grant programs to do this.

(b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that, given the threat foreign influence campaigns pose for United States democracy and the findings and recommendations of Congress and experts, Congress must immediately act to pass legislative measures

to increase digital and media literacy as well as cyber-hygiene among veterans.

(c) PROGRAM REQUIRED.—The Secretary shall establish a program to promote digital citizenship and media literacy, through which the Secretary shall award grants to eligible entities to enable those eligible entities to carry out the activities described in subsection (e).

(d) APPLICATION.—An eligible entity seeking a grant under the program required by subsection (c) shall submit to the Secretary an application therefor at such time, in such manner, and containing such information as the Secretary may require, including, at a minimum the following:

(1) A description of the activities the eligible entity intends to carry out with the grant funds.

(2) An estimate of the costs associated with such activities.

(3) Such other information and assurances as the Secretary may require.

(e) ACTIVITIES.—An eligible entity shall use the amount of a grant awarded under the program required by subsection (c) to carry out one or more of the following activities to improve cyber-hygiene and increase digital and media literacy among veterans:

(1) Develop competencies in cyber-hygiene.

(2) Develop media literacy and digital citizenship competencies by promoting veterans'—

(A) research and information fluency;

(B) critical thinking and problem solving skills;

(C) technology operations and concepts;

(D) information and technological literacy;

(E) concepts of media and digital representation and stereotyping;

(F) understanding of explicit and implicit media and digital messages;

(G) understanding of values and points of view that are included and excluded in media and digital content;

(H) understanding of how media and digital content may influence ideas and behaviors;

(I) understanding of the importance of obtaining information from multiple media sources and evaluating sources for quality;

(J) understanding how information on digital platforms can be altered through algorithms, editing, and augmented reality;

(K) ability to create media and digital content in civically and socially responsible ways; and

(L) understanding of influence campaigns conducted by foreign adversaries and the tactics employed by foreign adversaries for conducting influence campaigns.

(f) REPORTING.—

(1) REPORTS BY GRANT RECIPIENTS.—Each recipient of a grant under the program required by subsection (c) shall, not later than one year after the date on which the recipient first receives funds pursuant to the grant, submit to the Secretary a report describing the activities the recipient carried out using grant funds and the effectiveness of those activities.

(2) REPORT BY THE SECRETARY.—Not later than 90 days after the date on which the Secretary receives the last report the Secretary expects to receive under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall submit to Congress a report describing the activities carried out under this section and the effectiveness of those activities.

(g) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that the Secretary should—

(1) establish and maintain a list of eligible entities that receive a grant under the program required by subsection (c), and individuals designated by those eligible entities as participating individuals; and

(2) make that list available to those eligible entities and participating individuals in order to promote communication and further exchange of information regarding sound digital citizenship and media literacy practices among recipients of grants under the program required by subsection (c).

(h) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section $20,000,000 for fiscal year 2022.

(i) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) CYBER-HYGIENE.—The term ''cyber-hygiene'' means practices and steps that users of computers and other internet connected devices take to maintain and improve online security, maintain the proper functioning of computers devices, and protect computers and devices from cyberattacks and unauthorized use.

(2) DIGITAL CITIZENSHIP.—The term ''digital citizenship'' means the ability to—

(A) safely, responsibly, and ethically use communication technologies and digital information technology tools and platforms;

(B) create and share media content using principles of social and civic responsibility and with awareness of the legal and ethical issues involved; and

(C) participate in the political, economic, social, and cultural aspects of life related to technology, communications, and the digital world by consuming and creating digital content, including media.

(3) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—The term ''eligible entity'' means—

(A) a civil society organization, including community groups, nongovernmental organizations, nonprofit organization, labor organizations, indigenous groups, charitable organizations, professional associations, and foundations; and

(B) congressionally chartered veterans service organizations.

(4) MEDIA LITERACY.—The term ''media literacy'' means the ability to—

(A) access relevant and accurate information through media in a variety of forms;

(B) critically analyze media content and the influences of different forms of media;

(C) evaluate the comprehensiveness, relevance, credibility, authority, and accuracy of information;

(D) make educated decisions based on information obtained from media and digital sources;

(E) operate various forms of technology and digital tools; and

(F) reflect on how the use of media and technology may affect private and public life.

(5) SECRETARY.—The term ''Secretary'' means the Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

SA 4677. Ms. KLOBUCHAR submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle A of title XII, add the following:

SEC. 1210. GLOBAL ELECTORAL EXCHANGE PROGRAM.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This section may be cited as the ''Global Electoral Exchange Act of 2021''.

(b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) recent elections globally have illustrated the urgent need for the promotion and exchange of international best election practices, particularly in the areas of cybersecurity, results transmission, transparency of electoral data, election dispute resolution, and the elimination of discriminatory registration practices and other electoral irregularities;

(2) the advancement of democracy worldwide promotes United States interests, as stable democracies provide new market opportunities, improve global health outcomes, and promote economic freedom and regional security;

(3) credible elections are the cornerstone of a healthy democracy and enable all persons to exercise their basic human right to have a say in how they are governed;

(4) inclusive elections strengthen the credibility and stability of democracies more broadly;

(5) at the heart of a strong election cycle is the professionalism of the election management body and an empowered civil society;

(6) the development of local expertise via peer-to-peer learning and exchanges promotes the independence of such bodies from internal and external influence; and

(7) supporting the efforts of peoples in democratizing societies to build more representative governments in their respective countries is in the national interest of the United States.

(c) GLOBAL ELECTORAL EXCHANGE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Global Engagement Center (referred to in this section as the ''Center'') at the Department of State is authorized to establish and administer a Global Electoral Exchange Program (referred to in this section as the ''Program'') to promote the utilization of sound election administration practices around the world.

(2) PURPOSE.—The purpose of the Program shall include the promotion and exchange of international best election practices, including in the areas of—

(A) cybersecurity;

(B) the protection of election systems against influence campaigns;

(C) results transmission;

(D) transparency of electoral data;

(E) election dispute resolution;

(F) the elimination of discriminatory registration practices and electoral irregularities;

(G) inclusive and equitable promotion of candidate participation;

(H) equitable access to polling places, voter education information, and voting mechanisms (including by persons with disabilities); and

(I) other sound election administration practices.

(3) EXCHANGE OF ELECTORAL AUTHORITIES.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The Center, in consultation, as appropriate, with the United States Agency for International Development, may award grants to any United States-based organization that—

(i) is described in section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and exempt from tax under section 501(a) of such Code;

(ii) has experience in, and a primary focus on, foreign comparative election systems or subject matter expertise in the administration or integrity of such systems; and

(iii) submits an application in such form, and satisfying such requirements, as the Center may require.

(B) TYPES OF GRANTS.—An organization described in subparagraph (A) may receive a grant under this paragraph to design and implement programs that—

(i) bring to the United States election administrators and officials, including government officials, poll workers, civil society representatives, members of the judiciary, and others who participate in the organization and administration of public elections in a foreign country that faces challenges to

its electoral process to study election procedures in the United States for educational purposes; or

(ii) take election administrators and officials of the United States or of another country, including government officials, poll workers, civil society representatives, members of the judiciary, and others who participate in the organization and administration of public elections to another country to study and discuss election procedures in such country for educational purposes.

(C) LIMITS ON ACTIVITIES.—Activities administered under the Program may not—

(i) include observation of an election for the purposes of assessing the validity or legitimacy of that election;

(ii) facilitate any advocacy for a certain electoral result by a grantee when participating in the Program; or

(iii) be carried out without proper consultation with State and local authorities in the United States that administer elections.

(D) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that the Center should establish and maintain a network of Global Electoral Exchange Program alumni, to promote communication and further exchange of information regarding sound election administration practices among current and former Program participants.

(E) LIMITATION.—A recipient of a grant under the Program may only use such grant for the purpose for which such grant was awarded, unless otherwise authorized by the Center.

(F) NONDUPLICATIVE.—Grants made under this paragraph may not be duplicative of any other grants made under any other provision of law for similar or related purposes.

(4) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated $5,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 2022 through 2026 to carry out this subsection.

(d) CONGRESSIONAL OVERSIGHT.—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act and annually thereafter for the following 2 years, the Center shall provide a briefing to the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate and the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives regarding the status of any activities carried out pursuant to subsection (c) during the preceding year, which shall include—

(1) a summary of all exchanges conducted under the Global Electoral Exchange Program, including information regarding grantees, participants, and the locations where program activities were held;

(2) a description of the criteria used to select grantees under the Global Electoral Exchange Program; and

(3) recommendations for the improvement of the Global Electoral Exchange Program in furtherance of the purpose specified in subsection (c)(2).

SA 4678. Mr. SCHUMER (for himself and Mr. BENNET) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place in title X, insert the following:

SEC. _____. COMPTROLLER GENERAL OF THE UNITED STATES STUDY ON OPPORTUNITIES FOR USE OF VETERANS EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE TO PURSUE CAREERS IN OUTDOOR RECREATION.

(a) STUDY REQUIRED.—The Comptroller General of the United States shall conduct a study on the use by veterans of educational assistance provided under laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to pursue careers in outdoor recreation.

(b) ELEMENTS.—The study required by subsection (a) shall include the following:

(1) Identification of opportunities for veterans to use educational assistance provided under laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to pursue careers in outdoor recreation in the private sector and in the public sector.

(2) Identification of any difficulties with using the educational assistance provided under laws administered by the Secretary to veterans to pursue careers in outdoor recreation in the private and public sector, including trained, apprentice, assistant, and certified guides.

(3) Assessment of the availability of opportunities for careers in outdoor recreation at the following:

(A) The Department of Agriculture.

(B) The Department of the Interior.

(C) The Army Corps of Engineers.

(D) The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

(4) Identification of any challenges veterans may have pursuing careers in outdoor recreation at the agencies list under paragraph (3).

(5) Identification of options to increase opportunities for veterans to pursue careers in outdoor recreation at the agencies listed under paragraph (3).

(c) STAKEHOLDER PERSPECTIVES.—In conducting the study required by subsection (a), the Comptroller General shall obtain the perspectives of the outdoor recreation industry, veterans groups focusing on the outdoors, nongovernmental organizations, and other interested stakeholders.

(d) BRIEFING AND REPORT.—

(1) BRIEFING.—Not later than 240 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General shall provide the Committee on Veterans' Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Veterans' Affairs of the House of Representatives a briefing on the study required by subsection (a).

(2) REPORT.—After providing the briefing required by paragraph (1), the Comptroller General shall submit to the committees described in such paragraph a report on the findings of the Comptroller General with respect to the study completed under subsection (a).

(e) OUTDOOR RECREATION DEFINED.—In this section, the term ''outdoor recreation'' means recreational activities undertaken for pleasure that—

(1) generally involve some level of intentional physical exertion; and

(2) occur in nature-based environments outdoors.

SA 4679. Mr. VAN HOLLEN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. _____. TREATMENT OF HOURS WORKED UNDER A QUALIFIED TRADE-OF-TIME ARRANGEMENT.

Section 5542 of title 5, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(h)(1)(A) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section or section 5545b, any hours worked by a firefighter under a qualified trade-of-time arrangement shall be disregarded for purposes of any determination relating to eligibility for, or the amount of, any overtime pay under this section, including overtime pay under the Fair Labor Standards Act in accordance with subsection (c).

''(B) The Director of the Office of Personnel Management—

''(i) shall identify the situations in which a firefighter shall be deemed to have worked hours actually worked by a substituting firefighter under a qualified trade-of-time arrangement; and

''(ii) may adopt necessary policies governing the treatment of both a substituting and substituted firefighter under a qualified trade-of-time arrangement, without regard to how those firefighters would otherwise be treated under other provisions of law or regulation.

''(2) In this subsection—

''(A) the term 'firefighter' means an employee—

''(i) the work schedule of whom includes 24-hour duty shifts; and

''(ii) who—

''(I) is a firefighter, as defined in section 8331(21) or 8401(14);

''(II) in the case of an employee who holds a supervisory or administrative position and is subject to subchapter III of chapter 83, but who does not qualify to be considered a firefighter within the meaning of section 8331(21), would so qualify if such employee had transferred directly to such position after serving as a firefighter within the meaning of such section;

''(III) in the case of an employee who holds a supervisory or administrative position and is subject to chapter 84, but who does not qualify to be considered a firefighter within the meaning of section 8401(14), would so qualify if such employee had transferred directly to such position after performing duties described in section 8401(14)(A) and (B) for at least 3 years; and

''(IV) in the case of an employee who is not subject to subchapter III of chapter 83 or chapter 84, holds a position that the Office of Personnel Management determines would satisfy subclause (I), (II), or (III) if the employee were subject to subchapter III of chapter 83 or chapter 84; and

''(B) the term 'qualified trade-of-time arrangement' means an arrangement under which 2 firefighters who are subject to the supervision of the same fire chief agree, solely at their option and with the approval of the employing agency, to substitute for one another during scheduled work hours in the performance of work in the same capacity.''.

SA 4680. Mr. BENNET (for himself, Mr. HICKENLOOPER, and Mr. CRAMER) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such

fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle A of title XV, add the following:

SEC. 1516. RESEARCH AND EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES TO SUPPORT SPACE TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the Air Force and the Chief of Space Operations, in coordination with the Chief Technology and Innovation Office of the Space Force, may carry out research and educational activities to support space technology development.

(b) ACTIVITIES.—Activities carried out under subsection (a) shall support the research, development, and demonstration needs of the Space Force, including by addressing and facilitating the advancement of capabilities related to—

(1) space domain awareness;

(2) position, navigation, and timing;

(3) autonomy;

(4) data analytics;

(5) communications;

(6) space-based power generation;

(7) space applications for cybersecurity; and

(8) any other matter the Secretary of the Air Forces considers relevant.

(c) EDUCATION AND TRAINING.—Activities carried out under subsection (a) shall—

(1) promote education and training for students in order to support the future national security space workforce of the United States; and

(2) explore opportunities for international collaboration.

SA 4681. Mr. LUJÁN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle B of title VIII, insert the following:

SEC. 821. USE OF DOMESTICALLY SOURCED COMPONENTS IN DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE SATELLITES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter II of chapter 385 of title 10, United States Code, is amended by inserting after section 4864 the following new section:

"§ 4865. Domestic source requirement for certain satellite components

''(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Defense may not acquire a covered component for a Department of Defense satellite unless the covered component is manufactured in the United States.

''(b) WAIVER.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may waive the prohibition under subsection (a) with respect to the acquisition of a covered component if the Secretary—

''(A) determines that—

''(i) no significant national security concerns regarding counterfeiting, quality, or unauthorized access would be created by waiving the prohibition;

''(ii) the acquisition of the covered component is required to support national security; and

''(iii) the covered component is not available from a source inside the United States of satisfactory quality, in sufficient quantity, in the required form, and at reasonable cost; and

''(B) submits to the congressional defense committees a report on the determination under subparagraph (A).

''(2) PROHIBITION ON ACQUISITION FROM COVERED NATIONS.—A waiver under paragraph (1) may not authorize the acquisition of a covered component from a covered nation.

''(c) APPLICABILITY.—This section applies respect to contracts entered into on or after October 1, 2022.

''(d) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

''(1) COVERED COMPONENT.—The term 'covered component' means a space-qualified solar cell, cell-interconnect-coverglass (CIC) assembly, solar panel, or solar array.

''(2) COVERED NATION.—The term 'covered nation' means—

''(A) the Democratic People's Republic of North Korea;

''(B) the People's Republic of China;

''(C) the Russian Federation; and

''(D) the Islamic Republic of Iran.

''(3) DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE SATELLITE.—The term 'Department of Defense satellite' means a satellite the principal purpose of which is to support the needs of the Department of Defense.''.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections for chapter 385 of such title is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 4864 the following new item:

''4865. Domestic source requirement for certain satellite components.''.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section take effect on January 1, 2022.

SA 4682. Mr. RISCH submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle G of title XII, add the following:

SEC. 1283. LIMITATION ON REMOVING GOVERNMENT OF CUBA FROM STATE SPONSORS OF TERRORISM LIST UNTIL PRESIDENT CERTIFIES CUBA NO LONGER PROVIDES SANCTUARY TO TERRORISTS.

The President may not remove Cuba from the list of state sponsors of terrorism until the President, without delegation, certifies and reports to Congress that the Government of Cuba has ceased to provide sanctuary to terrorists.

SA 4683. Mr. LANKFORD submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle C of title VII, add the following:

SEC. 744. DELAY OF COVID–19 VACCINE MANDATE FOR MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES AND ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS RELATING TO VACCINE MANDATES.

(a) DELAY OF VACCINE MANDATE.—The Secretary of Defense may not require members of the Armed Forces to receive the vaccination for coronavirus disease 2019 (commonly known as ''COVID–19'') or penalize such members for not receiving such vaccine until the date on which all religious and medical accommodation requests seeking an exemption from such a requirement have been individually evaluated with a final determination and all appeal processes in connection with any such requests have been exhausted.

(b) PRIVATE RIGHT OF ACTION RELATING TO COVID–19 VACCINATION.—A member of the Armed Forces whose religious accommodation request relating to the vaccination for coronavirus disease 2019 is denied without written individualized consideration or consultation with the Office of the Chief of Chaplains for the military department concerned to confirm that there is a compelling interest in having the member receive such vaccination and that mandating vaccination is the least restrictive means of furthering that interest shall have a cause of action for financial damages caused by the harm to their military career, retirement, or benefits.

(c) CONSULTATION WITH OFFICES OF CHIEF OF CHAPLAINS REGARDING RELIGIOUS ACCOMMODATIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The final accommodation authority for each military department shall consult with the Office of the Chief of Chaplains for the military department concerned before denying any religious accommodation request.

(2) PROCEDURES FOR RELIGIOUS EXEMPTION REQUESTS.—The Secretary of Defense shall consult with the members of the Armed Forces Chaplains Board in determining the general procedure for processing religious exemption requests.

(3) DETERMINATIONS RELATING TO RELIGIOUS BELIEF OR CONSCIENCE.—No determinations shall be made regarding the sincerity of the religious belief or conscience of a member of the Armed Forces by the final accommodation authority without the documented consultation of a chaplain with the member.

(d) INSPECTOR GENERAL INVESTIGATION REGARDING RELIGIOUS ACCOMMODATIONS.—Not later than 60 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Inspector General of the Department of Defense shall complete an investigation into whether each of the military departments has complied with Federal law (including the Religious Freedom Restoration Act of 1993 (42 U.S.C. 2000bb et seq.)), Department of Defense Instruction 1300.17, and other policies of the military departments relevant to determining religious accommodations for vaccination requirements.

SA 4684. Mr. KENNEDY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ___. REQUIREMENT TO EXPEDITE REQUESTS FOR COST MODIFICATIONS TO DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE CONTRACTS RESULTING FROM SUPPLY CHAIN CHALLENGES.

The Secretary of Defense shall expedite any request for a cost modification to a contract of the Department of Defense that results from supply chain challenges.

SA 4685. Mrs. BLACKBURN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

Strike section 853 and insert the following:

SEC. 853. DETERMINATION WITH RESPECT TO OPTICAL FIBER FOR DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE PURPOSES.

(a) DETERMINATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 120 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense shall review access, metro, and long-haul passive optical fiber and optical fiber cable that is manufactured or produced by an entity owned or partially owned by the People's Republic of China for potential inclusion on the list of covered communications equipment pursuant to section 2 of the Secure and Trusted Communications Networks Act of 2019 (47 U.S.C. 1601).

(2) APPLICABILITY.—If the Secretary of Defense makes a determination that any such optical fiber or optical fiber cable would pose an unacceptable risk to the national security of the United States or the security and safety of United States persons and should be included on the list, any such inclusion shall apply to such optical fiber or optical fiber cable deployed after such determination.

(b) NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENT.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense shall notify the congressional defense committees of the findings of the review and determination required under subsection (a), publish the determination in the Federal Register, and submit that determination to the relevant Federal agencies, including the Department of Commerce and the Federal Communications Commission.

(c) SAVINGS CLAUSE.—No determination made under section (a) shall impact the current filing and reimbursement process for the Secure and Trusted Communications Networks Program at the Federal Communications Commission.

(d) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) The term ''access'' means optical fiber and optical fiber cable that connects subscribers (residential and business) and radio sites to a service provider.

(2) The term ''long haul'' means optical fiber and optical fiber cable that connects cities and metropolitan areas.

(3) The term ''metro'' means optical fiber and optical fiber cable that connects city business districts and central city and suburban areas.

(4) The term ''passive'' means unpowered optical fiber and optical fiber cable.

SA 4686. Mr. CORNYN (for himself and Mr. KING) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place in title X, insert the following:

SEC. _____. STUDY ON SUPPLY CHAINS CRITICAL TO NATIONAL SECURITY.

Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Director of National Intelligence shall, in coordination with the Director of the Central Intelligence Agency and the heads of such elements of the intelligence community as the Director of National Intelligence considers appropriate—

(1) complete a study—

(A) to identify—

(i) supply chains that are critical to the national security, economic security, or public health or safety of the United States; and

(ii) important vulnerabilities in such supply chains; and

(B) to develop recommendations for legislative or administrative action to secure the supply chains identified under subparagraph (A)(i); and

(2) submit to the congressional intelligence committees (as that term is defined in section 3 of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3003)), the Committee on Armed Services of the Senate, and the Committee on Armed Services of the House of Representatives the findings of the directors with respect to the study conducted under paragraph (1).

SA 4687. Mr. BENNET (for himself, Mr. HICKENLOOPER, and Mr. CRAMER) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle A of title XV, add the following:

SEC. 1516. RESEARCH AND EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES TO SUPPORT SPACE TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the Air Force and the Chief of Space Operations, in coordination with the Chief Technology and Innovation Office of the Space Force, may carry out research and educational activities to support space technology development.

(b) ACTIVITIES.—Activities carried out under subsection (a) shall support the research, development, and demonstration needs of the Space Force, including by addressing and facilitating the advancement of capabilities related to—

(1) space domain awareness;

(2) position, navigation, and timing;

(3) autonomy;

(4) data analytics;

(5) communications;

(6) space-based power generation;

(7) space applications for cybersecurity; and

(8) any other matter the Secretary of the Air Forces considers relevant.

(c) EDUCATION AND TRAINING.—Activities carried out under subsection (a) shall—

(1) promote education and training for students in order to support the future national security space workforce of the United States; and

(2) explore opportunities for international collaboration.

SA 4688. Ms. CORTEZ MASTO (for herself and Mr. DAINES) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place in title X, insert the following:

SEC. _____. NATIONAL SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY STRATEGY.

Title II of the National Science and Technology Policy, Organization, and Priorities Act of 1976 (42 U.S.C. 6611 et seq.) is amended by striking section 206 and inserting the following:

"SEC. 206. NATIONAL SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY STRATEGY.

''(a) STRATEGY REQUIRED.—Not later than the end of each calendar year immediately after the calendar year in which a review under section 206A(b) is completed, the Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy, in consultation with the National Science and Technology Council, shall develop and submit to Congress a comprehensive national science and technology strategy of the United States to meet national research and development objectives for the following 4-year period (in this section referred to as the 'national science and technology strategy').

''(b) REQUIREMENTS.—Each national science and technology strategy required by subsection (a) shall delineate a national science and technology strategy consistent with—

''(1) the recommendations and priorities developed pursuant to the review most recently completed under section 206A(b);

''(2) the most recent national security strategy report submitted pursuant to section 1032 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2012 (50 U.S.C. 3043);

''(3) other relevant national plans; and

''(4) the strategic plans of relevant Federal departments and agencies.

''(c) CONSULTATION.—The Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy shall consult, as necessary, with the Director of the Office of Management and Budget and other appropriate elements of the Executive Office of the President to ensure that the recommendations and priorities delineated in the science and technology strategy are incorporated in the development of annual budget requests.

''(d) ANNUAL REPORTS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The President shall submit to Congress each year a comprehensive report on the national science and technology strategy of the United States.

''(2) CONTENTS.—Each report submitted under paragraph (1) shall include a description of the following:

''(A) The strategic objectives and priorities necessary to maintain the leadership of the United States in science and technology and to advance science and technology to address

societal and national challenges, including near-term, medium-term, and long-term research priorities.

''(B) The programs, policies, and activities that the President recommends across all Federal agencies to achieve the strategic objectives in subparagraph (A).

''(C) The global trends in science and technology, including potential threats to the leadership of the United States in science and technology and opportunities for international collaboration in science and technology.

''(e) PUBLICATION.—The Director shall, consistent to the maximum extent practicable with the protection of national security and other sensitive matters, make each report submitted under subsection (d) publicly available on an internet website of the Office of Science and Technology Policy.

''SEC. 206A. INTERAGENCY QUADRENNIAL INNOVATION AND TECHNOLOGY REVIEW.

''(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

''(1) APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS.—The term 'appropriate committees of Congress' means—

''(A) the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, the Committee on Armed Services, the Committee on Appropriations, the Committee on Environment and Public Works, the Committee on Foreign Relations, and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate; and

''(B) the Committee on Energy and Commerce, the Committee on Armed Services, the Committee on Appropriations, the Committee on Foreign Affairs, the Committee Science, Space, and Technology and the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives.

''(2) INTERAGENCY.—The term 'interagency' with respect to a review means that the review is conducted in consultation and coordination between Federal agencies, including the Department of Commerce, the Department of Transportation, the Department of Defense, the Department of Energy, the Environmental Protection Agency, and such other related agencies as the Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy considers appropriate, as well as the following:

''(A) The National Science and Technology Council.

''(B) The President's Council of Advisors on Science and Technology.

''(C) The National Science Board.

''(D) the National Security Council.

''(E) The Council of Economic Advisers.

''(F) The National Economic Council.

''(G) The Domestic Policy Council.

''(H) The Office of the United States Trade Representative.

''(b) INTERAGENCY QUADRENNIAL INNOVATION AND TECHNOLOGY REVIEW REQUIRED.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2022, and every 4 years thereafter, the Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy shall complete an interagency review of the science and technology enterprise of the United States (in this section referred to as the 'quadrennial innovation and technology review').

''(2) SCOPE.—The quadrennial science and technology review shall be a comprehensive examination of the science and technology strategy of the United States, including recommendations for maintaining global leadership in science and technology and advancing science and technology to address the societal and national challenges and guidance on the coordination of programs, assets, capabilities, budget, policies, and authorities across all Federal research and development programs.

''(3) CONSULTATION.—In carrying out each quadrennial innovation and technology review, the Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy shall consult with the following:

''(A) Congress.

''(B) Federal agencies, including Federal agencies not described in subsection (a)(2).

''(C) Experts in national security.

''(D) Representatives of specific technology industries, as the Director considers appropriate.

''(E) Academics.

''(F) State, local, and Tribal governments.

''(G) Nongovernmental organizations.

''(H) The public.

''(c) CONTENTS.—In each quadrennial innovation and technology review, the Director shall—

''(1) provide an integrated view of, and recommendations for, science and technology policy across the Federal Government, while considering economic and national security and other societal and national challenges;

''(2) assess and recommend priorities for research, development, and demonstration programs to maintain American leadership in science and technology;

''(3) assess and recommend priorities for research, development, and demonstration programs to address societal and national challenges;

''(4) assess the global competition in science and technology and identify potential threats to the leadership of the United States in science and technology opportunities for international collaboration;

''(5) assess and make recommendations on the science, technology, engineering, mathematics, and computer science workforce in the United States;

''(6) assess and make recommendations to improve regional innovation across the United States;

''(7) assess and make recommendations to improve translation of basic research and the enhancement of technology transfer of federally funded research;

''(8) assess and identify the infrastructure and tools needed to maintain the leadership of the United States in science and technology and address other societal and national challenges; and

''(9) review administrative or legislative policies that affect the science and technology enterprise and identify and make recommendations on policies that hinder research and development in the United States.

''(d) COORDINATION.—The Director shall ensure that each quadrennial innovation and technology review conducted under this section is coordinated with efforts to carry out other relevant statutorily required reviews, and to the maximum extent practicable incorporates information and recommendations from other reviews in order to avoid duplication.

''(e) REPORTING.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than December 31 of the year in which a quadrennial innovation and technology review is conducted, the Director shall submit to Congress a report of the review.

''(2) PUBLICATION.—The Director shall, consistent to the maximum extent possible with the protection of national security and other sensitive matters, make each report submitted under paragraph (1) publicly available on an internet website of the Office of Science and Technology Policy.''.

SA 4689. Mr. SCHUMER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle G of title X, add the following:

SEC. 10___. INCLUSION ON THE VIETNAM VETERANS MEMORIAL WALL OF THE NAMES OF THE LOST CREW MEMBERS OF THE U.S.S. FRANK E. EVANS KILLED ON JUNE 3, 1969.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense shall authorize the inclusion on the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Wall in the District of Columbia of the names of the 74 crew members of the U.S.S. Frank E. Evans killed on June 3, 1969.

(b) REQUIRED CONSULTATION.—The Secretary of Defense shall consult with the Secretary of the Interior, the American Battlefield Monuments Commission, and other applicable authorities with respect to any adjustments to the nomenclature and placement of names pursuant to subsection (a) to address any space limitations on the placement of additional names on the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Wall.

(c) NONAPPLICABILITY OF COMMEMORATIVE WORKS ACT.—Chapter 89 of title 40, United States Code (commonly known as the ''Commemorative Works Act''), shall not apply to any activities carried out under subsection (a) or (b).

SA 4690. Mr. SULLIVAN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle E of title XII, add the following:

SEC. 1253. DISCLOSURES REQUIRED BY UNITED STATES FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS INVESTING IN PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Defense shall—

(1) require any United States financial institution that makes an investment described subsection (b) to disclose the amount and purpose, and potential impacts on the national defense, of such investments to the Secretary on an annual basis; and

(2) make such disclosures available to the public.

(b) INVESTMENTS DESCRIBED.—An investment described in this subsection is a monetary investment, in an amount that exceeds a threshold to be determined by the Secretary, directly or indirectly—

(1) to—

(A) the People's Republic of China;

(B) an entity owned or controlled by the Chinese Communist Party; or

(C) the People's Liberation Army; or

(2) for the benefit of any key industrial sector sponsored by the Chinese Communist Party.

(c) CONSOLIDATED REPORT.—Not less frequently than annually, the Secretary shall compile the disclosures submitted under subsection (a) and submit that compilation and

a summary of those disclosures to the congressional defense committees.

(d) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary shall prescribe such regulations as are necessary to carry out this section, which may include—

(1) requirements for documents and information to be submitted with disclosures required under subsection (a); and

(2) procedures for the determining the amount under subsection (b).

(e) UNITED STATES FINANCIAL INSTITUTION DEFINED.—In this section, the term ''United States financial institution'' means a financial institution (as defined in section 5312 of title 31, United States Code) organized under the laws of the United States or of any jurisdiction within the United States, including a foreign branch of such an institution.

SA 4691. Mr. HAGERTY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle B of title X, add the following:

SEC. 1013. PROTECTING AMERICANS AGAINST FENTANYL AND OTHER SYNTHETIC OPIOIDS.

(a) STATEMENT OF POLICY.—It is the policy of the United States that all cabinet officials and other Government officers shall, in advancing American interests by working with other countries and international organizations, advocate for treating fentanyl and other synthetic opioids as weapons of mass destruction.

(b) HOMELAND SECURITY ACT OF 2002.—Section 1921 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 591g) is amended by inserting ''fentanyl or synthetic opioid,'' after ''chemical,''.

(c) DEFENSE AGAINST WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION ACT OF 1996.—Section 1403(1) of the Defense Against Weapons of Mass Destruction Act of 1996 (50 U.S.C. 2302(1)) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (B), by striking ''or'' at the end;

(2) in subparagraph (C), by striking the period at the end and inserting ''; or''; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

''(D) illicit fentanyl, fentanyl analogues, or synthetic opioids.''.

(d) FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE SURVEILLANCE ACT OF 1978.—Section 101(p)(2) of the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act of 1978 (50 U.S.C. 1801(p)(2)) is amended by inserting '', including illicit fentanyl, fentanyl analogues, or synthetic opioids'' after ''precursors''.

SA 4692. Mr. HAGERTY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle F of title X, add the following:

SEC. 1054. REPORT ON USE OF DRUG DETECTION TECHNOLOGY AT THE BORDER.

Not later than 6 months after the date of the enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall submit a report to Congress that describes—

(1) the technology that has been authorized by U.S. Customs and Border Protection to detect drug contraband entering the United States at or between ports of entry;

(2) the resources Congress has provided in furtherance of the technology described in paragraph (1);

(3) the technology that has been utilized at the United States border to detect drug contraband entering the United States at or between ports of entry; and

(4) the resources that the Department of Homeland Security has expended in furtherance of such technology.

SA 4693. Mr. HAGERTY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle F of title X, add the following:

SEC. 1054. STUDY AND REPORT ON BILATERAL EFFORTS TO ADDRESS CHINESE FENTANYL TRAFFICKING.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

(1) In January 2020, the DEA named China as the primary source of United States-bound illicit fentanyl and synthetic opioids.

(2) While in 2019 China instituted domestic controls on the production and exportation of fentanyl, some of its variants, and 2 precursors known as NPP and 4–ANPP, China has not yet expanded its class scheduling to include many fentanyl precursors such as 4–AP, which continue to be trafficked to second countries in which they are used in the final production of United States-bound fentanyl and other synthetic opioids.

(3) The DEA currently maintains a presence in Beijing but continues to seek Chinese approval to open offices in the major shipping hubs of Guangzhou and Shanghai.

(b) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS.—The term ''appropriate committees of Congress'' means—

(A) the Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate;

(B) the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate;

(C) the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives; and

(D) the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives.

(2) CHINA.—The term ''China'' means the People's Republic of China.

(3) DEA.—The term ''DEA'' means the Drug Enforcement Administration.

(4) PRECURSORS.—The term ''precursors'' means chemicals used in the illicit production of fentanyl and related synthetic opioid variants.

(c) CHINA'S CLASS SCHEDULING OF FENTANYL AND SYNTHETIC OPIOID PRECURSORS.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State and the Attorney General shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress an unclassified written report, with a classified annex, that includes—

(1) a description of United States Government efforts to gain a commitment from the Chinese Government to submit unregulated fentanyl precursors such as 4–AP to controls; and

(2) a plan for future steps the United States Government will take to urge China to combat illicit fentanyl production and trafficking originating in China.

(d) ESTABLISHMENT OF DEA OFFICES IN CHINA.—Not later than 180 days after enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State and Attorney General shall provide to the appropriate committees of Congress a classified briefing on—

(1) outreach and negotiations undertaken by the United States Government with the Chinese Government aimed at securing its approval for the establishment of DEA offices in Shanghai and Guangzhou, China; and

(2) additional efforts to establish new partnerships with provincial-level authorities to counter the illicit trafficking of fentanyl, fentanyl analogues, and their precursors.

(e) REPORT ON DRUG SEIZURES.—Not later than 6 months after the date of the enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter, the Administrator of the Drug Enforcement Administration, in coordination with the Office of National Drug Control Policy, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, the Department of Homeland Security, the Department of Justice, the Coast Guard, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the Office of the United States Trade Representative, the Office of the Director of National Intelligence, the Central Intelligence Agency , the Department of Defense, the United States Postal Service, and other relevant agencies, shall submit a report to Congress that describes—

(1) with respect to illicit fentanyl, fentanyl analogues, synthetic opioids, the precursors for illicit fentanyl, fentanyl analogues, or synthetic opioids, methamphetamine, or methamphetamine precursors seized at the United States borders and ports of entry—

(A) the source countries from which such drugs originated and the third party countries through which such drugs traveled;

(B) the amounts of illicit fentanyl, fentanyl analogues, synthetic opioids, the precursors for illicit fentanyl, fentanyl analogues, or synthetic opioids, methamphetamine, or methamphetamine precursors; and

(C) the lethality of the amounts of illicit fentanyl, fentanyl analogues, synthetic opioids, the precursors for illicit fentanyl, fentanyl analogues, or synthetic opioids, methamphetamine, or methamphetamine precursors seized;

(2) with respect to illicit fentanyl, fentanyl analogues, synthetic opioids, the precursors for illicit fentanyl, fentanyl analogues, or synthetic opioids, methamphetamine, or methamphetamine precursors seized within the United States—

(A) the source countries from which such drugs originated and the third party countries through which such drugs traveled;

(B) the amounts of illicit fentanyl, fentanyl analogues, synthetic opioids, the precursors for illicit fentanyl, fentanyl analogues, or synthetic opioids, methamphetamine, or methamphetamine precursors seized; and

(C) the lethality of the amounts of illicit fentanyl, fentanyl analogues, synthetic opioids, the precursors for illicit fentanyl, fentanyl analogues, or synthetic opioids, methamphetamine, or methamphetamine precursors seized; and

(3) the activities conducted by Chinese entities and nationals in furtherance of illicit fentanyl production in Mexico for drug trafficking purposes.

SA 4694. Mr. HAGERTY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle E of title III, add the following:

SEC. 376. BRIEFING ON DEPOT MAINTENANCE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Readiness shall brief the congressional defense committees on the source of repair decision-making process of the Department of Defense for depots.

(b) ELEMENTS.—The briefing required under subsection (a) shall include—

(1) information on how costs and risks to readiness of the Armed Forces are being addressed in the process described in subsection (a);

(2) a timeline for decision making under such process; and

(3) an assessment of the objective balance of workload between the public and private sectors under such process.

SA 4695. Mr. HAGERTY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle C of title XV, add the following:

SEC. 1548. REPORT ON INCREASING TRAINING CAPACITY FOR WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION CIVIL SUPPORT TEAMS.

Not later than December 31, 2022, the Secretary of Defense, in consultation with the Chief of the National Guard Bureau and the Secretary of Energy, shall submit to the congressional defense committees a report—

(1) assessing the feasibility of increasing training capacity for weapons of mass destruction civil support teams, including through—

(A) the establishment of new facilities and programs to provide such training; and

(B) the augmentation of existing facilities and programs to provide such training;

(2) estimating the costs associated with increasing training capacity as described in paragraph (1); and

(3) identifying facilities and programs that could be established or augmented as described in paragraph (1).

SA 4696. Mr. HAGERTY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. 10__. ADVANCE CONSULTATION WITH STATE AND LOCAL OFFICIALS AND MONTHLY REPORTS TO CONGRESS REGARDING THE RESETTLEMENT, TRANSPORTATION, AND RELOCATION OF ALIENS IN THE UNITED STATES.

(a) CONSULTATION REQUIREMENT.—Not later than 3 business days before any resettlement, transportation, or relocation of non-detained aliens in the United States that is directed, administered, or funded by the Federal Government, the Secretary of Health and Human Services (in the case of minors) or the Secretary of Homeland Security (in the case of adults), as appropriate, shall consult with the governors and municipal chief executives of the directly affected States and local jurisdictions regarding the proposed resettlement, transportation, or relocation.

(b) REPORTS REQUIRED.—Not later than 7 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, and monthly thereafter, the Secretary of Health and Human Services and the Secretary of Homeland Security, in consultation with other appropriate Federal officials, shall—

(1) submit a State-specific report regarding the resettlement, transportation, or relocation of non-detained aliens in the United States during the previous month that was directed, administered, or funded by the Federal Government or that involved aliens subject to the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement's Alternatives to Detention program that contains the information described in subsection (c) to—

(A) the Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate;

(B) the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate;

(C) the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives;

(D) the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives; and

(E) the governor of each of the affected States; and

(2) make the report described in paragraph (1) available on a publicly accessible website.

(c) CONTENTS.—Each report under subsection (b) shall contain, with respect to each State—

(1) the number of aliens resettled, transported, or relocated during the previous month and the current calendar year, disaggregated by—

(A) the numbers of single adults, members of family units, and minors;

(B) age;

(C) sex; and

(D) country of origin;

(2) the methods used to determine the ages of such aliens;

(3) the methods used to verify the familial status of such aliens;

(4) the types of settings in which such aliens are being resettled, transported, or relocated, which may be aggregated by the general type of setting;

(5) a summary of the educational or occupational resources or assistance provided to such aliens;

(6) whether such aliens are granted permits to work and how any such aliens without a work permit will financially support themselves;

(7) the amounts and types of Federal resources spent on alien resettlement, transportation, or relocation; and

(8) whether the aliens are being resettled, transported, or relocated on a temporary or permanent basis, disaggregated by—

(A) the numbers of single adults, members of family units, and minors;

(B) age;

(C) sex; and

(D) country of origin.

SA 4697. Mr. HAGERTY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle G of title X, add the following:

SEC. 1064. GUIDANCE ON FOREIGN TRANSPORTATION NETWORK COMPANIES.

Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense, in concurrence with the Secretary of State and the Director of National Intelligence, shall assess the security vulnerabilities associated with the use members of the Armed Forces and Department of Defense civilian personnel of foreign transportation network companies and provide guidance on the appropriate use of such companies. The assessment shall include a review of the data privacy and national security risks inherent to third-party transportation operators with ties to foreign government agencies that provide transportation services to members of the Armed Forces, including the exposure of trip and route details and personally identifiable information.

SA 4698. Mr. HAGERTY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle C of title XII, add the following:

SEC. 1224. CONGRESSIONAL REVIEW OF CERTAIN ACTIONS RELATING TO SANCTIONS IMPOSED WITH RESPECT TO IRAN.

(a) SUBMISSION TO CONGRESS OF PROPOSED ACTION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, before taking any action described in paragraph (2), the President shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees and leadership a report that describes the proposed action and the reasons for that action.

(2) ACTIONS DESCRIBED.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—An action described in this paragraph is—

(i) an action to terminate the application of any sanctions described in subparagraph (B);

(ii) with respect to sanctions described in subparagraph (B) imposed by the President with respect to a person, an action to waive the application of those sanctions with respect to that person; or

(iii) a licensing action that significantly alters United States foreign policy with respect to Iran.

(B) SANCTIONS DESCRIBED.—The sanctions described in this subparagraph are sanctions with respect to Iran provided for under—

(i) the Iran Sanctions Act of 1996 (Public Law 104–172; 50 U.S.C. 1701 note);

(ii) the Comprehensive Iran Sanctions, Accountability, and Divestment Act of 2010 (22 U.S.C. 8501 et seq.);

(iii) section 1245 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2012 (22 U.S.C. 8513a);

(iv) the Iran Threat Reduction and Syria Human Rights Act of 2012 (22 U.S.C. 8701 et seq.);

(v) the Iran Freedom and Counter-Proliferation Act of 2012 (22 U.S.C. 8801 et seq.);

(vi) the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1701 note); or

(vii) any other statute or Executive order that requires or authorizes the imposition of sanctions with respect to Iran.

(3) DESCRIPTION OF TYPE OF ACTION.—Each report submitted under paragraph (1) with respect to an action described in paragraph (2) shall include a description of whether the action—

(A) is not intended to significantly alter United States foreign policy with respect to Iran; or

(B) is intended to significantly alter United States foreign policy with respect to Iran.

(4) INCLUSION OF ADDITIONAL MATTER.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Each report submitted under paragraph (1) that relates to an action that is intended to significantly alter United States foreign policy with respect to Iran shall include a description of—

(i) the significant alteration to United States foreign policy with respect to Iran;

(ii) the anticipated effect of the action on the national security interests of the United States; and

(iii) the policy objectives for which the sanctions affected by the action were initially imposed.

(B) REQUESTS FROM BANKING AND FINANCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEES.—The Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate or the Committee on Financial Services of the House of Representatives may request the submission to the Committee of the matter described in clauses (ii) and (iii) of subparagraph (A) with respect to a report submitted under paragraph (1) that relates to an action that is not intended to significantly alter United States foreign policy with respect to Iran.

(5) CONFIDENTIALITY OF PROPRIETARY INFORMATION.—Proprietary information that can be associated with a particular person with respect to an action described in paragraph (2) may be included in a report submitted under paragraph (1) only if the appropriate congressional committees and leadership provide assurances of confidentiality, unless that person otherwise consents in writing to such disclosure.

(6) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Paragraph (2)(A)(iii) shall not be construed to require the submission of a report under paragraph (1) with respect to the routine issuance of a license that does not significantly alter United States foreign policy with respect to Iran.

(b) PERIOD FOR REVIEW BY CONGRESS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—During the period of 30 calendar days beginning on the date on which the President submits a report under subsection (a)(1)—

(A) in the case of a report that relates to an action that is not intended to significantly alter United States foreign policy with respect to Iran, the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Financial Services of the House of Representatives should, as appropriate, hold hearings and briefings and otherwise obtain information in order to fully review the report; and

(B) in the case of a report that relates to an action that is intended to significantly alter United States foreign policy with respect to Iran, the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate and the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives should, as appropriate, hold hearings and briefings and otherwise obtain information in order to fully review the report.

(2) EXCEPTION.—The period for congressional review under paragraph (1) of a report required to be submitted under subsection (a)(1) shall be 60 calendar days if the report is submitted on or after July 10 and on or before September 7 in any calendar year.

(3) LIMITATION ON ACTIONS DURING INITIAL CONGRESSIONAL REVIEW PERIOD.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, during the period for congressional review provided for under paragraph (1) of a report submitted under subsection (a)(1) proposing an action described in subsection (a)(2), including any additional period for such review as applicable under the exception provided in paragraph (2), the President may not take that action unless a joint resolution of approval with respect to that action is enacted in accordance with subsection (c).

(4) LIMITATION ON ACTIONS DURING PRESIDENTIAL CONSIDERATION OF A JOINT RESOLUTION OF DISAPPROVAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, if a joint resolution of disapproval relating to a report submitted under subsection (a)(1) proposing an action described in subsection (a)(2) passes both Houses of Congress in accordance with subsection (c), the President may not take that action for a period of 12 calendar days after the date of passage of the joint resolution of disapproval.

(5) LIMITATION ON ACTIONS DURING CONGRESSIONAL RECONSIDERATION OF A JOINT RESOLUTION OF DISAPPROVAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, if a joint resolution of disapproval relating to a report submitted under subsection (a)(1) proposing an action described in subsection (a)(2) passes both Houses of Congress in accordance with subsection (c), and the President vetoes the joint resolution, the President may not take that action for a period of 10 calendar days after the date of the President's veto.

(6) EFFECT OF ENACTMENT OF A JOINT RESOLUTION OF DISAPPROVAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, if a joint resolution of disapproval relating to a report submitted under subsection (a)(1) proposing an action described in subsection (a)(2) is enacted in accordance with subsection (c), the President may not take that action.

(c) JOINT RESOLUTIONS OF DISAPPROVAL OR APPROVAL.—

(1) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:

(A) JOINT RESOLUTION OF APPROVAL.—The term ''joint resolution of approval'' means only a joint resolution of either House of Congress—

(i) the title of which is as follows: ''A joint resolution approving the President's proposal to take an action relating to the application of certain sanctions with respect to Iran.''; and

(ii) the sole matter after the resolving clause of which is the following: ''Congress approves of the action relating to the application of sanctions imposed with respect to Iran proposed by the President in the report submitted to Congress under section 1224(a)(1) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2022 on _____ relating to _____.'', with the first blank space being filled with the appropriate date and the second blank space being filled with a short description of the proposed action.

(B) JOINT RESOLUTION OF DISAPPROVAL.—The term ''joint resolution of disapproval'' means only a joint resolution of either House of Congress—

(i) the title of which is as follows: ''A joint resolution disapproving the President's proposal to take an action relating to the application of certain sanctions with respect to Iran.''; and

(ii) the sole matter after the resolving clause of which is the following: ''Congress disapproves of the action relating to the application of sanctions imposed with respect to Iran proposed by the President in the report submitted to Congress under section 1224(a)(1) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2022 on _____ relating to _____.'', with the first blank space being filled with the appropriate date and the second blank space being filled with a short description of the proposed action.

(2) INTRODUCTION.—During the period of 30 calendar days provided for under subsection (b)(1), including any additional period as applicable under the exception provided in subsection (b)(2), a joint resolution of approval or joint resolution of disapproval may be introduced—

(A) in the House of Representatives, by the majority leader or the minority leader; and

(B) in the Senate, by the majority leader (or the majority leader's designee) or the minority leader (or the minority leader's designee).

(3) FLOOR CONSIDERATION IN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.—If a committee of the House of Representatives to which a joint resolution of approval or joint resolution of disapproval has been referred has not reported the joint resolution within 10 calendar days after the date of referral, that committee shall be discharged from further consideration of the joint resolution.

(4) CONSIDERATION IN THE SENATE.—

(A) COMMITTEE REFERRAL.—A joint resolution of approval or joint resolution of disapproval introduced in the Senate shall be—

(i) referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs if the joint resolution relates to a report under subsection (a)(3)(A) that relates to an action that is not intended to significantly alter United States foreign policy with respect to Iran; and

(ii) referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations if the joint resolution relates to a report under subsection (a)(3)(B) that relates to an action that is intended to significantly alter United States foreign policy with respect to Iran.

(B) REPORTING AND DISCHARGE.—If the committee to which a joint resolution of approval or joint resolution of disapproval was referred has not reported the joint resolution within 10 calendar days after the date of referral of the joint resolution, that committee shall be discharged from further consideration of the joint resolution and the joint resolution shall be placed on the appropriate calendar.

(C) PROCEEDING TO CONSIDERATION.—Notwithstanding Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, it is in order at any time after the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs or the Committee on Foreign Relations, as the case may be, reports a joint resolution of approval or joint resolution of disapproval to the Senate or has been discharged from consideration of such a joint resolution (even though a previous motion to the same effect has been disagreed to) to move to proceed to the consideration of the joint resolution, and all points of order against the joint resolution (and against consideration of the joint resolution) are waived. The motion to proceed is not debatable. The motion is not subject to a motion to postpone. A motion to reconsider the vote by which the motion is agreed to or disagreed to shall not be in order.

(D) RULINGS OF THE CHAIR ON PROCEDURE.—Appeals from the decisions of the Chair relating to the application of the rules of the Senate, as the case may be, to the procedure relating to a joint resolution of approval or joint resolution of disapproval shall be decided without debate.

(E) CONSIDERATION OF VETO MESSAGES.—Debate in the Senate of any veto message with respect to a joint resolution of approval or joint resolution of disapproval, including all debatable motions and appeals in connection with the joint resolution, shall be limited to 10 hours, to be equally divided between, and controlled by, the majority leader and the minority leader or their designees.

(5) RULES RELATING TO SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.—

(A) TREATMENT OF SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION IN HOUSE.—In the House of Representatives, the following procedures shall apply to a joint resolution of approval or a joint resolution of disapproval received from the Senate (unless the House has already passed a joint resolution relating to the same proposed action):

(i) The joint resolution shall be referred to the appropriate committees.

(ii) If a committee to which a joint resolution has been referred has not reported the joint resolution within 2 calendar days after the date of referral, that committee shall be discharged from further consideration of the joint resolution.

(iii) Beginning on the third legislative day after each committee to which a joint resolution has been referred reports the joint resolution to the House or has been discharged from further consideration thereof, it shall be in order to move to proceed to consider the joint resolution in the House. All points of order against the motion are waived. Such a motion shall not be in order after the House has disposed of a motion to proceed on the joint resolution. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the motion to its adoption without intervening motion. The motion shall not be debatable. A motion to reconsider the vote by which the motion is disposed of shall not be in order.

(iv) The joint resolution shall be considered as read. All points of order against the joint resolution and against its consideration are waived. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the joint resolution to final passage without intervening motion except 2 hours of debate equally divided and controlled by the sponsor of the joint resolution (or a designee) and an opponent. A motion to reconsider the vote on passage of the joint resolution shall not be in order.

(B) TREATMENT OF HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION IN SENATE.—

(i) RECEIPT BEFORE PASSAGE.—If, before the passage by the Senate of a joint resolution of approval or joint resolution of disapproval, the Senate receives an identical joint resolution from the House of Representatives, the following procedures shall apply:

(I) That joint resolution shall not be referred to a committee.

(II) With respect to that joint resolution—

(aa) the procedure in the Senate shall be the same as if no joint resolution had been received from the House of Representatives; but

(bb) the vote on passage shall be on the joint resolution from the House of Representatives.

(ii) RECEIPT AFTER PASSAGE.—If, following passage of a joint resolution of approval or joint resolution of disapproval in the Senate, the Senate receives an identical joint resolution from the House of Representatives, that joint resolution shall be placed on the appropriate Senate calendar.

(iii) NO COMPANION MEASURE.—If a joint resolution of approval or a joint resolution of disapproval is received from the House, and no companion joint resolution has been introduced in the Senate, the Senate procedures under this subsection shall apply to the House joint resolution.

(C) APPLICATION TO REVENUE MEASURES.—The provisions of this paragraph shall not apply in the House of Representatives to a joint resolution of approval or joint resolution of disapproval that is a revenue measure.

(6) RULES OF HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND SENATE.—This subsection is enacted by Congress—

(A) as an exercise of the rulemaking power of the Senate and the House of Representatives, respectively, and as such is deemed a part of the rules of each House, respectively, and supersedes other rules only to the extent that it is inconsistent with such rules; and

(B) with full recognition of the constitutional right of either House to change the rules (so far as relating to the procedure of that House) at any time, in the same manner, and to the same extent as in the case of any other rule of that House.

(d) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES AND LEADERSHIP DEFINED.—In this section, the term ''appropriate congressional committees and leadership'' means—

(1) the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs, the Committee on Foreign Relations, and the majority and minority leaders of the Senate; and

(2) the Committee on Financial Services, the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and the Speaker, the majority leader, and the minority leader of the House of Representatives.

SA 4699. Mr. HAGERTY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle G of title XII, add the following:

SEC. 1283. OFFICE OF GLOBAL WOMEN'S ISSUES AND THE WOMEN'S GLOBAL DEVELOPMENT AND PROSPERITY INITIATIVE.

Chapter 1 of part I of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2151 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''SEC. 138. OFFICE OF GLOBAL WOMEN'S ISSUES AND THE WOMEN'S GLOBAL DEVELOPMENT AND PROSPERITY INITIATIVE.

''(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of State shall establish, in the Office of the Secretary of State, the Office of Global Women's Issues (referred to in this section as the 'Office').

''(b) PURPOSE; DUTIES.—

''(1) PURPOSE.—The purpose of the Office is to advance equal opportunity for women and the status of women and girls in United States foreign policy.

''(2) DUTIES.—In carrying out the purpose described in paragraph (1), the Office—

''(A)(i) shall advise the Secretary of State and provide input on all activities, policies, programs, and funding relating to equal opportunity for women and the advancement of women and girls internationally to all bureaus and offices of the Department of State; and

''(ii) may, as appropriate, provide to the international programs of other Federal agencies input on all activities, policies, programs, and funding relating to equal opportunity for women and the advancement of women and girls internationally;

''(B)(i) shall work to ensure that efforts to advance equal opportunity for women and men and women's and girls' empowerment are fully integrated into the programs, structures, processes, and capacities of all bureaus and offices of the Department of State; and

''(ii) may, as appropriate, work to ensure that efforts to advance equal opportunity for women and men and women's and girls' empowerment are fully integrated into the international programs of other Federal agencies;

''(C) shall implement the Women's Global Development and Prosperity Initiative, in accordance with subsection (c); and

''(D) may not engage in any activities not described in subparagraphs (A) through (C).

''(c) WOMEN'S GLOBAL DEVELOPMENT AND PROSPERITY INITIATIVE.—

''(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary of State shall establish the Women's Global Development and Prosperity Initiative (referred to in this subsection as the 'Initiative') to carry out the activities described in paragraphs (2) through (4).

''(2) WOMEN PROSPERING IN THE WORKFORCE.—The Initiative shall advance women in the workforce by improving their access to quality vocational education and skills training, which will enable them to secure jobs in their local economies.

''(3) WOMEN SUCCEEDING AS ENTREPRENEURS.—The Initiative shall promote women's entrepreneurship and increasing access to capital, financial services, markets, technical assistance, and mentorship.

''(4) WOMEN ENABLED IN THE ECONOMY.—The Initiative shall identify and reduce the binding constraints in economic and property laws and practices that prevent women's full and free participation in the global economy and promote foundational legal reforms, including—

''(A) ensuring that women can fully participate in the workforce and engage in economic activities by—

''(i) ending impunity for violence against women;

''(ii) ensuring that women have the authority to sign legal documents, such as contracts and court documents; and

''(iii) addressing unequal access to courts and administrative bodies for women, whether officially or through lack of proper enforcement;

''(B) ensuring women's equal access to credit and capital to start and grow their businesses, savings, and investments, including prohibiting discrimination in access to credit on the basis of sex or marital status;

''(C) lifting restrictions on women's right to own, manage, and make decisions relating to the use of property, including repealing limitations on inheritance and ensuring the ability to transfer, purchase, or lease such property;

''(D) addressing constraints on women's freedom of movement, including sex-based restrictions on obtaining passports and identification documents; and

''(E) promoting the free and equal participation of women in the economy with regard to working hours, occupations, and occupational tasks.

''(d) SUPERVISION.—The Office shall be headed by an Ambassador-at-Large for Global Women's Issues and the Women's Global Development and Prosperity Initiative (referred to in this section as the 'Ambassador'), who shall—

''(1) be appointed by the President, with the advice and consent of the Senate;

''(2) report directly to the Secretary; and

''(3) have the rank and status of Ambassador-at-Large.

''(e) COORDINATION.—United States Government efforts to advance women's economic empowerment globally shall be closely aligned and coordinated with the Initiative.

''(f) ABORTION NEUTRALITY.—

''(1) PROHIBITIONS.—The Office, the Initiative, and the Ambassador may not—

''(A) lobby other countries, including through multilateral mechanisms and foreign nongovernmental organizations—

''(i) to change domestic laws or policies with respect to abortion; or

''(ii) to include abortion as a programmatic requirement of any foreign activities; or

''(B) provide Federal funding appropriated for foreign assistance to pay for or to promote abortion.

''(2) LIMITATIONS ON USE OF FUNDS.—Amounts appropriated for the Office or the Initiative may not be used—

''(A) to lobby other countries, including through multilateral mechanisms and foreign nongovernmental organizations—

''(i) to change domestic laws or policies with respect to abortion; or

''(ii) to include abortion as a programmatic requirement of any foreign activities; or

''(B) to provide Federal foreign assistance funding to pay for or to promote abortion.

''(3) CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this subsection may be construed to prevent—

''(A) the funding of activities for the purpose of treating injuries or illnesses caused by legal or illegal abortions; or

''(B) agencies or officers of the United States from engaging in activities in opposition to policies of coercive abortion or involuntary sterilization.

''(g) REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this section, and not less frequently than annually thereafter, the Secretary of State shall—

''(1) submit a written report to the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate, the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate, the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives, and the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives that describes the implementation of this section, including—

''(A) measures taken to ensure compliance with subsection (f); and

''(B) with respect to funds appropriated pursuant to subsection (h)—

''(i) amounts awarded to prime recipients and subrecipients since the end of the previous reporting period; and

''(ii) descriptions of each program for which such funds are used; and

''(2) make such report publicly available.

''(h) FUNDING.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—There shall be reserved to carry out this section, from funds made available for development assistance programs of the United States Agency for International Development, $200,000,000, for each of the fiscal years 2022 through 2026, which shall be—

''(A) deposited into the Women's Global Development and Prosperity Fund (W–GDP);

''(B) administered by the United States Agency for International Development;

''(C) expended solely for the purpose, duties, and activities set forth in subsections (b) and (c); and

''(D) expended, to the greatest extent practicable, in support of removing legal barriers to women's economic freedom in accordance with the findings of the W–GDP Women's Economic Freedom Index report published by the Council of Economic Advisers in February 2020.

''(2) REQUIREMENT.—Notwithstanding paragraph (1), amounts reserved under paragraph (1) for fiscal year 2023, or for any later fiscal year, may not be obligated or expended unless the most recent report submitted pursuant to subsection (g)(1) includes the information required under subparagraphs (A) and (B) of subsection (g)(1).

''(3) OVERSIGHT.—The expenditure of amounts reserved under paragraph (1) shall be jointly overseen by—

''(A) the United States Agency for International Development;

''(B) the Ambassador; and

''(C) the Initiative.''.

SA 4700. Mr. HAGERTY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. _____. DISCLOSE GOVERNMENT CENSORSHIP.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) INFORMATION CONTENT PROVIDER; INTERACTIVE COMPUTER SERVICE.—The terms ''information content provider'' and ''interactive computer service'' have the meanings given the terms in section 230 of the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 230).

(2) LEGITIMATE LAW ENFORCEMENT PURPOSE.—The term ''legitimate law enforcement purpose'' means for the purpose of investigating a criminal offense by a law enforcement agency that is within the lawful authority of that agency.

(3) NATIONAL SECURITY PURPOSE.—The term ''national security purpose'' means a purpose that relates to—

(A) intelligence activities;

(B) cryptologic activities related to national security;

(C) command and control of military forces;

(D) equipment that is an integral part of a weapon or weapons system; or

(E) the direct fulfillment of military or intelligence missions.

(b) DISCLOSURES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (3), any officer or employee in the executive or legislative branch shall disclose and, in the case of a written communication, make available for public inspection, on a public website in accordance with paragraph (4), any communication by that officer or employee with a provider or operator of an interactive computer service regarding action or potential action by the provider or operator to restrict access to or the availability of, bar or limit access to, or decrease the dissemination or visibility to users of, material posted by another information content provider, whether the action is or would be carried out manually or through use of an algorithm or other automated or semi-automated process.

(2) TIMING.—The disclosure required under paragraph (1) shall be made not later than 7 days after the date on which the communication is made.

(3) LEGITIMATE LAW ENFORCEMENT AND NATIONAL SECURITY PURPOSES.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Any communication for a legitimate law enforcement purpose or national security purpose shall be disclosed and, in the case of a written communication, made available for inspection, to each House of Congress.

(B) TIMING.—The disclosure required under subparagraph (A) shall be made not later than 60 days after the date on which the communication is made.

(C) RECEIPT.—Upon receipt, each House shall provide copies to the chairman and ranking member of each standing committee with jurisdiction under the rules of the House of Representatives or the Senate regarding the subject matter to which the communication pertains. Such information shall be deemed the property of such committee and may not be disclosed except—

(i) in accordance with the rules of the committee;

(ii) in accordance with the rules of the House of Representatives and the Senate; and

(iii) as permitted by law.

(4) WEBSITE.—

(A) LEGISLATIVE BRANCH.—The Sergeant at Arms of the Senate and the Sergeant at Arms of the House of Representatives shall designate a single location on an internet website where the disclosures and communications of employees and officers in the legislative branch shall be published in accordance with paragraph (1).

(B) EXECUTIVE BRANCH.—The Director of the Office of Management and Budget shall designate a single location on an internet website where the disclosures and communications of employees and officers in the executive branch shall be published in accordance with paragraph (1).

(5) NOTICE.—The Sergeant at Arms of the Senate, the Sergeant at Arms of the House of Representatives, and the Director of the Office of Management and Budget shall take reasonable steps to ensure that each officer and employee of the legislative branch and executive branch, as applicable, are informed of the duties imposed by this section.

(6) CONFLICTS OF INTEREST.—Any person who is a former officer or employee of the executive branch of the United States (including any independent agency) or any person who is a former officer or employee of the legislative branch or a former Member of Congress, who personally and substantially participated in any communication under paragraph (1) while serving as an officer, employee, or Member of Congress, shall not, within 2 years after any such communication under paragraph (1) or 1 year after termination of his or her service as an officer, employee, or Member of Congress, whichever is later, knowingly make, with the intent to influence, any communication to or appearance before any officer or employee of any department, agency, court, or court-martial of the United States, on behalf of any person with which the former officer or employee personally and substantially participated in such communication under paragraph (1).

(7) PENALTIES.—Any person who violates paragraph (1), (2), (3), or (6) shall be punished as provided in section 216 of title 18, United States Code.

SA 4701. Mr. HAGERTY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ____. REPORT ON 2020 GENERAL ELECTION.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this section:

(1) 2016 PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION.—The term ''2016 Presidential election'' means the general election for Federal office occurring in 2016.

(2) 2020 PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION.—The term ''2020 Presidential election'' means the general election for Federal office occurring in 2020.

(3) APPLICABLE ELECTION SECURITY FUNDS.—The term ''applicable election security funds'' means the amount of grant funding provided to the State by the Election Assistance Commission—

(A) from amounts appropriated under the heading ''Election Assistance Commission, Election Security Grants'' in the Financial Services and General Government Appropriations Act, 2020 (Public Law 116–93); or

(B) from amounts appropriated under the heading ''Election Assistance Commission, Election Security Grants'' in the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (Public Law 116–136).

(4) STATE.—The term ''State'' has the meaning given such term under section 901 of the Help America Vote Act of 2002 (52 U.S.C. 21141), except that such term shall include the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

(5) UNSOLICITED MAIL-IN BALLOT.—The term ''unsolicited mail-in ballot'' means any ballot sent to a voter by mail if—

(A) such ballot was not specifically requested by the voter; or

(B) the ballot request by the voter was initiated by the mailing of a ballot application not specifically requested by the voter.

(6) UNSOLICITED MAIL-IN BALLOT PERCENTAGE.—The term ''unsolicited mail-in ballot percentage'' means the number of unsolicited mail-in ballots distributed in the State as a percentage of the number of total ballots provided to voters in the State.

(b) REPORT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General shall submit to Congress and make publicly available a report on the 2020 Presidential election.

(2) MATTERS INCLUDED.—The report submitted under paragraph (1) shall include the following with respect to each State: that received applicable election security funds:

(A) UNSOLICITED MAIL-IN BALLOT PERCENTAGE.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—An analysis of whether the unsolicited mail-in ballot percentage for State for the 2020 Presidential election was greater than the unsolicited mail-in ballot percentage for the State for the 2016 Presidential election.

(ii) RELEVANT AUTHORITY FOR ANY INCREASE.—If the Comptroller General determines that the unsolicited mail-in ballot percentage for the State for the 2020 Presidential election was greater than the unsolicited mail-in ballot percentage for the State for the 2016 Presidential election, the Comptroller General shall provide a description of any change in authority (including any statutory change relating to the distribution of unsolicited mail-in ballots), action, or directive concerning unsolicited mail-in ballots occurring between the 2016 Presidential election and 2020 Presidential election that may have led to such result.

(B) MAIL-IN VOTER VERIFICATION PROCEDURES.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—An analysis of whether there were changes in the State's methods and processes used to verify the identification of voters who vote using mail-in ballots, including signature verification requirements, that applied with respect to the 2020 Presidential election but did not apply to the 2016 Presidential election.

(ii) RELEVANT AUTHORITY FOR CHANGES.—If the Comptroller General determines that there were changes in the State's mail-in voter verification procedures described in clause (i), the Comptroller General shall provide a description of any authority (including any statutory authority), action, or directive that led to such change.

(C) OTHER ELECTION PROCEDURES.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—An analysis of whether the State materially altered or changed its election procedures for the 2020 Presidential election (other than procedures described in subparagraph (B)) from the procedures in effect for the 2016 Presidential election.

(ii) RELEVANT AUTHORITY FOR CHANGES.—If the Comptroller General determines that there were changes in the election procedures described in clause (i), the Comptroller General shall provide a description of any authority (including any statutory authority), action, or directive that led to such change.

(D) MAIL-IN BALLOT COLLECTION.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—An analysis of whether there were specific, documented allegations of a person other than a voter or a voter's family member or caregiver collecting or returning the voter's completed ballot in the 2020 Presidential election.

(ii) RELEVANT AUTHORITY FOR COLLECTION.—If the Comptroller General determines that there were specific, documented allegations described in clause (i), the Comptroller General shall provide a description of any authority (including any statutory authority), action, or directive permitting such collection or return.

(E) OBSERVATION OF BALLOT COUNTING.—An analysis of whether the State has a statute providing for third-party observation of ballot counting, and if so, whether there were specific, documented instances in connection with the 2020 Presidential election in which the State is alleged to have failed to comply with such statute.

(F) FAILURE TO ENFORCE.—An analysis of whether there were specific, documented instances in connection with the 2020 Presidential election in which the State allegedly failed to enforce one or more of its election statutes (other than a statute described in subparagraph (E)).

(G) USE OF APPLICABLE ELECTION SECURITY FUNDS.—In the case of a State that received applicable election security funds, an analysis of—

(i) whether such funds were used to make expenditures with respect to the 2020 Presidential election;

(ii) whether such funds were used in connection with any activity carried out pursuant to an authority, action, or directive described in subparagraph (A)(ii), (B)(ii), (C)(ii), or (D)(ii); and

(iii) whether the State complied with all statutory and other conditions imposed in connection with the receipt of such funds.

(H) SUBSEQUENT STATE ACTIONS.—A description of any of the following actions taken by the State legislature:

(i) The passage of a resolution expressing an opinion on, or the submission to Congress or the Comptroller General of a communication relating to, the items described in subparagraphs (A) through (G).

(ii) The enactment, after the completion of the 2020 Presidential election, of legislation regarding any authority, action, or directive described in subparagraph (A)(ii), (B)(ii), (C)(ii), or (D)(ii) or any failure described in subparagraph (E) or (F).

SEC. ____. TEMPORARY SUSPENSION OF, AND REQUIREMENTS FOR, FUTURE ELECTION ASSISTANCE GRANTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subtitle D of title II of the Help America Vote Act of 2002 (52 U.S.C. 20901 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following new part:

''PART 7—REQUIREMENTS FOR ELECTION ASSISTANCE

''SEC. 297. SUSPENSION OF ELECTION ASSISTANCE.

''(a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no grant may be awarded under this Act before July 1, 2022.

''(b) SUSPENSION OF PREVIOUS GRANTS.—No State may expend Federal funds provided under this Act before the date of the enactment of this section before July 1, 2022.

''SEC. 298. REQUIREMENTS FOR FUTURE ELECTION ASSISTANCE.

''(a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no State may receive any grant awarded under this Act after the date of the enactment of this section unless the State has certified by resolution adopted by the State legislature, as a condition of receiving the grant, that it is in compliance with the requirements of subsection (b).

''(b) REQUIREMENTS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—A State satisfies the requirements of this section if, in connection with any election for Federal office—

''(A) the methods and processes used by the State to verify the identification of voters who vote using mail-in ballots are specifically set forth in statute;

''(B) except as specifically provided by statute—

''(i) the State does not use unsolicited mail-in balloting; and

''(ii) the State does not permit persons other than the voter or the voter's family members or caregivers to return a voter's completed ballot;

''(C) for any election after the last day that the public health emergency declared by the Secretary of Health and Human Services under section 319 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 247d) on January 31, 2020, with respect to COVID–19, is in effect, the State uses all voting procedures in place as of January 1, 2020 (except as modified by State statutes applying to elections after such date);

''(D) in the case of State that has a law providing for third-party observation of ballot counting, such ballot observation law is strictly followed in all instances;

''(E) the State complies with all requirements under title III; and

''(F) the State has taken documented, affirmative measures to address—

''(i) any prior failure to satisfy the requirements of subparagraphs (A) through (E) that is identified by the State legislature in a resolution (or other similar communication submitted to Congress and the Comptroller General); or

''(ii) any prior specific, documented instance in which the State—

''(I) failed to enforce one or more of its election statutes; or

''(II) materially altered or changed its election procedures without a corresponding state statutory enactment.

''(2) UNSOLICITED MAIL-IN BALLOTING.—For purposes of paragraph (1)(B), the term 'unsolicited mail-in balloting' means the process of sending ballots to a voter by mail if—

''(A) such ballot was not specifically requested by the voter; or

''(B) the ballot request by the voter was initiated by the mailing of a ballot application not specifically requested by the voter.

''PART 8—PROHIBITION ON USE OF FUNDS

''SEC. 299. PROHIBITION ON USE OF FUNDS.

''Notwithstanding any other provision of law, any amounts provided under this Act

shall not be used in furtherance of any election procedure that is not expressly set forth in a statute enacted by the State legislature.''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of contents in section 1(b) of the Help America Vote Act of 2002 is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 296 the following:

''PART 7—REQUIREMENTS FOR ELECTION ASSISTANCE

''Sec. 297. Suspension of election assistance.
''Sec. 298. Requirements for future election assistance.

''PART 8—PROHIBITION ON USE OF FUNDS

''Sec. 299. Prohibition on use of funds.''.

SA 4702. Mr. HAGERTY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. _____. REASONABLE, NON-DISCRIMINATORY ACCESS TO ONLINE COMMUNICATIONS PLATFORMS; BLOCKING AND SCREENING OF OFFENSIVE MATERIAL.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Part I of title II of the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 201 et seq.) is amended—

(1) by striking section 230; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

''SEC. 232. REASONABLE, NON-DISCRIMINATORY ACCESS TO ONLINE COMMUNICATIONS PLATFORMS; BLOCKING AND SCREENING OF OFFENSIVE MATERIAL.

''(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

''(1) The rapidly developing array of internet and other interactive computer services available to individual Americans represent an extraordinary advance in the availability of educational and informational resources to our citizens.

''(2) These services often offer users a great degree of control over the information that they receive, as well as the potential for even greater control in the future as technology continues to develop.

''(3) The internet and other interactive computer services offer a forum for a true diversity of political discourse and viewpoints, unique opportunities for cultural development, and myriad avenues for intellectual activity, and regulation of the internet must be tailored to supporting those activities.

''(4) The internet and other interactive computer services have flourished, to the benefit of all Americans, with a minimum of government regulation, and regulation should be limited to what is necessary to preserve the societal benefits provided by the internet.

''(5) Increasingly Americans rely on internet platforms and websites for a variety of political, educational, cultural, and entertainment services and for communication with one another.

''(b) POLICY.—It is the policy of the United States—

''(1) to promote the continued development of the internet and other interactive computer services and other interactive media;

''(2) to preserve a vibrant and competitive free market for the internet and other interactive computer services;

''(3) to encourage the development of technologies which maximize user control over what information is received by individuals, families, and schools who use the internet and other interactive computer services, rather than control and censorship driven by interactive computer services;

''(4) to facilitate the development and utilization of blocking and filtering technologies that empower parents to restrict their children's access to objectionable or inappropriate online material;

''(5)(A) to ensure that the internet serves as an open forum for—

''(i) a true diversity of discourse and viewpoints, including political discourse and viewpoints;

''(ii) unique opportunities for cultural development; and

''(iii) myriad avenues for intellectual activity; and

''(B) given that the internet is the dominant platform for communication and public debate today, to ensure that major internet communications platforms, which function as common carriers in terms of their size, usage, and necessity, are available to all users on reasonable and non-discriminatory terms free from public or private censorship of religious and political speech;

''(6) to promote consumer protection and transparency regarding information and content management practices by major internet platforms to—

''(A) ensure that consumers understand—

''(i) the products they are using; and

''(ii) what information is being presented to them and why; and

''(B) prevent deceptive or undetectable actions that filter the information presented to consumers; and

''(7) to ensure vigorous enforcement of Federal criminal laws to deter and punish trafficking in online obscenity, stalking, and harassment.

''(c) REASONABLE AND NONDISCRIMINATORY ACCESS TO COMMON CARRIER TECHNOLOGY COMPANIES.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—A common carrier technology company, with respect to the interactive computer service provided by the company—

''(A) shall furnish the interactive computer service to all persons upon reasonable request;

''(B) may not unjustly or unreasonably discriminate in charges, practices, classifications, regulations, facilities, treatment, or services for or in connection with the furnishing of the interactive computer service, directly or indirectly, by any means or device;

''(C) may not make or give any undue or unreasonable preference or advantage to any particular person, class of persons, political or religious group or affiliation, or locality; and

''(D) may not subject any particular person, class of persons, political or religious group or affiliation, or locality to any undue or unreasonable prejudice or disadvantage.

''(2) APPLICABILITY TO BROADBAND.—Paragraph (1) shall not apply with respect to the provision of broadband internet access service.

''(d) CONSUMER PROTECTION AND TRANSPARENCY REGARDING COMMON CARRIER TECHNOLOGY COMPANIES.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—A common carrier technology company shall disclose, through a publicly available, easily accessible website, accurate material regarding the content management, moderation, promotion, account termination and suspension, and curation mechanisms and practices of the company sufficient to enable—

''(A) consumers to make informed choices regarding use of the interactive computer service provided by the company; and

''(B) persons to develop, market, and maintain consumer-driven content management mechanisms with respect to the interactive computer service provided by the company.

''(2) BEST PRACTICES.—The Commission, after soliciting comments from the public, shall publish best practices for common carrier technology companies to disclose content management, moderation, promotion, account termination and suspension, and curation mechanisms and practices in accordance with paragraph (1).

''(3) APPLICABILITY TO BROADBAND.—Paragraph (1) shall not apply with respect to the provision of broadband internet access service.

''(e) PROTECTION FOR 'GOOD SAMARITAN' BLOCKING AND SCREENING OF OFFENSIVE MATERIAL.—

''(1) TREATMENT OF PUBLISHER OR SPEAKER.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—No provider or user of an interactive computer service shall be treated as the publisher or speaker of any material provided by another information content provider.

''(B) EXCEPTION.—Subparagraph (A) shall not apply to any affirmative act by a provider or user of an interactive computer service with respect to material posted on the interactive computer service, whether the act is carried out manually or through use of an algorithm or other automated or semi-automated process, including—

''(i) providing its own material;

''(ii) commenting or editorializing on, promoting, recommending, or increasing or decreasing the dissemination or visibility to users of its own material or material provided by another information content provider;

''(iii) restricting access to or availability of material provided by another information content provider; or

''(iv) barring or limiting any information content provider from using the interactive computer service.

''(2) CIVIL LIABILITY.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—No provider or user of an interactive computer service shall be held liable, under subsection (c) or otherwise, on account of—

''(i) any action voluntarily taken in good faith to restrict access to or availability of material that the provider or user considers to be obscene, lewd, lascivious, filthy, excessively violent, harassing, promoting self-harm, or unlawful, whether or not such material is constitutionally protected; or

''(ii) any action taken to enable or make available to information content providers or others the technical means to restrict access to material described in clause (i).

''(B) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of subparagraph (A)—

''(i) the term 'excessively violent', with respect to material, means material that—

''(I) is likely to be deemed violent and for mature audiences according to the V-chip regulations and TV Parental Guidelines of the Commission promulgated under sections 303(x) and 330(c)(4); or

''(II) constitutes or intends to advocate domestic terrorism or international terrorism, as defined in section 2331 of title 18, United States Code;

''(ii) the term 'harassing' means material that—

''(I) is—

''(aa) provided by an information content provider with the intent to abuse, threaten, or harass any specific person; and

''(bb) lacking in any serious literary, artistic, political, or scientific value;

''(II) violates the CAN-SPAM Act of 2003 (15 U.S.C. 7701 et seq.); or

''(III) is malicious computer code intended (whether or not by the immediate disseminator) to damage or interfere with the operation of a computer;

''(iii) the term 'in good faith', with respect to restricting access to or availability of specific material, means the provider or user—

''(I) restricts access to or availability of material consistent with publicly available online terms of service or use that—

''(aa) state plainly and with particularity the criteria that the provider or user of the interactive computer service employs in its content moderation practices, including by any partially or fully automated processes; and

''(bb) are in effect on the date on which the material is first posted;

''(II) has an objectively reasonable belief that the material falls within one of the categories listed in subparagraph (A)(i);

''(III)(aa) does not restrict access to or availability of material on deceptive or pretextual grounds; and

''(bb) does not apply its terms of service or use to restrict access to or availability of material that is similarly situated to material that the provider or user of the interactive computer service intentionally declines to restrict; and

''(IV) supplies the information content provider of the material with timely notice describing with particularity the reasonable factual basis for the restriction of access and a meaningful opportunity to respond, unless the provider or user of the interactive computer service has an objectively reasonable belief that—

''(aa) the material is related to terrorism or criminal activity; or

''(bb) such notice would risk imminent physical harm to others; and

''(iv) the terms 'obscene', 'lewd', 'lascivious', and 'filthy', with respect to material, mean material that—

''(I) taken as a whole—

''(aa) appeals to the prurient interest in sex or portrays sexual conduct in a patently offensive way; and

''(bb) does not have serious literary, artistic, political, or scientific value;

''(II) depicts or describes sexual or excretory organs or activities in terms patently offensive to the average person, applying contemporary community standards; or

''(III) signifies the form of immorality which has relation to sexual impurity, taking into account the standards at common law in prosecutions for obscene libel.

''(C) BEST PRACTICES.—The Commission, after soliciting comments from the public, shall publish best practices for making publicly available online terms of service or use that state plainly and with particularity the criteria that the provider or user of an interactive computer service employs in its content moderation practices, including by any partially or fully automated processes, in accordance with subparagraph (B)(iii)(I).

''(f) VIOLATIONS.—

''(1) PRIVATE RIGHT OF ACTION.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—A person aggrieved by a violation of subsection (c) or (d) may bring a civil action against the provider or user of an interactive computer service that committed the violation for any relief permitted under subparagraph (B) of this paragraph.

''(B) RELIEF.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—The plaintiff may seek the following relief in a civil action brought under subparagraph (A):

''(I) An injunction.

''(II) An award that is the greater of—

''(aa) actual damages; or

''(bb) damages in the amount of $500 for each violation.

''(ii) WILLFUL OR KNOWING VIOLATIONS.—In a civil action brought under subparagraph (A), if the court finds that the defendant willfully or knowingly violated subsection (c) or (d), the court may, in its discretion, increase the amount of the award to not more than 3 times the amount available under clause (i)(II) of this subparagraph.

''(2) ACTIONS BY STATES.—

''(A) AUTHORITY OF STATES.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—Whenever the attorney general of a State, or an official or agency designated by a State, has reason to believe that any person has engaged or is engaging in a pattern or practice of violating subsection (c) or (d) that has threatened or adversely affected or is threatening or adversely affecting an interest of the residents of that State, the State may bring a civil action against the person on behalf of the residents of the State for any relief permitted under clause (ii) of this subparagraph.

''(ii) RELIEF.—

''(I) IN GENERAL.—The plaintiff may seek the following relief in a civil action brought under clause (i):

''(aa) An injunction.

''(bb) An award that is the greater of—

''(AA) actual damages; or

''(BB) damages in the amount of $500 for each violation.

''(II) WILLFUL OR KNOWING VIOLATIONS.—In a civil action brought under clause (i), if the court finds that the defendant willfully or knowingly violated subsection (c) or (d), the court may, in its discretion, increase the amount of the award to not more than 3 times the amount available under subclause (I)(bb) of this clause.

''(B) INVESTIGATORY POWERS.—For purposes of bringing a civil action under this paragraph, nothing in this section shall prevent the attorney general of a State, or an official or agency designated by a State, from exercising the powers conferred on the attorney general or the official by the laws of the State to—

''(i) conduct investigations;

''(ii) administer oaths or affirmations; or

''(iii) compel the attendance of witnesses or the production of documentary and other evidence.

''(C) EFFECT ON STATE COURT PROCEEDINGS.—Nothing in this paragraph shall be construed to prohibit an authorized State official from proceeding in State court on the basis of an alleged violation of any general civil or criminal statute of the State.

''(D) ATTORNEY GENERAL DEFINED.—For purposes of this paragraph, the term 'attorney general' means the chief legal officer of a State.

''(3) VENUE; SERVICE OF PROCESS.—

''(A) VENUE.—A civil action brought under this subsection may be brought in the location where—

''(i) the defendant—

''(I) is found;

''(II) is an inhabitant; or

''(III) transacts business; or

''(ii) the violation occurred or is occurring.

''(B) SERVICE OF PROCESS.—Process in a civil action brought under this subsection may be served where the defendant—

''(i) is an inhabitant; or

''(ii) may be found.

''(g) OBLIGATIONS OF INTERACTIVE COMPUTER SERVICE.—A provider of an interactive computer service shall, at the time of entering an agreement with a customer for the provision of interactive computer service and in a manner deemed appropriate by the provider, notify the customer that parental control protections (such as computer hardware, software, or filtering services) are commercially available that may assist the customer in limiting access to material that is harmful to minors. The notice shall identify, or provide the customer with access to material identifying, current providers of such protections.

''(h) EFFECT ON OTHER LAWS.—

''(1) NO EFFECT ON CRIMINAL LAW.—Nothing in this section shall be construed to impair the enforcement of section 223 or 231 of this Act, chapter 71 (relating to obscenity) or 110 (relating to sexual exploitation of children) of title 18, United States Code, or any other Federal criminal statute.

''(2) NO EFFECT ON INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAW.—Nothing in this section shall be construed to limit or expand any law pertaining to intellectual property.

''(3) STATE LAW.—Nothing in this section shall be construed to prevent any State from enforcing any State law that is consistent with this section. No cause of action may be brought and no liability may be imposed under any State or local law that is inconsistent with this section.

''(4) NO EFFECT ON COMMUNICATIONS PRIVACY LAW.—Nothing in this section shall be construed to limit the application of the Electronic Communications Privacy Act of 1986 or any of the amendments made by such Act, or any similar State law.

''(5) NO EFFECT ON SEX TRAFFICKING LAW.—Nothing in this section (other than subsection (e)(2)(A)(i)) shall be construed to impair or limit—

''(A) any claim in a civil action brought under section 1595 of title 18, United States Code, if the conduct underlying the claim constitutes a violation of section 1591 of that title;

''(B) any charge in a criminal prosecution brought under State law if the conduct underlying the charge would constitute a violation of section 1591 of title 18, United States Code; or

''(C) any charge in a criminal prosecution brought under State law if the conduct underlying the charge would constitute a violation of section 2421A of title 18, United States Code, and promotion or facilitation of prostitution is illegal in the jurisdiction where the defendant's promotion or facilitation of prostitution was targeted.

''(i) DEFINITIONS.—As used in this section:

''(1) ACCESS SOFTWARE PROVIDER.—The term 'access software provider' means a provider of software (including client or server software), or enabling tools that do any one or more of the following:

''(A) Filter, screen, allow, or disallow material.

''(B) Pick, choose, analyze, or digest material.

''(C) Transmit, receive, display, forward, cache, search, subset, organize, reorganize, or translate material.

''(2) BROADBAND INTERNET ACCESS SERVICE.—The term 'broadband internet access service' has the meaning given the term in section 8.1(b) of title 47, Code of Federal Regulations, or any successor regulation.

''(3) COMMON CARRIER TECHNOLOGY COMPANY.—The term 'common carrier technology company' means a provider of an interactive computer service that—

''(A) offers its services to the public; and

''(B) has more than 100,000,000 worldwide active monthly users.

''(4) INFORMATION CONTENT PROVIDER.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The term 'information content provider' means any person or entity that is responsible, in whole or in part, for the creation or development of material provided through the internet or any other interactive computer service.

''(B) RESPONSIBILITY DEFINED.—For purposes of subparagraph (A), the term 'responsible, in whole or in part, for the creation or development of material' includes affirmatively and substantively contributing to,

modifying, altering, presenting with a reasonably discernible viewpoint, commenting upon, or editorializing about material provided by another person or entity.

''(5) INTERACTIVE COMPUTER SERVICE.—The term 'interactive computer service' means any information service, system, or access software provider that provides or enables computer access by multiple users to a computer server, including specifically a service or system that provides access to the internet and such systems operated or services offered by libraries or educational institutions.

''(6) INTERNET.—The term 'internet' means the international computer network of both Federal and non-Federal interoperable packet switched data networks.

''(7) MATERIAL.—The term 'material' means any data, regardless of physical form or characteristic, including—

''(A) written or printed matter, information, automated information systems storage media, maps, charts, paintings, drawings, films, photographs, images, videos, engravings, sketches, working notes, or papers, or reproductions of any such things by any means or process; and

''(B) sound, voice, magnetic, or electronic recordings.''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) COMMUNICATIONS ACT OF 1934.—The Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 151 et seq.) is amended—

(A) in section 223(h)(2) (47 U.S.C. 223(h)(2)), by striking ''section 230(f)(2)'' and inserting ''section 232''; and

(B) in section 231(b)(4) (47 U.S.C. 231(b)(4)), by striking ''section 230'' and inserting ''section 232''.

(2) TRADEMARK ACT OF 1946.—Section 45 of the Act entitled ''An Act to provide for the registration and protection of trademarks used in commerce, to carry out the provisions of certain international conventions, and for other purposes'', approved July 5, 1946 (commonly known as the ''Trademark Act of 1946'') (15 U.S.C. 1127) is amended by striking the definition relating to the term ''Internet'' and inserting the following:

''The term 'internet' has the meaning given that term in section 232 of the Communications Act of 1934.''.

(3) TITLE 17, UNITED STATES CODE.—Section 1401(g) of title 17, United States Code, is amended—

(A) by striking ''section 230 of the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 230)'' and inserting ''section 232 of the Communications Act of 1934''; and

(B) by striking ''subsection (e)(2) of such section 230'' and inserting ''subsection (h)(2) of such section 232''.

(4) TITLE 18, UNITED STATES CODE.—Part I of title 18, United States Code, is amended—

(A) in section 2257(h)(2)(B)(v), by striking ''section 230(c) of the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 230(c))'' and inserting ''section 232(e) of the Communications Act of 1934''; and

(B) in section 2421A—

(i) in subsection (a), by striking ''(as such term is defined in defined in section 230(f) the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 230(f)))'' and inserting ''(as that term is defined in section 232 of the Communications Act of 1934)''; and

(ii) in subsection (b), by striking ''(as such term is defined in defined in section 230(f) the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 230(f)))'' and inserting ''(as that term is defined in section 232 of the Communications Act of 1934)''.

(5) CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES ACT.—Section 401(h)(3)(A)(iii)(II) of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 841(h)(3)(A)(iii)(II)) is amended by striking ''section 230(c) of the Communications Act of 1934'' and inserting ''section 232(e) of the Communications Act of 1934''.

(6) WEBB-KENYON ACT.—Section 3(b)(1) of the Act entitled ''An Act divesting intoxicating liquors of their interstate character in certain cases'', approved March 1, 1913 (commonly known as the ''Webb-Kenyon Act'') (27 U.S.C. 122b(b)(1)) is amended by striking ''(as defined in section 230(f) of the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 230(f))'' and inserting ''(as defined in section 232 of the Communications Act of 1934)''.

(7) TITLE 28, UNITED STATES CODE.—Section 4102 of title 28, United States Code, is amended—

(A) in subsection (c)—

(i) by striking ''section 230 of the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 230)'' and inserting ''section 232 of the Communications Act of 1934''; and

(ii) by striking ''section 230 if'' and inserting ''that section if''; and

(B) in subsection (e)(2), by striking ''section 230 of the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 230)'' and inserting ''section 232 of the Communications Act of 1934''.

(8) TITLE 31, UNITED STATES CODE.—Section 5362(6) of title 31, United States Code, is amended by striking ''section 230(f) of the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 230(f))'' and inserting ''section 232 of the Communications Act of 1934''.

(9) NATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION ADMINISTRATION ORGANIZATION ACT.—Section 157(e)(1) of the National Telecommunications and Information Administration Organization Act (47 U.S.C. 941(e)(1)) is amended, in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking ''section 230(c) of the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 230(c))'' and inserting ''section 232(e) of the Communications Act of 1934''.

(c) APPLICABILITY.—Subsections (c) and (d) of section 232 of the Communications Act of 1934, as added by subsection (a), shall apply to a common carrier technology company on and after the date that is 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

SA 4703. Mr. HAGERTY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle E of title XII, add the following:

SEC. 1253. STUDY ON THE CREATION OF AN OFFICIAL DIGITAL CURRENCY BY THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the President shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a report on the short-, medium-, and long-term national security risks associated with the creation and use of the official digital renminbi of the People's Republic of China, including—

(1) risks arising from potential surveillance of transactions;

(2) risks related to security and illicit finance; and

(3) risks related to economic coercion and social control by the People's Republic of China.

(b) FORM OF REPORT.—The report required by subsection (a) shall be submitted in unclassified form but may include a classified annex.

(c) APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS DEFINED.—In this section, the term ''appropriate committees of Congress'' means—

(1) the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs, the Committee on Foreign Relations, the Committee on Appropriations, and the Select Committee on Intelligence of the Senate; and

(2) the Committee on Financial Services, the Committee on Foreign Affairs, the Committee on Appropriations, and the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence of the House of Representatives.

SA 4704. Mr. HAGERTY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. _____. SUBJECTING THE BUREAU OF CONSUMER FINANCIAL PROTECTION TO THE REGULAR APPROPRIATIONS PROCESS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1017 of the Consumer Financial Protection Act of 2010 (12 U.S.C. 5497) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) in the subsection heading, by striking ''TRANSFER OF FUNDS FROM BOARD OF GOVERNORS.—'' and inserting ''BUDGET AND FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT.—'';

(B) by striking paragraphs (1) through (3);

(C) by redesignating paragraphs (4) and (5) as paragraphs (1) and (2), respectively; and

(D) in paragraph (1), as so redesignated—

(i) in the paragraph heading, by striking ''BUDGET AND FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT.—'' and inserting ''IN GENERAL.—'';

(ii) by striking subparagraph (E); and

(iii) by redesignating subparagraph (F) as subparagraph (E);

(2) by striking subsections (b) and (c);

(3) by redesignating subsections (d) and (e) as subsections (b) and (c), respectively;

(4) in subsection (b), as so redesignated—

(A) in paragraph (2)—

(i) in the first sentence, by inserting ''direct'' before ''victims''; and

(ii) by striking the second sentence; and

(B) by adding at the end the following:

''(3) TREATMENT OF EXCESS AMOUNTS.—If, after the Bureau obtains a civil penalty in a judicial or administrative action under Federal consumer financial laws, deposits that civil penalty into the Civil Penalty Fund under paragraph (1), and, under paragraph (2), makes payments to all of the direct victims of activities for which that civil penalty was imposed, amounts remain in the Civil Penalty Fund with respect to that civil penalty, the Bureau shall transfer those excess amounts to the general fund of the Treasury.''; and

(5) in subsection (c), as so redesignated—

(A) by striking paragraphs (1) through (3) and inserting the following:

''(1) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated such funds as may be necessary to carry out this title for fiscal year 2023.''; and

(B) by redesignating paragraph (4) as paragraph (2).

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall take effect on October 1, 2022.

SA 4705. Mr. LEE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle G of title X, add the following:

SEC. 1064. DECLASSIFICATION OF HISTORICAL FISA DECISIONS, ORDERS, AND OPINIONS OF SIGNIFICANCE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 602 of the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act of 1978 (50 U.S.C. 1872) shall apply with respect to decisions, orders, and opinions by the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Court or the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Court of Review (as such terms are defined in section 601(e) of such Act (50 U.S.C. 1871(e))) that were issued before, on, or after the date of enactment of the USA FREEDOM Act of 2015 (Public Law 114–23; 129 Stat. 268).

(b) DEADLINE.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Director of National Intelligence shall complete the review required under section 602 of the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act of 1978 (50 U.S.C. 1872) with respect to, and make publicly available to the greatest extent practicable in accordance with such section, each decision, order, and opinion described in subsection (a) of this section that was issued before the date of enactment of the USA FREEDOM Act of 2015 (Public Law 114–23; 129 Stat. 268).

SA 4706. Mr. COTTON submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of title XIV, add the following:

Subtitle D—Extraction and Processing of Defense Minerals in the United States

SEC. 1431. SHORT TITLE.

This subtitle may be cited as the ''Restoring Essential Energy and Security Holdings Onshore for Rare Earths and Critical Minerals Act of 2021'' or the ''REEShore Critical Minerals Act of 2021''.

SEC. 1432. DEFINITIONS.

In this subtitle:

(1) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.—The term ''appropriate congressional committees'' means—

(A) the Committee on Armed Services, the Committee on Foreign Relations, the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, and the Select Committee on Intelligence of the Senate; and

(B) the Committee on Armed Services, the Committee on Foreign Affairs, the Committee on Natural Resources, the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence of the House of Representatives.

(2) CRITICAL MINERAL.—The term ''critical mineral'' has the meaning given that term in section 7002(a) of the Energy Act of 2020 (division Z of Public Law 116–260; 30 U.S.C. 1606(a)).

(3) DEFENSE MINERAL PRODUCT.—The term ''defense mineral product'' means any product—

(A) formed or comprised of, or manufactured from, one or more critical minerals; and

(B) used in critical military defense technologies or other related applications of the Department of Defense.

(4) PROCESSED OR REFINED.—The term ''processed or refined'' means any process by which a defense mineral is extracted, separated, or otherwise manipulated to render the mineral usable for manufacturing a defense mineral product.

SEC. 1433. REPORT ON STRATEGIC CRITICAL MINERAL AND DEFENSE MINERAL PRODUCTS RESERVE.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that the storage of substantial quantities of critical minerals and defense mineral products will—

(1) diminish the vulnerability of the United States to the effects of a severe supply chain interruption; and

(2) provide limited protection from the short-term consequences of an interruption in supplies of defense mineral products.

(b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that, in procuring critical minerals and defense mineral products, the Secretary of Defense should prioritize procurement of critical minerals and defense mineral products from sources in the United States, including that are mined, produced, separated, and manufactured within the United States.

(c) REPORT REQUIRED.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 270 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the United States Geologic Survey, and the Secretary of Defense, in consultation with the Secretary of Homeland Security, the Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency, the Secretary of Commerce, and the Director of National Intelligence, shall jointly submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report—

(A) describing the existing authorities and funding levels of the Federal Government to stockpile critical minerals and defense mineral products;

(B) assessing whether those authorities and funding levels are sufficient to meet the requirements of the United States; and

(C) including recommendations to diminish the vulnerability of the United States to disruptions in the supply chains for critical minerals and defense mineral products through changes to policy, procurement regulation, or existing law, including any additional statutory authorities that may be needed.

(2) CONSIDERATIONS.—In developing the report required by paragraph (1), the Secretary of the Interior, the Secretary of Defense, the Secretary of Commerce, the Secretary of Homeland Security, the Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency, and the Director of National Intelligence shall take into consideration the needs of the Armed Forces of the United States, the intelligence community (as defined in section 3(4) of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3003(4))), the defense industrial and technology sectors, and any places, organizations, physical infrastructure, or digital infrastructure designated as critical to the national security of the United States.

SEC. 1434. REPORT ON DISCLOSURES CONCERNING CRITICAL MINERALS BY CONTRACTORS OF DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE.

(a) REPORT REQUIRED.—Not later than December 31, 2022, the Secretary of Defense, after consultation with the Secretary of Commerce, the Secretary of State, and the Secretary of the Interior, shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report that includes—

(1) a review of the existing disclosure requirements with respect to the provenance of magnets used within defense mineral products;

(2) a review of the feasibility of imposing a requirement that any contractor of the Department of Defense provide a disclosure with respect to any system with a defense mineral product that is a permanent magnet, including an identification of the country or countries in which—

(A) the critical minerals used in the magnet were mined;

(B) the critical minerals were refined into oxides;

(C) the critical minerals were made into metals and alloys; and

(D) the magnet was sintered or bonded and magnetized; and

(3) recommendations to Congress for implementing such a requirement, including methods to ensure that any tracking or provenance system is independently verifiable.

SEC. 1435. REPORT ON PROHIBITION ON ACQUISITION OF DEFENSE MATERIALS FROM NON-ALLIED FOREIGN NATIONS.

The Secretary of Defense shall study and submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report on the potential impacts of imposing a restriction that, for any contract entered into or renewed on or after December 31, 2026, for the procurement of a system the export of which is restricted or controlled under the Arms Export Control Act (22 U.S.C. 2751 et seq.), no critical minerals processed or refined in the People's Republic of China may be included in the system.

SEC. 1436. PRODUCTION IN AND USES OF CRITICAL MINERALS BY UNITED STATES ALLIES.

(a) POLICY.—It shall be the policy of the United States to encourage countries that are allies of the United States to eliminate their dependence on non-allied countries for critical minerals to the maximum extent practicable.

(b) REPORT REQUIRED.—Not later than December 31, 2022, and annually thereafter, the Secretary of Defense, in coordination with the Secretary of State, shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report—

(1) describing in detail the discussions of such Secretaries with countries that are allies of the United States concerning supply chain security for critical minerals;

(2) assessing the likelihood of those countries discontinuing the use of critical minerals from foreign entities of concern (as defined in section 9901(6) of the William M. (Mac) Thornberry National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021 (15 U.S.C. 4651(6))) or countries that such Secretaries deem to be of concern; and

(3) assessing initiatives in other countries to increase critical mineral mining and production capabilities.

SA 4707. Mr. WHITEHOUSE (for himself and Ms. HASSAN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. _____. INCREASING THE CAPACITY OF STATES AND PARTNER COUNTRIES TO COUNTER CORRUPTION AND MONEY LAUNDERING SCHEMES RELATED TO DRUG TRAFFICKING.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This section may be cited as the ''Not Allowing Revenue for Criminal Organizations Act'' or ''NARCO Act''.

(b) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

(1) Drug trafficking organizations, transnational criminal organizations, and money laundering organizations prey upon individuals suffering from substance use disorders and exploit the financial systems of the United States to sustain their criminal enterprises.

(2) The illicit drug trade in the United States is conservatively valued at $150,000,000,000 annually, making it worth more than the gross domestic product of approximately 150 countries.

(3) More than 93,000 individuals in the United States died from drug overdoses in 2020.

(4) Drug trafficking organizations, transnational criminal organizations, and money laundering organizations perpetuate crime, corruption, and kleptocracy, which undermines the rule of law and erodes democratic institutions in foreign countries while threatening the national security of the United States.

(5) Understanding and attacking the financial networks, both in the United States and abroad, that enable drug trafficking organizations, transnational criminal organizations, and money laundering organizations is critical to disrupting and dismantling those organizations.

(6) As such, the national drug control strategy of the United States should include an explicit focus, goals, and metrics related to mapping, tracking, attacking, and dismantling the financial networks of drug trafficking organizations, transnational criminal organizations, and money laundering organizations.

(7) Uniform application of anti-money laundering laws and information sharing will enhance the ability of the Federal Government and State governments to dismantle drug trafficking organizations, transnational criminal organizations, and money laundering organizations.

(8) The Financial Action Task Force establishes international standards that aim to prevent money laundering associated with the illicit drug trade and other illegal activities, and is supported by more than 200 implementing countries and jurisdictions, including the United States. In its 2016 Mutual Evaluation Report of the United States, the Task Force found that while Federal law enforcement agencies aggressively target money laundering cases, ''State law enforcement authorities can complement Federal efforts, but more typically pursue State-level law enforcement priorities. Among the States, there is no uniform approach and little data is available. Where information was provided, it tended to suggest that [money laundering] is not prioritised by the State authorities.''.

(9) It is in the best national security interest of the United States to increase the capacity of States and partner countries to identify, investigate, and prosecute corruption and money laundering schemes that directly benefit drug trafficking organizations, transnational criminal organizations, and money laundering organizations.

(c) GAO REPORT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter, the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit to the Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate, the Caucus on International Narcotics Control of the Senate, the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives, and the Director of National Drug Control Policy an assessment of—

(A) the number and status of investigations and prosecutions across National Drug Control Program agencies (as defined in section 702 of the Office of National Drug Control Policy Reauthorization Act of 1998 (21 U.S.C. 1701)) with a drug trafficking and money laundering and illicit finance nexus, unless the disclosure of such information would reveal information protected by rule 6(e) of the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure or a court order; and

(B) the amount of money and other things of value in various forms, including tangible and digital assets, and property criminally seized by or forfeited to the Federal Government on an annual basis from individuals associated with drug trafficking, drug trafficking organizations, transnational criminal organizations, or money laundering organizations, which shall be—

(i) adjusted to eliminate duplication in the case of seizures or forfeitures carried out and reported by multiple agencies; and

(ii) disaggregated by agency.

(2) CLASSIFIED ANNEX.—The Comptroller General may provide the assessment under paragraph (1), or a portion thereof, in a classified annex if necessary.

(d) TECHNICAL UPDATES TO OFFICE OF NATIONAL DRUG CONTROL POLICY REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 1998.—

(1) DEFINITION OF ''SUPPLY REDUCTION''.—Section 702(17) of the Office of National Drug Control Policy Reauthorization Act of 1998 (21 U.S.C. 1701(17)) is amended—

(A) by redesignating subparagraphs (G) and (H) as subparagraphs (H) and (I), respectively; and

(B) by inserting after subparagraph (F) the following:

''(G) activities to map, track, dismantle, and disrupt the financial networks of drug trafficking organizations, transnational criminal organizations, and money laundering organizations involved in the manufacture and trafficking of drugs in the United States and in foreign countries;''.

(2) CONTENTS OF NATIONAL DRUG CONTROL STRATEGY.—Section 706(c)(1)(L) of the Office of National Drug Control Policy Reauthorization Act of 1998 (21 U.S.C. 1705(c)(1)(L)) is amended by inserting before the period at the end the following: '', which statistical data shall include, to the greatest extent practicable, the information submitted to the Director by the Comptroller General of the United States in the 2 most recent annual reports under subsection (c) of the Not Allowing Revenue for Criminal Organizations Act''.

(e) MODEL LAWS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Attorney General shall enter into an agreement with a nongovernmental organization, which may include an institution of higher education, to—

(A) advise States on establishing laws and policies to address money laundering practices related to the manufacture, sale, or trafficking of illicit drugs;

(B) develop model State laws pertaining to money laundering practices related to the sale or trafficking of illicit drugs; and

(C) revise the model State laws described in subparagraph (B) and draft supplementary model State laws that take into consideration changes in the trafficking of illicit drugs and related money laundering schemes in the State involved.

(2) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated $300,000 for each of fiscal years 2022 through 2026 to carry out this subsection.

(f) COUNTERING INTERNATIONAL ILLICIT FINANCE TECHNIQUES USED BY CRIMINAL ORGANIZATIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Attorney General, in consultation with the Director of the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network of the Department of the Treasury, shall provide training, technical assistance, and mentorship, through the International Criminal Investigative Training Assistance Program and the Office of Overseas Prosecutorial Development, Assistance, and Training, to foreign countries that have been designated as major money laundering countries under section 489 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2291h) in order to—

(A) increase the institutional capacity of those countries to prevent corruption and swiftly address corruption when it occurs;

(B) implement justice sector reform to ensure the successful prosecution of drug trafficking organizations, transnational criminal organizations, money laundering organizations, and other entities or individuals involved in the illicit drug trade;

(C) better understand, map, target, and attack the financial networks of drug trafficking organizations, transnational criminal organizations, and other entities or individuals involved in the illicit drug trade;

(D) develop and implement laws and regulations to establish or strengthen asset forfeiture programs; and

(E) develop and implement laws and regulations to counter corruption, money laundering, and illicit finance techniques used by drug trafficking organizations, transnational criminal organizations, money laundering organizations, and other entities or individuals involved in the illicit drug trade.

(2) ANNUAL REPORT.—Not later than 120 days after the end of each fiscal year, beginning with fiscal year 2023, the Attorney General shall submit a report to the Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate, the Caucus on International Narcotics Control of the Senate, and the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives that includes, with respect to each country that received training, technical assistance, and mentorship under paragraph (1) during that fiscal year—

(A) the type and duration of training, technical assistance, and mentorship provided to the country;

(B) the implementation status of new laws and regulations to counter corruption, money laundering, and illicit finance techniques used by drug trafficking organizations, transnational criminal organizations, money laundering organizations, and other entities or individuals involved in the illicit drug trade in the country;

(C) the number of money laundering and illicit finance investigations, prosecutions, and convictions related to the narcotics trade that were undertaken in the country;

(D) the amount of money and other things of value in various forms, including tangible and digital assets, and property criminally seized by or forfeited to the Federal Government from drug trafficking organizations, transnational criminal organizations, money laundering organizations, and other entities or individuals involved in the illicit drug trade, in the country; and

(E) the number of joint investigations that United States undertook with the country and whether those investigations led to prosecutions or convictions.

(3) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated $80,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2022 through 2026 to carry out this subsection.

SA 4708. Mr. WHITEHOUSE (for himself and Mr. GRASSLEY) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle B of title XII, add the following:

SEC. 1216. ESTABLISHMENT OF AFGHAN WORKING GROUP AND AFGHAN THREAT FINANCE CELL.

(a) AFGHAN WORKING GROUP.—

(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the President shall establish an interagency organization to be known as the ''Afghan Working Group''.

(2) MISSION.—The mission of the Afghan Working Group shall be—

(A) to reduce the manufacture, sale, and distribution of illicit narcotics from Afghanistan;

(B) to identify, disrupt, and eliminate illicit financial networks in Afghanistan, particularly—

(i) such networks involved in narcotics trafficking, illicit financial transactions (including through the use of domestic and international professional money launderers), and official corruption; and

(ii) terrorist networks; and

(C) to promote the rule of law in Afghanistan.

(3) MEMBERSHIP.—The Afghan Working Group shall be convened by the Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs and consist of representatives from the following agencies:

(A) The Department of the Treasury.

(B) The Department of Justice.

(C) The Drug Enforcement Administration.

(D) The Department of State.

(E) The Department of Defense.

(F) The Federal Bureau of Investigation.

(G) The Internal Revenue Service.

(H) The Department of Homeland Security.

(I) The Defense Intelligence Agency.

(J) The Office of Foreign Assets Control of the Department of the Treasury.

(K) The Central Intelligence Agency.

(L) The Financial Crimes Enforcement Network of the Department of Treasury.

(M) The Bureau of International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement Affairs.

(N) The Office of National Drug Control Policy.

(O) Any other law enforcement agency or element of the intelligence community (as defined in section 3 of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3003)) the Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs considers appropriate.

(4) COORDINATION.—The Afghan Working Group shall regularly coordinate and consult with regional anti-corruption bodies, financial intelligence units, the international Financial Action Task Force, and the Special Inspector General for Afghanistan Reconstruction.

(5) BRIEFINGS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter, the Afghan Working Group shall provide to the appropriate committees of Congress a briefing on the activities of the Afghan Working Group.

(B) ELEMENTS.—Each briefing under subparagraph (A) shall include the following:

(i) An assessment of the activities undertaken by, and the effectiveness of, the Afghan Working Group with respect to—

(I) reducing the manufacture, sale, and distribution of illicit narcotics from Afghanistan;

(II) identifying, disrupting, and eliminating illicit financial networks in Afghanistan, particularly—

(aa) such networks involved in narcotics trafficking, illicit financial transactions (including through the use of domestic and international professional money launderers), and official corruption; and

(bb) terrorist networks; and

(III) promoting the rule of law in Afghanistan.

(ii) Recommendations to Congress on legislative or regulatory improvements necessary to support the efforts described in subclauses (I) through (III) of clause (i).

(C) FORM.—A briefing under subparagraph (A) may be provided in classified form.

(b) AFGHAN THREAT FINANCE CELL.—

(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—Not later than 90 days after the date on which the Afghan Working Group is established, the Afghan Working Group shall establish an interagency organization to be known as the ''Afghan Threat Finance Cell''.

(2) MISSION.—The mission of the Afghan Threat Finance Cell shall be to identify, disrupt, and eliminate illicit financial networks in Afghanistan, particularly—

(A) such networks involved in narcotics trafficking, illicit financial transactions (including through the use of domestic and international professional money launderers), and official corruption; and

(B) terrorist networks.

(3) LEAD AGENCIES.—The Department of the Treasury shall serve as the lead agency of the Afghan Threat Finance Cell, and the Drug Enforcement Administration and the Department of Defense shall serve as the co-deputy lead agencies of the Afghan Threat Finance Cell.

(4) COORDINATION.—The Afghan Threat Finance Cell shall regularly coordinate and consult with regional financial intelligence units, the international Financial Action Task Force, and the Special Inspector General for Afghanistan Reconstruction.

(5) BRIEFINGS.—

(A) REQUIREMENT.—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter, the Afghan Threat Finance Cell shall provide to the appropriate committees of Congress a briefing on the activities of the Afghan Threat Finance Cell.

(B) ELEMENTS.—Each briefing under subparagraph (A) shall include the following:

(i) An assessment of the activities undertaken by, and the effectiveness of, the Afghan Threat Finance Cell in identifying, disrupting, and eliminating illicit financial networks in Afghanistan, particularly—

(I) such networks involved in narcotics trafficking, illicit financial transactions, (including through the use of domestic and international professional money launderers), and official corruption; and

(II) terrorist networks.

(ii) Recommendations to Congress on legislative or regulatory improvements necessary to support the identification, disruption, and elimination of illicit financial networks in Afghanistan.

(C) FORM.—A briefing under subparagraph (A) may be provided in classified form.

(c) TERMINATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2), the Afghan Working Group and the Afghan Threat Finance Cell shall terminate on the date that is three years after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(2) EXTENSION.—The President may extend the termination date under paragraph (1) for the Afghan Working Group, the Afghan Threat Finance Cell, or both, as necessary.

(d) APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS.—In this section, the term ''appropriate committees of Congress'' means—

(1) The Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs, the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, the Committee on the Judiciary, and the Committee on Armed Services of the Senate, and the Senate Caucus on International Narcotics Control; and

(2) The Committee on Financial Services, the Committee on Oversight and Reform, the Committee on the Judiciary, and the Committee on Armed Services of the House of Representatives.

SA 4709. Mr. VAN HOLLEN (for himself and Mr. SULLIVAN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of title X, add the following:

Subtitle H—Foreign Service Families Act of 2021

SECTION 1071. SHORT TITLE.

This subtitle may be cited as the ''Foreign Service Families Act of 2021''.

SEC. 1072. TELECOMMUTING OPPORTUNITIES.

(a) DETO POLICY.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Each Federal department and agency shall establish a policy enumerating the circumstances under which employees may be permitted to temporarily perform work requirements and duties from approved overseas locations where there is a related Foreign Service assignment pursuant to an approved Domestically Employed Teleworking Overseas (DETO) agreement.

(2) PARTICIPATION.—The policy described under paragraph (1) shall—

(A) ensure that telework does not diminish employee performance or agency operations;

(B) require a written agreement that—

(i) is entered into between an agency manager and an employee authorized to telework, that outlines the specific work arrangement that is agreed to; and

(ii) is mandatory in order for any employee to participate in telework;

(C) provide that an employee may not be authorized to telework if the performance of that employee does not comply with the terms of the written agreement between the agency manager and that employee;

(D) except in emergency situations as determined by the head of an agency, not apply to any employee of the agency whose official duties require on at least a monthly basis—

(i) direct handling of secure materials determined to be inappropriate for telework by the agency head; or

(ii) on-site activity that cannot be handled remotely or at an alternate worksite;

(E) be incorporated as part of the continuity of operations plans of the agency in the event of an emergency; and

(F) enumerate the circumstances under which employees may be permitted to temporarily perform work requirements and duties from approved overseas locations.

(b) ACCESS TO ICASS SYSTEM.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall revise chapter 900 of volume 6 of the Foreign

Affairs Manual, the International Cooperative Administrative Support Services Handbook, the Personnel Operations Handbook, and any other relevant regulations to allow each Federal agency that has enacted a policy under subsection (a) to have access to the International Cooperative Administrative Support Services (ICASS) system.

SEC. 1073. EMPLOYMENT AND EDUCATION PROGRAMS FOR ELIGIBLE FAMILY MEMBERS OF MEMBERS OF THE FOREIGN SERVICE.

Section 706(b) of the Foreign Service Act of 1980 (22 U.S.C. 4026(b)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)—

(A) by striking ''The Secretary may facilitate the employment of spouses of members of the Foreign Service by—'' and inserting ''The Secretary shall implement such measures as the Secretary considers necessary to facilitate the employment of spouses and members of the Service. The measures may include—''; and

(B) by redesignating subparagraph (C) as subparagraph (D); and

(C) by amending subparagraph (C) to read as follows:

''(C) establishing a program for assisting eligible family members in accessing employment and education opportunities, as appropriate, including by exercising the authorities, in relevant part, under sections 1784 and 1784a of title 10, United States Code, and subject to such regulations as the Secretary may prescribe modeled after those prescribed pursuant to subsection (b) of such section 1784;'';

(2) by redesignating paragraph (2) as paragraph (6);

(3) by inserting after paragraph (1) the following new paragraphs:

''(2) The Secretary may prescribe regulations—

''(A) to provide preference to eligible family members in hiring for any civilian position in the Department, notwithstanding the prohibition on marital discrimination found in 5 U.S.C. 2302(b)(1)(E), if —

''(i) the eligible family member is among persons determined to be best qualified for the position; and

''(ii) the position is located in the overseas country of assignment of their sponsoring employee;

''(B) to ensure that notice of any vacant position in the Department is provided in a manner reasonably designed to reach eligible family members of sponsoring employees whose permanent duty stations are in the same country as that in which the position is located; and

''(C) to ensure that an eligible family member who applies for a vacant position in the Department shall, to the extent practicable, be considered for any such position located in the same country as the permanent duty station of their sponsoring employee.

''(3) Nothing in this section may be construed to provide an eligible family member with entitlement or preference in hiring over an individual who is preference eligible.

''(4) Under regulations prescribed by the Secretary, a chief of mission may, consistent with all applicable laws and regulations pertaining to the ICASS system, make available to an eligible family member and a non-Department entity space in an embassy or consulate for the purpose of the non-Department entity providing employment-related training for eligible family members.

''(5) The Secretary may work with the Director of the Office of Personnel Management and the heads of other Federal departments and agencies to expand and facilitate the use of existing Federal programs and resources in support of eligible family member employment.''; and

(4) by adding after paragraph (6), as redesignated by paragraph (2) of this subsection, the following new paragraph:

''(7) In this subsection, the term 'eligible family member' refers to family members of government employees assigned abroad or hired for service at their post of residence who are appointed by the Secretary of State or the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development pursuant to sections 102, 202, 303, and 311.''.

SEC. 1074. BRIEFING ON FOREIGN SERVICE FAMILY RESERVE CORPS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 120 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall brief the appropriate congressional committees on the status of implementation of the Foreign Service Family Reserve Corps.

(b) ELEMENTS.—The briefing required under subsection (a) shall include the following elements:

(1) A description of the status of implementation of the Foreign Service Family Reserve Corps (FSFRC).

(2) An assessment of the extent to which implementation was impacted by the Department's hiring freeze and a detailed explanation of the effect of any such impacts.

(3) A description of the status of implementation of a hiring preference for the FSFRC.

(4) A detailed accounting of any individuals eligible for membership in the FSFRC who were unable to begin working at a new location as a result of being unable to transfer their security clearance, including an assessment of whether they would have been able to port their clearance as a member of the FSFRC if the program had been fully implemented.

(5) An estimate of the number of individuals who are eligible to join the FSFRC worldwide and the categories, as detailed in the Under Secretary for Management's guidance dated May 3, 2016, under which those individuals would enroll.

(6) An estimate of the number of individuals who are enrolled in the FSFRC worldwide and the categories, as detailed in the Under Secretary for Management's guidance dated May 3, 2016, under which those individuals enrolled.

(7) An estimate of the number of individuals who were enrolled in each phase of the implementation of the FSFRC as detailed in guidance issued by the Under Secretary for Management.

(8) An estimate of the number of individuals enrolled in the FSFRC who have successfully transferred a security clearance to a new post since implementation of the program began.

(9) An estimate of the number of individuals enrolled in the FSFRC who have been unable to successfully transfer a security clearance to a new post since implementation of the program began.

(10) An estimate of the number of individuals who have declined in writing to apply to the FSFRC.

(c) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES DEFINED.—In this section, the term ''appropriate congressional committees'' means—

(1) the Committee on Foreign Relations and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate; and

(2) the Committee on Foreign Affairs and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives.

SEC. 1075. TREATMENT OF FAMILY MEMBERS SEEKING POSITIONS CUSTOMARILY FILLED BY FOREIGN SERVICE OFFICERS OR FOREIGN NATIONAL EMPLOYEES.

Section 311 of the Foreign Service Act of 1980 (22 U.S.C. 3951) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(e) The Secretary shall hold a family member of a government employee described in subsection (a) seeking employment in a position described in that subsection to the same employment standards as those applicable to Foreign Service officers, Foreign Service personnel, or foreign national employees seeking the same or a substantially similar position.''.

SEC. 1076. IN-STATE TUITION RATES FOR MEMBERS OF QUALIFYING FEDERAL SERVICE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 135 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1015d) is amended—

(1) in the section heading, by striking ''**THE ARMED FORCES ON ACTIVE DUTY, SPOUSES, AND DEPENDENT CHILDREN**'' and inserting ''**QUALIFYING FEDERAL SERVICE**'';

(2) in subsection (a), by striking ''member of the armed forces who is on active duty for a period of more than 30 days and'' and inserting ''member of a qualifying Federal service'';

(3) in subsection (b), by striking ''member of the armed forces'' and inserting ''member of a qualifying Federal service''; and

(4) by striking subsection (d) and inserting the following:

''(d) DEFINITIONS.—In this section, the term 'member of a qualifying Federal service' means—

''(1) a member of the armed forces (as defined in section 101 of title 10, United States Code) who is on active duty for a period of more than 30 days (as defined in section 101 of title 10, United States Code); or

''(2) a member of the Foreign Service (as defined in section 103 of the Foreign Service Act of 1980 (22 U.S.C. 3903)) who is on active duty for a period of more than 30 days.''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made under subsection (a) shall take effect at each public institution of higher education in a State that receives assistance under the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001 et seq.) for the first period of enrollment at such institution that begins after July 1, 2023.

SEC. 1077. TERMINATION OF RESIDENTIAL OR MOTOR VEHICLE LEASES AND TELEPHONE SERVICE CONTRACTS FOR CERTAIN MEMBERS OF THE FOREIGN SERVICE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 9 of title I of the Foreign Service Act of 1980 (22 U.S.C. 4081 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

''SEC. 907. TERMINATION OF RESIDENTIAL OR MOTOR VEHICLE LEASES AND TELEPHONE SERVICE CONTRACTS.

''The terms governing the termination of residential or motor vehicle leases and telephone service contracts described in sections 305 and 305A, respectively of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act (50 U.S.C. 3955 and 3956) with respect to servicemembers who receive military orders described in such Act shall apply in the same manner and to the same extent to members of the Service who are posted abroad at a Foreign Service post in accordance with this Act.''.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents in section 2 of the Foreign Service Act of 1980 is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 906 the following new item:

''Sec. 907. Termination of residential or motor vehicle leases and telephone service contracts.''.

SA 4710. Mr. CASSIDY (for himself and Mr. SCHATZ) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to

the bill H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle G of title X, add the following:

SEC. 1064. RESEARCH ENDOWMENTS AT BOTH CURRENT AND FORMER CENTERS OF EXCELLENCE.

Paragraph (1) (beginning with ''(1) IN GENERAL'') of section 464z–3(h) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 285t(h)) is amended to read as follows:

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Director of the Institute may carry out a program to facilitate minority health disparities research and other health disparities research by providing for research endowments—

''(A) at current or former centers of excellence under section 736; and

''(B) at current or former centers of excellence under section 464z–4.''.

SA 4711. Mr. MCCONNELL (for himself, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. YOUNG, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. HAGERTY, and Mr. CARDIN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle E of title XII, add the following:

SEC. 1253. SUPPORTING DEMOCRACY IN BURMA.

(a) DEFINED TERM.—In this section, the term ''appropriate congressional committees'' means—

(1) the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate;

(2) the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives;

(3) the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate;

(4) the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives;

(5) the Committee on Armed Services of the Senate;

(6) the Committee on Armed Services of the House of Representatives;

(7) the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate; and

(8) the Committee on Financial Services of the House of Representatives.

(b) BRIEFING REQUIRED.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 60 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the following officials shall jointly brief the appropriate congressional committees regarding actions taken by the United States Government to further United States policy and security objectives in Burma (officially known as the ''Republic of the Union of Myanmar''):

(A) The Assistant Secretary of State for East Asian and Pacific Affairs.

(B) The Counselor of the Department of State.

(C) The Under Secretary of the Treasury for Terrorism and Financial Intelligence.

(D) The Assistant to the Administrator for the Bureau for Conflict Prevention and Stabilization.

(E) Additional officials from the Department of Defense or the Intelligence Community, as appropriate.

(2) INFORMATION REQUIRED.—The briefing required under paragraph (1) shall include—

(A) a detailed description of the specific United States policy and security objectives in Burma;

(B) information about any actions taken by the United States, either directly or in coordination with other countries—

(i) to support and legitimize the National Unity Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, The Civil Disobedience Movement in Myanmar, and other entities promoting democracy in Burma, while simultaneously denying legitimacy and resources to the Myanmar's military junta;

(ii) to impose costs on Myanmar's military junta, including—

(I) an assessment of the impact of existing United States and international sanctions; and

(II) a description of potential prospects for additional sanctions;

(iii) to secure the restoration of democracy, the establishment of inclusive and representative civilian government, with a reformed military reflecting the diversity of Burma and under civilian control, and the enactment of constitutional, political, and economic reform in Burma;

(iv) to secure the unconditional release of all political prisoners in Burma;

(v) to promote genuine national reconciliation among Burma's diverse ethnic and religious groups;

(vi) to ensure accountability for atrocities, human rights violations, and crimes against humanity committed by Myanmar's military junta; and

(vii) to avert a large-scale humanitarian disaster;

(C) an update on the current status of United States assistance programs in Burma, including—

(i) humanitarian assistance for affected populations, including internally displaced persons and efforts to mitigate humanitarian and health crises in neighboring countries and among refugee populations;

(ii) democracy assistance, including support to the National Unity Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and civil society groups in Burma;

(iii) economic assistance; and

(iv) global health assistance, including COVID–19 relief; and

(D) a description of the strategic interests in Burma of the People's Republic of China and the Russian Federation, including—

(i) access to natural resources and lines of communications to sea routes; and

(ii) actions taken by such countries—

(I) to support Myanmar's military junta in order to preserve or promote such interests;

(II) to undermine the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Burma; and

(III) to promote ethnic conflict within Burma.

(c) CLASSIFICATION AND FORMAT.—The briefing required under subsection (b)—

(1) shall be provided in an unclassified setting; and

(2) may be accompanied by a separate classified briefing, as appropriate.

SA 4712. Mr. WHITEHOUSE (for himself and Mr. PORTMAN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle G of title X, add the following:

SEC. 1064. RESEARCH INTO NON-OPIOID PAIN MANAGEMENT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Health and Human Services shall conduct or support research and surveillance with respect to non-opioid methods of pain management, including non-pharmaceutical remedies for pain and integrative medicine solutions.

(b) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—For purposes of conducting research under this section, there are authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be necessary for each of fiscal years 2022 through 2026.

SA 4713. Mr. PADILLA submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle F of title XII, add the following:

SEC. 1264. REPORT ON NAGORNO KARABAKH CONFLICT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State, in consultation with the Secretary of Defense, shall submit to the congressional defense committees, the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives, and the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate a report on the 2020 conflict in Nagorno Karabakh.

(b) ELEMENTS.—The report required by subsection (a) shall include the following:

(1) An assessment of the use of weapon systems produced outside either country that was a party to the 2020 conflict in Nagorno Karabakh that were employed in the conflict, including a list of the origins of those weapon systems.

(2) An assessment of the use of white phosphorous or cluster bombs in the conflict.

(3) A description of the involvement of foreign actors in the conflict, including a description of the military activities, influence operations, and diplomatic engagement by foreign countries before, during, and after the conflict, as well as any effort by parties to the conflict or foreign actors to recruit or employ foreign fighters during the conflict.

(4) Any other matter the Secretary of State considers important.

SA 4714. Mr. REED (for himself and Mr. INHOFE) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle A of title V, add the following:

SEC. 503. AUTHORITY TO VARY NUMBER OF SPACE FORCE OFFICERS CONSIDERED FOR PROMOTION TO MAJOR GENERAL.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding section 616(d) of title 10, United States Code, the number of officers recommended for promotion by a selection board convened by the Secretary of the Air Force under section 611(a) of title 10, United States Code, to consider officers on the Space Force active duty list for promotion to major general may not exceed the number equal to 95 percent of the total number of brigadier generals eligible for consideration by the board.

(b) TERMINATION.—The authority provided under subsection (a) shall terminate on December 31, 2022.

SA 4715. Mr. ROUNDS (for Mr. INHOFE) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle G of title X, add the following:

SEC. 1064. EXPANSION OF PROPERTY OF DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE NOT ELIGIBLE FOR SALE OR DONATION FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITIES AND STUDY ON USE OF SUCH AUTHORITY TO SELL OR DONATE PROPERTY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 2576a(e) of title 10, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraphs:

''(5) Explosives.

''(6) Firearms of 50 cal mil or greater and ammunition of 50 cal mil or greater.

''(7) Asphyxiating gases, including those comprised of lachrymatory agents, and analogous liquids, materials, or devices.''.

(b) STUDY.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Director of the Defense Logistics Agency shall conduct a study on the use by the Department of Defense of the authority under section 2576a of title 10, United States Code, and the administration of such authority by the Law Enforcement Support Office of the Department.

(2) ELEMENTS.—The study required under paragraph (1) shall include—

(A) an analysis of the degree to which personal property transferred under section 2576a of title 10, United States Code, has been distributed equitably between larger, well-resourced municipalities and units of government and smaller, less well-resourced municipalities and units of government; and

(B) an identification of potential modifications to the authority under such section to ensure that property transferred under such section is transferred in a manner that provides adequate opportunity for participation by smaller, less well-resourced municipalities and units of government.

(3) REPORT.—Not later than December 1, 2022, the Director of the Defense Logistics Agency shall submit to the congressional defense committees a report on the results of the study conducted under paragraph (1).

SA 4716. Mr. HAGERTY (for himself and Mrs. BLACKBURN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle E of title III, add the following:

SEC. 376. ACCESS TO CATEGORY 3 SUBTERRANEAN TRAINING FACILITIES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Defense may have access to a covered category 3 subterranean training facility on a continuing basis, subject to the availability of appropriations for such purpose.

(b) AUTHORITY TO ENTER INTO LEASE.—The Secretary may enter into a short-term lease with a provider of a covered category 3 subterranean training facility for purposes of subsection (a).

(c) COVERED CATEGORY 3 SUBTERRANEAN TRAINING FACILITY DEFINED.—In this section, the term ''covered category 3 subterranean training facility'' means a category 3 subterranean training facility that is—

(1) operational as of the date of the enactment of this Act; and

(2) determined by the Secretary to be safe for use as of such date.

SA 4717. Mr. BROWN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

TITLE ____—STEM RESEARCH GAINS

SEC. ____01. SHORT TITLE.

This title may be cited as the ''Strengthening the STEM Research Workforce to Generate American Infrastructure for National Security Act of 2021'' or the ''STEM Research GAINS Act of 2021''.

SEC. ____02. DEFINITIONS.

In this title:

(1) COVERED FIELD.—The term ''covered field'' means a field in science, technology, engineering, or mathematics research or development that is determined to be—

(A) a subject area relating to the national security of the United States;

(B) a subject area relating to the United States' ability to compete in an open, fair, and competitive international market and achieve economic growth; or

(C) a subject area that is in need of expanded and strengthened academic pipelines to ensure a diverse workforce.

(2) DIRECTOR.—The term ''Director'' means the Director of the National Science Foundation.

(3) FEDERAL SCIENCE AGENCY.—The term ''Federal science agency'' has the meaning given the term in section 103(f) of the America COMPETES Reauthorization Act of 2010 (42 U.S.C. 6623(f)).

(4) INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION.—The term ''institution of higher education'' means an institution of higher education described in section 101 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001).

(5) MINORITY.—The term ''minority'' has the meaning given the term in section 365(2) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1067k(2)).

(6) MINORITY-SERVING INSTITUTION.—The term ''minority-serving institution'' means—

(A) a part B institution (as defined in section 322 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1061));

(B) a Hispanic-serving institution (as defined in section 502 of that Act (20 U.S.C. 1101a));

(C) a Tribal College or University (as defined in section 316 of that Act (20 U.S.C. 1059c));

(D) an Alaska Native-serving institution (as defined in section 317(b) of that Act (20 U.S.C. 1059d(b)));

(E) a Native Hawaiian-serving institution (as defined in section 317(b) of that Act (20 U.S.C. 1059d(b)));

(F) a Predominantly Black Institution (as defined in section 318 of that Act (20 U.S.C. 1059e));

(G) an Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander-serving institution (as defined in section 320(b) of that Act (20 U.S.C. 1059g(b))); or

(H) a Native American-serving, nontribal institution (as defined in section 319 of that Act (20 U.S.C. 1059f)).

(7) STEM.—The term ''STEM'' means science, technology, engineering, and mathematics, including computer science.

(8) UNDERREPRESENTED FIELD.—The term ''underrepresented field'' means a field in STEM in which the national rate of representation of women among tenured, tenure-track faculty, or nonfaculty researchers at doctorate-granting institutions of higher education is less than 25 percent, according to the most recent data available from the National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics.

(9) UNDERREPRESENTED IN SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING.—The term ''underrepresented in science and engineering'' means a minority group whose number of scientists and engineers, per 10,000 population of that group, is substantially below the comparable figure for scientists and engineers who are white and not of Hispanic origin, as determined by the Secretary of Education under section 637.4(b) of title 34, Code of Federal Regulations, or similar successor regulations.

Subtitle A—Expanding Pipeline Programs to Research Opportunities

SEC. ____11. RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT AREAS CRITICAL TO NATIONAL SECURITY.

(a) COVERED FIELDS.—The President shall conduct a study to identify areas for research and development that are covered fields.

(b) UPDATE.—Not less than once every 5 years, the President shall reassess the covered fields.

SEC. ____12. INCREASING INVESTMENT IN UNDERGRADUATE SCIENCE PIPELINES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—There are authorized to be appropriated to the National Science Foundation for fiscal year 2022 and for each of the following 4 years, $750,000,000, which shall be used by the Director for the following National Science Foundation programs:

(1) The Historically Black Colleges and Universities Undergraduate Program.

(2) The Louis Stokes Alliances for Minority Participation program.

(3) The Research Experiences for Undergraduates program.

(4) The Tribal Colleges and Universities Program.

(5) The Improving Undergraduates STEM Education: Hispanic-Serving Institutions Program.

(6) Other programs to broaden participation in undergraduate STEM programs, as determined by the Director.

(b) SUPPLEMENT NOT SUPPLANT.—The amounts used under subsection (a) shall supplement, and not supplant, any other amounts used by the National Science Foundation for the programs described in such subsection.

SEC. ___14. BOLSTERING STEM PIPELINES STRATEGIC PLAN.

(a) BROADENING PARTICIPATION STRATEGIC PLAN.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Subcommittee on Federal Coordination in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics Education (FC-STEM) of the Committee on Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics Education (CoSTEM) of the National Science and Technology Council shall submit to Congress a report containing the subcommittee's current strategic plan for Federal science agencies to increase the capacity of STEM programs carried out by Federal science agencies that are in effect as of the date of the report to increase the participation of individuals who are underrepresented in science and engineering, women who are underrepresented in STEM fields, and low-income and first-generation college students, in order to broaden participation in grants and programs carried out by the Federal science agencies. The report shall include—

(1) a description of how the grants and programs that are carried out by the Federal science agencies, as of the time of the report, are carried out in a manner that advances diverse pipelines in STEM fields, and a description of how the Federal science agencies can better advance such diverse pipelines;

(2) an analysis of the data collection that would allow for meaningful goal setting and transparency relating to the Federal science agencies' progress in broadening participation of individuals from groups that are underrepresented in science and engineering with respect to those grants and programs;

(3) an analysis of how the Federal science agencies can meet goals related to broadening the participation of individuals from groups that are underrepresented in science and engineering by—

(A) creating or expanding funding opportunities;

(B) modifying existing research and development programs; and

(C) establishing coordination between existing programs carried out by the Federal science agencies;

(4) a description of the ways that the Federal science agencies work with minority-serving institutions to—

(A) enable those eligible institutions to compete effectively for grants, contracts, or cooperative agreements carried out by the National Science Foundation;

(B) encourage those eligible institutions to participate in programs carried out by the Federal science agencies; and

(C) encourage students and faculty, particularly minority students and faculty and students and faculty in underrepresented fields, at the eligible institution to apply for and successfully earn graduate and professional opportunities from programs supported by the Federal science agencies;

(5) an analysis of the best ways to share best practices for institutions of higher education and Federal science agencies interested in supporting individuals from groups that are underrepresented in science and engineering;

(6) an analysis of how the Federal science agencies can work together to advance goals related to broadening the participation of individuals from groups that are underrepresented in science and engineering; and

(7) an analysis of how to promote relationships between institutions of higher education and high schools to enhance the pipeline for high school students to undergraduate STEM opportunities in covered fields and enhance the quality of high school teachers in STEM fields.

(b) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act, and every 5 years thereafter, the Subcommittee on Federal Coordination in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics Education of the Committee on Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics Education of the National Science and Technology Council shall report to Congress on the implementation by Federal science agencies of the strategic plan developed under this section.

SEC. ___15. RESEARCH PROGRAM CLEARINGHOUSE AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE CENTER.

(a) OPPORTUNITIES CLEARINGHOUSE.—The Subcommittee on Federal Coordination in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics Education of the Committee on Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics Education of the National Science and Technology Council shall establish and maintain a public clearinghouse (including by maintaining a publicly available website) of all research programs sponsored by Federal science agencies that are available to individuals as undergraduate and graduate students.

(b) BEST PRACTICES CLEARINGHOUSE.—The Director shall work with the Director of the Institute of Education Sciences of the Department of Education to maintain the What Works Clearinghouse to collect, analyze, identify, disseminate, and make publicly available information about best practices for institutions of higher education to strengthen the pipeline of individuals pursuing careers in covered fields (particularly for minority students pursuing those careers), and particularly information to help address gaps identified in the publication entitled ''Minority Serving Institutions: America's Underutilized Resource for Strengthening the STEM Workforce'', published in 2019 by the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine.

(c) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—The Director shall fund the maintenance of existing (as of the date of the funding) technical resource centers to enable the centers to work with institutions of higher education seeking to implement strategies to—

(1) bolster and diversify the student body at the institution that pursue STEM fields;

(2) support students underrepresented in science and engineering who are pursuing research-based STEM studies to help those students continue and complete those studies; or

(3) support other technical assistance activities determined by the Director to be appropriate.

Subtitle B—Increasing Transparency for Graduate Education

SEC. ___21. STRENGTHENING TRANSPARENCY.

(a) ASSESSMENTS.—The Director shall conduct regular assessments of graduate research fellowship programs carried out by the National Science Foundation and make additional information publicly available about those programs, including for each program—

(1) the number of applications received, disaggregated by undergraduate and graduate institution, race, gender, age, and eligibility for a Federal Pell Grant;

(2) the number of applications approved, disaggregated by undergraduate and graduate institution, race, gender, age, and eligibility for a Federal Pell Grant;

(3) the number of students that are awarded grants to develop a diverse STEM workforce, disaggregated by undergraduate population, public or private institution, and (in the case of a minority-serving institution) type of minority-serving institutions;

(4) an analysis of the recipients of scholarships and fellowships awarded by institutions of higher education through the graduate research fellowship programs, disaggregated by race; and

(5) the ratio of the number of individuals who participated in the assessment from the program to the number of students in the program.

(b) VOLUNTARILY PROVIDED DATA.—For purposes of subsection (a), the Director shall base the assessments on, and make information publicly available on, data voluntarily provided by student applicants for the graduate research fellowship program involved.

(c) REPORTS.—The Director shall prepare and submit to Congress, and make publicly available, annual reports that show trends in how research fellowships and scholarships supported by the National Science Foundation are awarded to individuals from underrepresented groups, institutions of higher education, and entities from different geographic areas, in order to better show trends in the participation of underrepresented groups in such research fellowships and scholarships.

Subtitle C—Strengthening the National Security Research Workforce

SEC. ___31. EARLY CAREER FACULTY SUPPORTS.

(a) RISING FACULTY PROFESSIONAL ADVANCEMENT PROGRAM.—

(1) ESTABLISHMENT OF PILOT PROGRAM.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Director shall select an organization to establish a 5-year pilot mentorship program to be known as ''Rising Faculty Professional Advancement Program'' (referred to in this section as the ''program'') in order to increase the diversity of faculty in STEM fields.

(2) PURPOSE.—The purpose of the Rising Faculty Professional Advancement Program shall be—

(A) to increase the number of doctoral-level professionals from underrepresented groups in STEM fields who transition into faculty positions at institutions of higher education; and

(B) to improve mentorship and training for researchers who are navigating the transition in the research pipeline to becoming faculty, which is a time when a significant decrease in diversity often occurs.

(b) PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS.—

(1) ELIGIBILITY.—An individual shall be eligible to participate in the program if the individual is a doctoral degree holding researcher in a post-doctoral research position or early-career faculty (defined as a faculty researcher with a title of assistant professor or other non-tenured equivalent).

(2) OUTREACH.—The organization shall conduct outreach to encourage participation in the program by individuals described in paragraph (1) who are from groups underrepresented in STEM fields, including—

(A) individuals from groups who are underrepresented in science and engineering;

(B) individuals holding doctoral degrees in covered fields from or faculty positions at minority-serving institutions;

(C) individuals holding doctoral degrees in covered fields from institutions of higher education in the bottom 90 percent of research and development expenditures, as ranked by the National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics; and

(D) individuals who are women and who hold positions from underrepresented fields.

(c) ACTIVITIES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the organization shall establish program activities including—

(A) training for Rising Faculty and mentors;

(B) a program curriculum; and

(C) support for existing (as of the date of provision of the support) mentoring programs for mentor engagement.

(2) COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH.—The organization shall encourage program mentors to network and enter into collaboration on research projects with Rising Faculty and other mentors within the program.

(3) SURVEY.—Following the first year of program enrollment, and on an annual basis during the program, the organization shall—

(A) conduct a survey of Rising Faculty and mentors to determine best practices and outcomes achieved;

(B) conduct a survey to collect information about the demographics of the Rising Faculty and mentors; and

(C) conduct additional surveys or other analyses of Rising Faculty who completed the program to assess career progression for not more than 5 years following the completion of the program by Rising Faculty.

(d) ASSESSMENT OF THE PILOT PROGRAM AND RECOMMENDATIONS.—Not later than 180 days after the conclusion of the pilot program, the Director shall provide a report to the appropriate committees of Congress with respect to the pilot program, which shall include—

(1) a description and evaluation of the status and effectiveness of the program, including a summary of survey data collected;

(2) an assessment of the success and utility of the pilot program in meeting the purposes of this section;

(3) a summary and analysis of the types and frequency of activities and policies developed and carried out under the pilot program; and

(4) a recommendation about continuing the program on a pilot or permanent basis.

SA 4718. Mr. BROWN (for himself and Mr. WARNER) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. _____. MINORITY INSTITUTE FOR DEFENSE RESEARCH.

(a) PLAN TO ESTABLISH MINORITY INSTITUTE FOR DEFENSE RESEARCH.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this section, the Secretary shall submit to the congressional defense committees a plan (in this section referred to as the ''Plan'') for the establishment of the Minority Institute for Defense Research (in this section referred to as the ''Consortium'').

(2) ELEMENTS.—The Plan shall include the following:

(A) Information relating to the projected needs of the Department for the next twenty years with respect to essential engineering, research, or development capability.

(B) An assessment relating to the engineering, research, and development capability of each minority institution to identify each leading minority institution.

(C) Information relating to the advancements and investments necessary to elevate a minority institution or a consortium of minority institutions to the research capacity of a University Affiliated Research Center.

(D) Recommendations relating to actions that may be taken by the Department, Congress, and minority institutions to establish the Consortium within 10 years.

(3) PUBLICLY AVAILABLE.—The Plan shall be posted on a publicly available website of the Department.

(b) NAMING OF THE CONSORTIUM.—With respect to the naming of the Consortium, the Secretary shall—

(1) establish a process to solicit and review proposals of names from—

(A) minority institutions;

(B) nonprofit institutions that advocate on behalf of minority institutions; and

(C) members of the public;

(2) develop a list of all names received pursuant to paragraph (1);

(3) provide opportunity for public comment on the names included on such list; and

(4) choose a name from such list to name the Consortium.

(c) GRANT PROGRAM FOR LEADING MINORITY INSTITUTIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may establish a program to award grants, on a competitive basis, to leading minority institutions for the purposes described in paragraph (2).

(2) PURPOSES.—The purposes described in this paragraph are the following:

(A) Establishing a legal entity for the purpose of entering into research contracts or agreements with the Federal Government or the Consortium.

(B) Developing the capability to bid on Federal Government or Consortium contracts.

(C) Requesting technical assistance from the Federal Government or a private entity with respect to contracting with the Federal Government or the Consortium.

(D) Recruiting and retaining research faculty.

(E) Advancing research capabilities relating to the national security of the United States.

(F) Any other matter determined appropriate by the Secretary.

(3) APPLICATION.—To be eligible to receive a grant under this section, a leading minority institution shall submit to the Secretary an application therefor in such form, and containing such information, as the Secretary may require.

(4) PREFERENCE.—In awarding grants pursuant to paragraph (1), the Secretary shall give preference to a leading minority institution with a R1 or R2 status on the Carnegie Classification of Institutions of Higher Education.

(d) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) The term ''Department'' means the Department of Defense.

(2) The term ''leading minority institution'' means a minority institution identified (pursuant to the assessment required under subsection (a)(2)(B)) as being in the top 20 percent of all such institutions with respect to providing essential engineering, research, or development capability.

(3) The term ''institution of higher education'' has the meaning given such term in section 101 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001).

(4) The term ''minority institution'' means—

(A) a part B institution (as such term is defined in section 322 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1061)); or

(B) any institution of higher education at which not less than 50 percent of the total student enrollment consists of students from ethnic groups that are underrepresented in the fields of science and engineering.

(5) The term ''Secretary'' means the Secretary of Defense.

(6) The term ''University Affiliated Research Center'' means a research organization within an institution of higher education that—

(A) provides or maintains Department essential engineering, research, or development capabilities; and

(B) receives sole source contract funding from the Department pursuant to section 2304(c)(3)(B) of title 10, United States Code.

SEC. _____. SUBCONTRACT REQUIREMENTS FOR MINORITY INSTITUTIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 2304 of title 10, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

''(m)(1) The head of an agency shall require that a contract awarded to an educational institution pursuant to subsection (c)(3)(B) includes a requirement to subcontract with one or more minority institutions for a total amount of not less than 5 percent of the amount awarded in the contract.

''(2) For the purposes of this subsection, a minority institution means—

''(A) a part B institution (as that term is defined in section 322(2) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1061(2))); or

''(B) any other institution of higher education (as that term is defined in section 101 of such Act (20 U.S.C. 1001)) at which not less than 50 percent of the total student enrollment consists of students from ethnic groups that are underrepresented in the fields of science and engineering.''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by subsection (a) shall—

(1) take effect on October 1, 2026; and

(2) apply with respect to funds that are awarded by the Department of Defense on or after such date.

SEC. _____. FUNDING FOR APPLIED AND ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT AT HISTORICALLY BLACK COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES AND MINORITY INSTITUTIONS.

(a) ADDITIONAL FUNDING.—

(1) APPLIED RESEARCH.—(A) The amount authorized to be appropriated for fiscal year 2022 by section 201 for research, development, test, and evaluation is hereby increased by $30,000,000, with the amount of the increase to be available for Advancement of S&T Priorities (PE 0602251D8Z).

(B) The amount available under subparagraph (A) shall be available for minority institutions.

(2) ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT.—(A) The amount authorized to be appropriated for fiscal year 2022 by section 201 for research, development, test, and evaluation is hereby increased by $15,000,000, with the amount of the increase to be available for Advanced Research High speed flight experiment testing (PE 0603180C).

(B) The amount available under subparagraph (A) shall be available for minority institutions.

(b) OFFSET.—The amount authorized to be appropriated for fiscal year 2022 by section 301 for operation and maintenance is hereby decreased by $45,000,000, with the amount of the decrease to be taken from amounts available as specified in the funding table in section 4301 for the Afghanistan Security Forces Fund, Afghan Air Force Sustainment.

(c) DEFINITION OF MINORITY INSTITUTION.—In this section, the term ''minority institution'' means—

(1) a part B institution (as such term is defined in section 322 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1061)); or

(2) any institution of higher education at which not less than 50 percent of the total

student enrollment consists of students from ethnic groups that are underrepresented in the fields of science and engineering.

SA 4719. Mr. BROWN (for himself and Mr. CASEY) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. _____. PROTECTIONS FOR OBLIGORS AND COSIGNERS IN CASE OF DEATH OR TOTAL AND PERMANENT DISABILITY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 140(g) of the Truth in Lending Act (15 U.S.C. 1650(g)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (2)—

(A) in the heading, by striking ''IN CASE OF DEATH OF BORROWER''; an

(B) by striking ''death'' each place the term appears and inserting ''death or total and permanent disability'';

(2) by adding at the end the following:

''(3) DISCHARGE IN CASE OF DEATH OR TOTAL AND PERMANENT DISABILITY OF BORROWER.—The holder of a private education loan shall, when notified of the death or total and permanent disability of a student obligor, discharge the liability of the student obligor on the loan and may not, after such notification—

''(A) attempt to collect on the outstanding liability of the student obligor; and

''(B) in the case of total and permanent disability, monitor the disability status of the student obligor at any point after the date of discharge.

''(4) PRIVATE DISCHARGE IN CASES OF CERTAIN DISCHARGE FOR DEATH OR DISABILITY.—The holder of a private education loan shall, when notified of the discharge of liability of a student obligor on a loan described under section 108(f)(5)(A) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, discharge any liability of the student obligor (and any cosigner) on any private education loan which the private education loan holder holds and may not, after such notification—

''(A) attempt to collect on the outstanding liability of the student obligor; and

''(B) in the case of total and permanent disability, monitor the disability status of the student obligor at any point after the date of discharge.

''(5) DEFINITION.—In this subsection, the term 'total and permanent disability' has the meaning given the term 'totally and permanently disabled' in section 685.102(b) of title 34, Code of Federal Regulations.''.

(b) RULEMAKING.—The Director of the Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection may promulgate regulations to implement the amendments made by subsection (a) as the Director determines appropriate.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall take effect on the date that is 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act.

SA 4720. Mr. ROUNDS (for Mr. INHOFE) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 4431 submitted by Mr. INHOFE and intended to be proposed to the amendment SA 3867 proposed by Mr. REED to the bill H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

In lieu of the matter proposed to be inserted, insert the following:

SEC. 1516. MODIFICATION TO ESTIMATE OF DAMAGES FROM FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION ORDER 20–48.

Section 1664 of the William M. (Mac) Thornberry National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021 (Public Law 116–283) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a), in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by inserting ''or any subsequent fiscal year'' after ''fiscal year 2021''; and

(2) by adding at the end the following new subsections:

''(d) DISTRIBUTION OF ESTIMATE.—As soon as practicable after submitting an estimate as described in paragraph (1) of subsection (a) and making the certification described in paragraph (2) of such subsection, the Secretary shall make such estimate available to any licensee operating under the Order and Authorization described in such subsection.

''(e) AUTHORITY OF SECRETARY OF DEFENSE TO SEEK RECOVERY OF COSTS.—The Secretary may work directly with any licensee (or any future assignee, successor, or purchaser) affected by the Order and Authorization described in subsection (a) to seek recovery of costs incurred by the Department as a result of the effect of such order and authorization.

''(f) REIMBURSEMENT.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall establish and facilitate a process for any licensee (or any future assignee, successor, or purchaser) subject to the Order and Authorization described in subsection (a) to provide reimbursement to the Department, only to the extent provided in appropriation Acts, for the covered costs and eligible reimbursable costs submitted and certified to the congressional defense committees under such subsection.

''(2) USE OF FUNDS.—The Secretary shall use any funds received under this subsection, to the extent and in such amounts as are provided in advance in appropriation Acts, for covered costs described in subsection (b) and the range of eligible reimbursable costs identified under subsection (a)(1).

''(3) REPORT.—Not later than 90 days after the date on which the Secretary establishes the process required by paragraph (1), the Secretary shall submit to the congressional defense committees a report on such process.''.

SA 4721. Mr. WARNOCK submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of title X, add the following:

Subtitle H—Maternal Health

SEC. 1071. INNOVATION FOR MATERNAL HEALTH.

Title III of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 241 et seq.) is amended by inserting after section 330N of such Act, the following:

''SEC. 330O. INNOVATION FOR MATERNAL HEALTH.

''(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, in consultation with experts representing a variety of clinical specialties, State, Tribal, or local public health officials, researchers, epidemiologists, statisticians, and community organizations, shall establish or continue a program to award competitive grants to eligible entities for the purpose of—

''(1) identifying, developing, or disseminating best practices to improve maternal health care quality and outcomes, improve maternal and infant health, and eliminate preventable maternal mortality and severe maternal morbidity, which may include—

''(A) information on evidence-based practices to improve the quality and safety of maternal health care in hospitals and other health care settings of a State or health care system by addressing topics commonly associated with health complications or risks related to prenatal care, labor care, birthing, and postpartum care;

''(B) best practices for improving maternal health care based on data findings and reviews conducted by a State maternal mortality review committee that address topics of relevance to common complications or health risks related to prenatal care, labor care, birthing, and postpartum care; and

''(C) information on addressing determinants of health that impact maternal health outcomes for women before, during, and after pregnancy;

''(2) collaborating with State maternal mortality review committees to identify issues for the development and implementation of evidence-based practices to improve maternal health outcomes and reduce preventable maternal mortality and severe maternal morbidity, consistent with section 317K;

''(3) providing technical assistance and supporting the implementation of best practices identified in paragraph (1) to entities providing health care services to pregnant and postpartum women; and

''(4) identifying, developing, and evaluating new models of care that improve maternal and infant health outcomes, which may include the integration of community-based services and clinical care.

''(b) ELIGIBLE ENTITIES.—To be eligible for a grant under subsection (a), an entity shall—

''(1) submit to the Secretary an application at such time, in such manner, and containing such information as the Secretary may require; and

''(2) demonstrate in such application that the entity is capable of carrying out data-driven maternal safety and quality improvement initiatives in the areas of obstetrics and gynecology or maternal health.

''(c) REPORT.—Not later than September 30, 2024, and every 2 years thereafter, the Secretary shall submit a report to Congress on the practices described in paragraphs (1) and (2) of subsection (a). Such report shall include a description of the extent to which such practices reduced preventable maternal mortality and severe maternal morbidity, and whether such practices improved maternal and infant health. The Secretary shall disseminate information on such practices, as appropriate.

''(d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—To carry out this section, there are authorized to be appropriated $9,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2022 through 2026.''.

SEC. 1072. TRAINING FOR HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS.

Title VII of the Public Health Service Act is amended by striking section 763 (42 U.S.C. 294p) and inserting the following:

"SEC. 763. TRAINING FOR HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS.

''(a) GRANT PROGRAM.—The Secretary shall establish a program to award grants to accredited schools of allopathic medicine, osteopathic medicine, and nursing, and other health professional training programs for the training of health care professionals to improve the provision of prenatal care, labor care, birthing, and postpartum care for racial and ethnic minority populations, including with respect to perceptions and biases that may affect the approach to, and provision of, care.

''(b) ELIGIBILITY.—To be eligible for a grant under subsection (a), an entity described in such subsection shall submit to the Secretary an application at such time, in such manner, and containing such information as the Secretary may require.

''(c) REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.—

''(1) PERIODIC GRANTEE REPORTS.—Each entity awarded a grant under this section shall periodically submit to the Secretary a report on the status of activities conducted using the grant, including a description of the impact of such training on patient outcomes, as applicable.

''(2) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than September 30, 2025, the Secretary shall submit a report to Congress on the activities conducted using grants under subsection (a) and any best practices identified and disseminated under subsection (d).

''(d) BEST PRACTICES.—The Secretary may identify and disseminate best practices for the training described in subsection (a).

''(e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—To carry out this section, there are authorized to be appropriated $5,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2022 through 2026.''.

SEC. 1073. STUDY ON IMPROVING TRAINING FOR HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS.

Not later than 2 years after date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Health and Human Services shall, through a contract with an independent research organization, conduct a study and make recommendations for accredited schools of allopathic medicine, osteopathic medicine, and nursing, and other health professional training programs on best practices related to training to improve the provision of prenatal care, labor care, birthing, and postpartum care for racial and ethnic minority populations, including with respect to perceptions and biases that may affect the approach to, and provision of, care.

SEC. 1074. PERINATAL QUALITY COLLABORATIVES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 317K(a)(2) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 247b–12(a)(2)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(E)(i) The Secretary, acting through the Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and in coordination with other offices and agencies, as appropriate, shall establish or continue a competitive grant program for the establishment or support of perinatal quality collaboratives to improve perinatal care and perinatal health outcomes for pregnant and postpartum women and their infants. A State, Indian Tribe, or Tribal organization may use funds received through such grant to—

''(I) support the use of evidence-based or evidence-informed practices to improve outcomes for maternal and infant health;

''(II) work with clinical teams; experts; State, local, and, as appropriate, Tribal public health officials; and stakeholders, including patients and families, to identify, develop, or disseminate best practices to improve perinatal care and outcomes; and

''(III) employ strategies that provide opportunities for health care professionals and clinical teams to collaborate across health care settings and disciplines, including primary care and mental health, as appropriate, to improve maternal and infant health outcomes, which may include the use of data to provide timely feedback across hospital and clinical teams to inform responses, and to provide support and training to hospital and clinical teams for quality improvement, as appropriate.

''(ii) To be eligible for a grant under clause (i), an entity shall submit to the Secretary an application in such form and manner and containing such information as the Secretary may require.''.

(b) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than September 30, 2025, the Secretary of Health and Human Services shall submit to Congress a report regarding the activities conducted by recipients of grants under subsection (a)(2)(E) of section 317K of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 247b–12).

SEC. 1075. INTEGRATED SERVICES FOR PREGNANT AND POSTPARTUM WOMEN.

(a) GRANTS.—Title III of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 241 et seq.) is amended by inserting after section 330O of such Act, as added by section 1071, the following:

"SEC. 330P. INTEGRATED SERVICES FOR PREGNANT AND POSTPARTUM WOMEN.

''(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may award grants for the purpose of establishing or operating evidence-based or innovative, evidence-informed programs to deliver integrated health care services to pregnant and postpartum women to optimize the health of women and their infants, including to reduce adverse maternal health outcomes, pregnancy-related deaths, and related health disparities (including such disparities associated with racial and ethnic minority populations), and, as appropriate, by addressing issues researched under subsection (b)(2) of section 317K.

''(b) INTEGRATED SERVICES FOR PREGNANT AND POSTPARTUM WOMEN.—

''(1) ELIGIBILITY.—To be eligible to receive a grant under subsection (a), a State, Indian Tribe, or Tribal organization (as such terms are defined in section 4 of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act) shall work with relevant stakeholders that coordinate care to develop and carry out the program, including—

''(A) State, Tribal, and local agencies responsible for Medicaid, public health, social services, mental health, and substance use disorder treatment and services;

''(B) health care providers who serve pregnant and postpartum women; and

''(C) community-based health organizations and health workers, including providers of home visiting services and individuals representing communities with disproportionately high rates of maternal mortality and severe maternal morbidity, and including those representing racial and ethnic minority populations.

''(2) TERMS.—

''(A) PERIOD.—A grant awarded under subsection (a) shall be made for a period of 5 years. Any supplemental award made to a grantee under subsection (a) may be made for a period of less than 5 years.

''(B) PRIORITIES.—In awarding grants under subsection (a), the Secretary shall—

''(i) give priority to States, Indian Tribes, and Tribal organizations that have the highest rates of maternal mortality and severe maternal morbidity relative to other such States, Indian Tribes, or Tribal organizations, respectively; and

''(ii) shall consider health disparities related to maternal mortality and severe maternal morbidity, including such disparities associated with racial and ethnic minority populations.

''(C) EVALUATION.—The Secretary shall require grantees to evaluate the outcomes of the programs supported under the grant.

''(c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section $10,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2022 through 2026.''.

(b) REPORT ON GRANT OUTCOMES AND DISSEMINATION OF BEST PRACTICES.—

(1) REPORT.—Not later than February 1, 2026, the Secretary of Health and Human Services shall submit to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate and the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives a report that describes—

(A) the outcomes of the activities supported by the grants awarded under the amendments made by this section on maternal and child health;

(B) best practices and models of care used by recipients of grants under such amendments; and

(C) obstacles identified by recipients of grants under such amendments, and strategies used by such recipients to deliver care, improve maternal and child health, and reduce health disparities.

(2) DISSEMINATION OF BEST PRACTICES.—Not later than August 1, 2026, the Secretary of Health and Human Services shall disseminate information on best practices and models of care used by recipients of grants under the amendments made by this section (including best practices and models of care relating to the reduction of health disparities, including such disparities associated with racial and ethnic minority populations, in rates of maternal mortality and severe maternal morbidity) to relevant stakeholders, which may include health providers, medical schools, nursing schools, relevant State, Tribal, and local agencies, and the general public.

SEC. 1076. MATERNAL VACCINATION AWARENESS.

In carrying out the public awareness initiative related to vaccinations pursuant to section 313 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 245), the Secretary of Health and Human Services shall take into consideration the importance of increasing awareness and knowledge of the safety and effectiveness of vaccines to prevent disease in pregnant and postpartum women and in infants and the need to improve vaccination rates in communities and populations with low rates of vaccination.

SA 4722. Mr. SANDERS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. _____. IMPROVEMENTS TO CHIPS.

Section 9902 of the William M. (Mac) Thornberry National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021 (15 U.S.C. 4652) is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsection (c) as subsection (d); and

(2) by inserting after subsection (b) the following:

''(c) CONDITIONS OF RECEIPT.—

''(1) REQUIRED AGREEMENT.—A covered entity to which the Secretary awards Federal financial assistance under this section shall enter into an agreement that specifies that, during the 5-year period immediately following the award of the Federal financial assistance—

''(A) the covered entity will not—

''(i) repurchase an equity security that is listed on a national securities exchange of the covered entity or any parent company of the covered entity, except to the extent required under a contractual obligation that is in effect as of the date of enactment of this subsection;

''(ii) outsource or offshore jobs to a location outside of the United States; or

''(iii) abrogate existing collective bargaining agreements; and

''(B) the covered entity will remain neutral in any union organizing effort.

''(2) FINANCIAL PROTECTION OF GOVERNMENT.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may not award Federal financial assistance to a covered entity under this section, unless—

''(i)(I) the covered entity has issued securities that are traded on a national securities exchange; and

''(II) the Secretary of the Treasury receives a warrant or equity interest in the covered entity; or

''(ii) in the case of any covered entity other than a covered entity described in clause (i), the Secretary of the Treasury receives, in the discretion of the Secretary of the Treasury—

''(I) a warrant or equity interest in the covered entity; or

''(II) a senior debt instrument issued by the covered entity.

''(B) TERMS AND CONDITIONS.—The terms and conditions of any warrant, equity interest, or senior debt instrument received under subparagraph (A) shall be set by the Secretary and shall meet the following requirements:

''(i) PURPOSES.—Such terms and conditions shall be designed to provide for a reasonable participation by the Secretary of Commerce, for the benefit of taxpayers, in equity appreciation in the case of a warrant or other equity interest, or a reasonable interest rate premium, in the case of a debt instrument.

''(ii) AUTHORITY TO SELL, EXERCISE, OR SURRENDER.—For the primary benefit of taxpayers, the Secretary may sell, exercise, or surrender a warrant or any senior debt instrument received under this subparagraph. The Secretary shall not exercise voting power with respect to any shares of common stock acquired under this subparagraph.

''(iii) SUFFICIENCY.—If the Secretary determines that a covered entity cannot feasibly issue warrants or other equity interests as required by this subparagraph, the Secretary may accept a senior debt instrument in an amount and on such terms as the Secretary determines appropriate.''.

SA 4723. Mr. DAINES (for himself and Ms. WARREN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. _____. CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

(1) At 9:44 a.m., on August 26, 2021, the Pentagon confirmed that one explosion occurred at the Hamid Karzai International Airport.

(2) The explosion was confirmed to be a suicide bombing by ISIS–K terrorist group.

(3) Estimates as high as 200 deaths were reported, including 13 service members of the United States, as well as hundreds more wounded.

(4) The attack on Thursday, August 26, 2021 at the Hamid Karzai International Airport in Kabul, Afghanistan, killed 13 United States service members, making it the deadliest single day of the war for the United States in more than a decade.

(5) The American service members went above and beyond the call of duty to protect citizens of the United States and our allies to ensure they are brought to safety in an extremely dangerous situation as the Taliban regained control over Afghanistan.

(6) The American service members exemplified extreme bravery and valor against armed enemy combatants.

(7) The American service members dedicated their lives and their heroism deserves great honor.

(8) Maxton Soviak, Kareem Nikoui, David Espinoza, Rylee McCollum, Jared Schmitz, Hunter Lopez, Taylor Hoover, Daegan William-Tyeler Page, Nicole Gee, Humberto Sanchez, Dylan Merola, Johanny Rosario Pichardo, and Ryan Knauss have been identified as the 13 service members who died from the blast while stationed at Hamid Karzai International Airport.

(b) CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL.—

(1) PRESENTATIONS AUTHORIZED.—The Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President pro tempore of the Senate shall make appropriate arrangements for the posthumous presentation, on behalf of Congress, of a single gold medal of appropriate design in commemoration of the 13 service members who perished as a result of the attack in Afghanistan, on August 26, 2021.

(2) DESIGN AND STRIKING.—For purposes of the presentation referred to in paragraph (1), the Secretary of the Treasury (referred to in this section as the ''Secretary'') shall strike a gold medal with suitable emblems, devices, and inscriptions, to be determined by the Secretary.

(3) SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Following the award of the gold medal under paragraph (1), the gold medal shall be given to the Smithsonian Institution, where it shall be available for display as appropriate and made available for research.

(B) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that the Smithsonian Institution shall make the gold medal received under paragraph (1) available for display outside of the District of Columbia at times, particularly at other locations associated with the 13 service members who perished in Afghanistan on August 26, 2021.

(c) DUPLICATE MEDALS.—The Secretary may strike and sell duplicates in bronze of the gold medal struck pursuant to subsection (b) at a price sufficient to cover the cost thereof, including labor, materials, dies, use of machinery, and overhead expenses.

(d) STATUS OF MEDALS.—

(1) NATIONAL MEDALS.—The medal struck pursuant to this section is a national medal for purposes of chapter 51 of title 31, United States Code.

(2) NUMISMATIC ITEMS.—For purposes of section 5134 of title 31, United States Code, all medals struck under this section shall be considered to be numismatic items.

(e) AUTHORITY TO USE FUND AMOUNTS; PROCEEDS OF SALE.—

(1) 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 pursuant to this section.

(2) PROCEEDS OF SALE.—The amounts received from the sale of duplicate bronze medals authorized under subsection (c) shall be deposited into the United States Mint Public Enterprise Fund.

SA 4724. Mr. KING (for himself, Mr. ROUNDS, Mr. SASSE, Ms. ROSEN, Ms. HASSAN, and Mr. OSSOFF) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle G of title X, add the following:

SEC. 1064. REPORT ON CYBERSECURITY CERTIFICATIONS AND LABELING.

Not later than October 1, 2022, the National Cyber Director, in consultation with the Director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology, the Chairman of the Federal Trade Commission, and the Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency, shall submit to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the Committee on Homeland Security and the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology of the House of Representatives a report that—

(1) identifies and assesses existing efforts by the Federal Government to create, administer, or otherwise support the use of certifications or labels to communicate the security or security characteristics of information technology or operational technology products and services; and

(2) assesses the viability of and need for a new program at the Department of Homeland Security, or at other Federal agencies as appropriate, to better address information technology and operational technology product and service security certification and labeling efforts across the Federal Government and between the Federal Government and the private sector.

SA 4725. Ms. CORTEZ MASTO (for herself and Mr. KAINE) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. _____. IMPROVING IRAQ & AFGHANISTAN SERVICE GRANT AND CHILDREN OF FALLEN HEROES GRANT.

(a) TECHNICAL AMENDMENT RELATING TO IRAQ AND AFGHANISTAN SERVICE GRANT AND

CHILDREN OF FALLEN HEROES GRANT.—Part A of title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1070 et seq.), as amended by section 703 of the FAFSA Simplification Act (title VII of division FF of Public Law 116–260), is amended—

(1) in section 401—

(A) in subsection (c)—

(i) in paragraph (2)—

(I) by striking subparagraph (A); and

(II) by redesignating subparagraphs (B) and (C) as subparagraphs (A) and (B), respectively;

(ii) in paragraph (3)(A), by striking ''(2)(B)(i)'' and inserting ''(2)(A)(i)'';

(iii) by redesignating paragraph (5) as paragraph (7); and

(iv) by inserting after paragraph (4) the following:

''(5) PREVENTION OF DOUBLE BENEFITS.—No eligible student described in paragraph (2) may concurrently receive a grant under both this subsection and subsection (b).

''(6) TERMS AND CONDITIONS.—The Secretary shall award grants under this subsection in the same manner and with the same terms and conditions, including the length of the period of eligibility, as the Secretary awards Federal Pell Grants under subsection (b), except that—

''(A) the award rules and determination of need applicable to the calculation of Federal Pell Grants under subsection (b)(1) shall not apply to grants made under this subsection; and

''(B) the maximum period determined under subsection (d)(5) shall be determined by including all grants made under this section received by the eligible student and all grants so received under subpart 10 before the effective date of this subsection.''; and

(2) by striking section 420R (20 U.S.C. 1070h).

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by subsection (a) shall take effect as if included in section 703 of the FAFSA Simplification Act (title VII of division FF of Public Law 116–260) and subject to the effective date of section 701(b) of such Act.

(c) TRANSITION.—The Secretary shall take such steps as are necessary to transition from the Iraq and Afghanistan Service Grant program under subpart 10 of part A of title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1070h), as in effect on the day before the effective date of this section, and the provision of Federal Pell Grants under section 401(c) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1070a(c)), as amended by the FAFSA Simplification Act and this Act.

SA 4726. Mr. KING (for himself, Mr. ROUNDS, Mr. SASSE, Ms. ROSEN, Ms. HASSAN, and Mr. OSSOFF) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end, add the following:

DIVISION E—DEFENSE OF UNITED STATES INFRASTRUCTURE

SEC. 5001. SHORT TITLE.

This division may be cited as the ''Defense of United States Infrastructure Act of 2021''.

SEC. 5002. DEFINITIONS.

In this division:

(1) CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE.—The term ''critical infrastructure'' has the meaning given such term in section 1016(e) of the Critical Infrastructure Protection Act of 2001 (42 U.S.C. 5195c(e)).

(2) CYBERSECURITY RISK.—The term ''cybersecurity risk'' has the meaning given such term in section 2209 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 659).

(3) DEPARTMENT.—The term ''Department'' means the Department of Homeland Security.

(4) SECRETARY.—The term ''Secretary'' means the Secretary of Homeland Security.

TITLE LI—INVESTING IN CYBER RESILIENCY IN CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE

SEC. 5101. NATIONAL RISK MANAGEMENT CYCLE.

(a) AMENDMENTS.—Subtitle A of title XXII of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 651 et seq.) is amended—

(1) in section 2202(c) (6 U.S.C. 652(c))—

(A) in paragraph (11), by striking ''and'' at the end;

(B) in the first paragraph designated as paragraph (12), relating to the Cybersecurity State Coordinator—

(i) by striking ''section 2215'' and inserting ''section 2217''; and

(ii) by striking ''and'' at the end; and

(C) by redesignating the second and third paragraphs designated as paragraph (12) as paragraphs (13) and (14), respectively;

(2) by redesignating section 2217 (6 U.S.C. 665f) as section 2220;

(3) by redesignating section 2216 (6 U.S.C. 665e) as section 2219;

(4) by redesignating the fourth section 2215 (relating to Sector Risk Management Agencies) (6 U.S.C. 665d) as section 2218;

(5) by redesignating the third section 2215 (relating to the Cybersecurity State Coordinator) (6 U.S.C. 665c) as section 2217;

(6) by redesignating the second section 2215 (relating to the Joint Cyber Planning Office) (6 U.S.C. 665b) as section 2216; and

(7) by adding at the end the following:

''SEC. 2220A. NATIONAL RISK MANAGEMENT CYCLE.

''(a) NATIONAL CRITICAL FUNCTIONS DEFINED.—In this section, the term 'national critical functions' means the functions of government and the private sector so vital to the United States that their disruption, corruption, or dysfunction would have a debilitating effect on security, national economic security, national public health or safety, or any combination thereof.

''(b) NATIONAL RISK MANAGEMENT CYCLE.—

''(1) RISK IDENTIFICATION AND ASSESSMENT.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, acting through the Director, shall establish a recurring process by which to identify, assess, and prioritize risks to critical infrastructure, considering both cyber and physical threats, the associated likelihoods, vulnerabilities, and consequences, and the resources necessary to address them.

''(B) CONSULTATION.—In establishing the process required under subparagraph (A), the Secretary shall consult with, and request and collect information to support analysis from, Sector Risk Management Agencies, critical infrastructure owners and operators, the Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs, the Assistant to the President for Homeland Security, and the National Cyber Director.

''(C) PUBLICATION.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this section, the Secretary shall publish in the Federal Register procedures for the process established under subparagraph (A), subject to any redactions the Secretary determines are necessary to protect classified or other sensitive information.

''(D) REPORT.—The Secretary shall submit to the President, the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate, and the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives a report on the risks identified by the process established under subparagraph (A)—

''(i) not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this section; and

''(ii) not later than 1 year after the date on which the Secretary submits a periodic evaluation described in section 9002(b)(2) of title XC of division H of the William M. (Mac) Thornberry National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021 (Public Law 116–283).

''(2) NATIONAL CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE RESILIENCE STRATEGY.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the date on which the Secretary delivers each report required under paragraph (1), the President shall deliver to majority and minority leaders of the Senate, the Speaker and minority leader of the House of Representatives, the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate, and the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives a national critical infrastructure resilience strategy designed to address the risks identified by the Secretary.

''(B) ELEMENTS.—Each strategy delivered under subparagraph (A) shall—

''(i) identify, assess, and prioritize areas of risk to critical infrastructure that would compromise or disrupt national critical functions impacting national security, economic security, or public health and safety;

''(ii) assess the implementation of the previous national critical infrastructure resilience strategy, as applicable;

''(iii) identify and outline current and proposed national-level actions, programs, and efforts to be taken to address the risks identified;

''(iv) identify the Federal departments or agencies responsible for leading each national-level action, program, or effort and the relevant critical infrastructure sectors for each; and

''(v) request any additional authorities necessary to successfully execute the strategy.

''(C) FORM.—Each strategy delivered under subparagraph (A) shall be unclassified, but may contain a classified annex.

''(3) CONGRESSIONAL BRIEFING.—Not later than 1 year after the date on which the President delivers a strategy under this section, and every year thereafter, the Secretary, in coordination with Sector Risk Management Agencies, shall brief the appropriate committees of Congress on—

''(A) the national risk management cycle activities undertaken pursuant to the strategy; and

''(B) the amounts and timeline for funding that the Secretary has determined would be necessary to address risks and successfully execute the full range of activities proposed by the strategy.''.

(b) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents in section 1(b) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (Public Law 107–296; 116 Stat. 2135) is amended by striking the item relating to section 2214 and all that follows through the item relating to section 2217 and inserting the following:

''Sec. 2214. National Asset Database.
''Sec. 2215. Duties and authorities relating to .gov internet domain.
''Sec. 2216. Joint Cyber Planning Office.
''Sec. 2217. Cybersecurity State Coordinator.
''Sec. 2218. Sector Risk Management Agencies.
''Sec. 2219. Cybersecurity Advisory Committee.
''Sec. 2220. Cybersecurity education and training programs.

''Sec. 2220A. National risk management cycle.''.

(2) ADDITIONAL TECHNICAL AMENDMENT.—

(A) AMENDMENT.—Section 904(b)(1) of the DOTGOV Act of 2020 (title IX of division U of Public Law 116–260) is amended, in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking ''Homeland Security Act'' and inserting ''Homeland Security Act of 2002''.

(B) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by subparagraph (A) shall take effect as if enacted as part of the DOTGOV Act of 2020 (title IX of division U of Public Law 116–260).

TITLE LII—IMPROVING THE ABILITY OF THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TO ASSIST IN ENHANCING CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE CYBER RESILIENCE

SEC. 5201. INSTITUTE A 5-YEAR TERM FOR THE DIRECTOR OF THE CYBERSECURITY AND INFRASTRUCTURE SECURITY AGENCY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (b)(1) of section 2202 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 652), is amended by inserting ''The term of office of an individual serving as Director shall be 5 years.'' after ''who shall report to the Secretary.''.

(b) TRANSITION RULES.—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall take effect on the first appointment of an individual to the position of Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, that is made on or after the date of enactment of this Act.

SEC. 5202. CYBER THREAT INFORMATION COLLABORATION ENVIRONMENT PROGRAM.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE INFORMATION.—The term ''critical infrastructure information'' has the meaning given such term in section 2222 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 671).

(2) CYBER THREAT INDICATOR.—The term ''cyber threat indicator'' has the meaning given such term in section 102 of the Cybersecurity Act of 2015 (6 U.S.C. 1501).

(3) CYBERSECURITY THREAT.—The term ''cybersecurity threat'' has the meaning given such term in section 102 of the Cybersecurity Act of 2015 (6 U.S.C. 1501).

(4) ENVIRONMENT.—The term ''environment'' means the information collaboration environment established under subsection (b).

(5) INFORMATION SHARING AND ANALYSIS ORGANIZATION.—The term ''information sharing and analysis organization'' has the meaning given such term in section 2222 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 671).

(6) NON-FEDERAL ENTITY.—The term ''non-Federal entity'' has the meaning given such term in section 102 of the Cybersecurity Act of 2015 (6 U.S.C. 1501).

(b) PROGRAM.—The Secretary, in consultation with the Secretary of Defense, the Director of National Intelligence, and the Attorney General, shall carry out a program under which the Secretary shall develop an information collaboration environment consisting of a digital environment containing technical tools for information analytics and a portal through which relevant parties may submit and automate information inputs and access the environment in order to enable interoperable data flow that enable Federal and non-Federal entities to identify, mitigate, and prevent malicious cyber activity to—

(1) provide limited access to appropriate and operationally relevant data from unclassified and classified intelligence about cybersecurity risks and cybersecurity threats, as well as malware forensics and data from network sensor programs, on a platform that enables query and analysis;

(2) enable cross-correlation of data on cybersecurity risks and cybersecurity threats at the speed and scale necessary for rapid detection and identification;

(3) facilitate a comprehensive understanding of cybersecurity risks and cybersecurity threats; and

(4) facilitate collaborative analysis between the Federal Government and public and private sector critical infrastructure entities and information and analysis organizations.

(c) IMPLEMENTATION OF INFORMATION COLLABORATION ENVIRONMENT.—

(1) EVALUATION.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary, acting through the Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency, and in coordination with the Secretary of Defense, the Director of National Intelligence, and the Attorney General, shall—

(A) identify, inventory, and evaluate existing Federal sources of classified and unclassified information on cybersecurity threats;

(B) evaluate current programs, applications, or platforms intended to detect, identify, analyze, and monitor cybersecurity risks and cybersecurity threats;

(C) consult with public and private sector critical infrastructure entities to identify public and private critical infrastructure cyber threat capabilities, needs, and gaps; and

(D) identify existing tools, capabilities, and systems that may be adapted to achieve the purposes of the environment in order to maximize return on investment and minimize cost.

(2) IMPLEMENTATION.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after completing the evaluation required under paragraph (1)(B), the Secretary, acting through the Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency, and in consultation with the Secretary of Defense, the Director of National Intelligence, and the Attorney General, shall begin implementation of the environment to enable participants in the environment to develop and run analytic tools referred to in subsection (b) on specified data sets for the purpose of identifying, mitigating, and preventing malicious cyber activity that is a threat to public and private critical infrastructure.

(B) REQUIREMENTS.—The environment and the use of analytic tools referred to in subsection (b) shall—

(i) operate in a manner consistent with relevant privacy, civil rights, and civil liberties policies and protections, including such policies and protections established pursuant to section 1016 of the Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act of 2004 (6 U.S.C. 485);

(ii) account for appropriate data interoperability requirements;

(iii) enable integration of current applications, platforms, data, and information, including classified information, in a manner that supports the voluntary integration of unclassified and classified information on cybersecurity risks and cybersecurity threats;

(iv) incorporate tools to manage access to classified and unclassified data, as appropriate;

(v) ensure accessibility by entities the Secretary, in consultation with the Secretary of Defense, the Director of National Intelligence, and the Attorney General, determines appropriate;

(vi) allow for access by critical infrastructure stakeholders and other private sector partners, at the discretion of the Secretary, in consultation with the Secretary of Defense, the Director of National Intelligence, and the Attorney General;

(vii) deploy analytic tools across classification levels to leverage all relevant data sets, as appropriate;

(viii) identify tools and analytical software that can be applied and shared to manipulate, transform, and display data and other identified needs; and

(ix) anticipate the integration of new technologies and data streams, including data from government-sponsored network sensors or network-monitoring programs deployed in support of non-Federal entities.

(3) ANNUAL REPORT REQUIREMENT ON THE IMPLEMENTATION, EXECUTION, AND EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROGRAM.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, and every year thereafter until the date that is 1 year after the program under this section terminates under subsection (g), the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, the Committee on the Judiciary, the Committee on Armed Services, and the Select Committee on Intelligence of the Senate and the Committee on Homeland Security, the Committee on the Judiciary, the Committee on Armed Services, and the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence of the House of Representatives a report that details—

(A) Federal Government participation in the environment, including the Federal entities participating in the environment and the volume of information shared by Federal entities into the environment;

(B) non-Federal entities' participation in the environment, including the non-Federal entities participating in the environment and the volume of information shared by non-Federal entities into the environment;

(C) the impact of the environment on positive security outcomes for the Federal Government and non-Federal entities;

(D) barriers identified to fully realizing the benefit of the environment both for the Federal Government and non-Federal entities;

(E) additional authorities or resources necessary to successfully execute the environment; and

(F) identified shortcomings or risks to data security and privacy, and the steps necessary to improve the mitigation of the shortcomings or risks.

(d) CYBER THREAT DATA INTEROPERABILITY REQUIREMENTS.—

(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary, in coordination with the Secretary of Defense, the Director of National Intelligence, and the Attorney General, shall identify or establish data interoperability requirements for non-Federal entities to participate in the environment.

(2) DATA STREAMS.—The Secretary, in coordination with the heads of appropriate departments and agencies, shall identify, designate, and periodically update programs that shall participate in or be interoperable with the environment, which may include—

(A) network-monitoring and intrusion detection programs;

(B) cyber threat indicator sharing programs;

(C) certain government-sponsored network sensors or network-monitoring programs;

(D) incident response and cybersecurity technical assistance programs; or

(E) malware forensics and reverse-engineering programs.

(3) DATA GOVERNANCE.—The Secretary, in coordination with the Secretary of Defense, the Director of National Intelligence, and the Attorney General, shall establish procedures and data governance structures, as necessary, to protect data shared in the environment, comply with Federal regulations and statutes, and respect existing consent

agreements with private sector critical infrastructure entities that apply to critical infrastructure information.

(4) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this subsection shall change existing ownership or protection of, or policies and processes for access to, agency data.

(e) NATIONAL SECURITY SYSTEMS.—Nothing in this section shall apply to national security systems, as defined in section 3552 of title 44, United States Code, or to cybersecurity threat intelligence related to such systems, without the consent of the relevant element of the intelligence community, as defined in section 3 of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3003).

(f) PROTECTION OF INTELLIGENCE SOURCES AND METHODS.—The Director of National Intelligence shall ensure that any information sharing conducted under this section shall protect intelligence sources and methods from unauthorized disclosure in accordance with section 102A(i) of the National Security Act (50 U.S.C. 3024(i)).

(g) DURATION.—The program under this section shall terminate on the date that is 5 years after the date of enactment of this Act.

TITLE LIII—ENABLING THE NATIONAL CYBER DIRECTOR

SEC. 5401. ESTABLISHMENT OF HIRING AUTHORITIES FOR THE OFFICE OF THE NATIONAL CYBER DIRECTOR.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) DIRECTOR.—The term ''Director'' means the National Cyber Director.

(2) EXCEPTED SERVICE.—The term ''excepted service'' has the meaning given such term in section 2103 of title 5, United States Code.

(3) OFFICE.—The term ''Office'' means the Office of the National Cyber Director.

(4) QUALIFIED POSITION.—The term ''qualified position'' means a position identified by the Director under subsection (b)(1)(A), in which the individual occupying such position performs, manages, or supervises functions that execute the responsibilities of the Office.

(b) HIRING PLAN.—The Director shall, for purposes of carrying out the functions of the Office—

(1) craft an implementation plan for positions in the excepted service in the Office, which shall propose—

(A) qualified positions in the Office, as the Director determines necessary to carry out the responsibilities of the Office; and

(B) subject to the requirements of paragraph (2), rates of compensation for an individual serving in a qualified position;

(2) propose rates of basic pay for qualified positions, which shall—

(A) be determined in relation to the rates of pay provided for employees in comparable positions in the Office, in which the employee occupying the comparable position performs, manages, or supervises functions that execute the mission of the Office; and

(B) subject to the same limitations on maximum rates of pay and consistent with section 5341 of title 5, United States Code, adopt such provisions of that title to provide for prevailing rate systems of basic pay and apply those provisions to qualified positions for employees in or under which the Office may employ individuals described by section 5342(a)(2)(A) of such title; and

(3) craft proposals to provide—

(A) employees in qualified positions compensation (in addition to basic pay), including benefits, incentives, and allowances, consistent with, and not in excess of the level authorized for, comparable positions authorized by title 5, United States Code; and

(B) employees in a qualified position for which the Director proposes a rate of basic pay under paragraph (2) an allowance under section 5941 of title 5, United States Code, on the same basis and to the same extent as if the employee was an employee covered by such section, including eligibility conditions, allowance rates, and all other terms and conditions in law or regulation.

SA 4727. Mr. SULLIVAN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle E of title XII, add the following:

SEC. 1253. DISCLOSURES REQUIRED BY UNITED STATES FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS INVESTING IN PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Defense shall—

(1) require any United States financial institution that makes an investment described subsection (b) to disclose the amount and purpose, and potential impacts on the national defense, of such investments to the Secretary on an annual basis; and

(2) make such disclosures available to the public.

(b) INVESTMENTS DESCRIBED.—An investment described in this subsection is a monetary investment, in an amount that exceeds a threshold to be determined by the Secretary, directly or indirectly—

(1) to—

(A) the People's Republic of China;

(B) an entity owned or controlled by the Chinese Communist Party; or

(C) the People's Liberation Army; or

(2) for the benefit of any key industrial sector sponsored by the Chinese Communist Party.

(c) CONSOLIDATED REPORT.—Not less frequently than annually, the Secretary shall compile the disclosures submitted under subsection (a) and submit that compilation and a summary of those disclosures to the congressional defense committees.

(d) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary shall prescribe such regulations as are necessary to carry out this section, which may include—

(1) requirements for documents and information to be submitted with disclosures required under subsection (a); and

(2) procedures for the determining the amount under subsection (b).

(e) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) FINANCIAL INSTITUTION.—The term ''financial institution''—

(A) has the meaning given that term in section 5312 of title 31, United States Code; and

(B) includes a private equity company, venture capital company, or hedge fund.

(2) UNITED STATES FINANCIAL INSTITUTION.—The term ''United States financial institution'' means a financial institution organized under the laws of the United States or of any jurisdiction within the United States, including a foreign branch of such an institution.

SA 4728. Mr. WARNER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle E of title V, add the following:

SEC. 576. COUNTERING EXTREMISM IN THE ARMED FORCES.

(a) COUNTERING EXTREMISM.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Title 10, United States Code, is amended—

(A) in Part II of subtitle A, by adding at the end the following new chapter:

''CHAPTER 89—COUNTERING EXTREMISM

''1801. Senior Official for Countering Extremism.
''1802. Training and education.
''1803. Data collection and analysis.
''1804. Reporting requirements.
''1805. Definitions.

''§ 1801. Senior Official for Countering Extremism

''(a) DESIGNATION.—The Secretary of Defense shall designate an Under Secretary of Defense as the Senior Official for Countering Extremism.

''(b) DUTIES.—The Senior Official shall—

''(1) coordinate and facilitate programs, resources, and activities within the Department of Defense to counter extremist activities, to include screening of publicly available information and Insider Threat Programs;

''(2) coordinate with Federal, State, and local enforcement organizations to counter extremism within the Department of Defense;

''(3) coordinate with the Secretary of Veterans Affairs on addressing and preventing extremist activities following an individual's separation from the armed forces;

''(4) engage and interact with, and solicit recommendations from, outside experts on extremist activities; and

''(5) perform any additional duties prescribed by the Secretary of Defense, in consultation with the Secretary of Homeland Security.

''§ 1802. Training and education

''(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of each military department, in coordination with the Senior Official for Countering Extremism, shall develop and implement training and education programs and related materials to assist members of the armed forces and civilian employees of the Department of Defense in identifying, preventing, responding to, reporting, and mitigating the risk of extremist activities.

''(b) CONTENT.—The training and education described in subsection (a) shall include specific material for activities determined by the Senior Official for Countering Extremism as high risk for extremist activities, including recruitment activities and separating members of the armed forces.

''(c) REQUIREMENTS.—The Secretary of Defense, in consultation with the Secretary of Homeland Security, shall provide the training and education described in subsection (a)—

''(1) to a member of the armed forces, civilian employee of the Department of Defense, cadet at a military service academy, or an individual in a pre-commissioning program no less than once a year;

''(2) to a member of the armed forces whose discharge (regardless of character of discharge) or release from active duty is anticipated as of a specific date within the time period specified under section 1142(a)(3) of this title;

''(3) to a member of the armed forces performing recruitment activities within the 30 days prior to commencing such activities; and

''(4) additionally as determined by the Secretary of Defense.

''§ 1803. Data collection and analysis

''(a) IN GENERAL.—The Senior Official for Countering Extremism shall establish and maintain a database on extremist activities in the Department of Defense.

''(b) CONTENT.—The database established under subsection (a) shall—

''(1) include records on each allegation, investigation, disciplinary action, and separation related to extremist activities within the Department of Defense;

''(2) include, as appropriate, information related to extremist activities in the armed forces provided by or generated from information from a Federal law enforcement agency; and

''(3) any other requirements prescribed by the Secretary of Defense, in consultation with the Secretary of Homeland Security.

''§ 1804. Reporting requirements

''(a) ANNUAL REPORT.—Not later than December 1 of each year, the Senior Official for Countering Extremism shall submit to Congress a report on the prevalence of extremist activities within the Department of Defense.

''(b) ELEMENTS.—The report required by subsection (a) shall include each of the following elements:

''(1) The number of extremist activity allegations, investigations, disciplinary actions, and separations disaggregated data by the armed force, race, gender, ethnicity, grade, and rank of the principal.

''(2) An analysis and assessment of trends in the incidence and disposition of extremist activities during the year covered by the report.

''(3) Any other matters as determined by the Senior Official for Countering Extremism.

''(c) PUBLICATION.—The Secretary of Defense shall—

''(1) publish on an appropriate publicly available website of the Department of Defense the reports required by subsection (a); and

''(2) ensure that any data included with each such report is made available in a machine-readable format that is downloadable, searchable, and sortable.

''§ 1805. Definitions

''The following definitions apply in this chapter:

''(1) The term 'extremist activities' shall—

''(A) have the meaning prescribed by the Secretary of Defense; and

''(B) include membership in an extremist organization.

''(2) The term 'extremist insider threat' means a member of the armed forces or civilian employee of the Department of Defense with access to government information, systems, or facilities, who—

''(A) can use such access to do harm to the security of the United States; and

''(B) engages in extremist activities.

''(3) The term 'extremist organization' shall have the meaning prescribed by the Secretary of Defense.

''(4) The term 'principal' means a member of the armed forces or civilian employee of the Department of Defense who engages in an extremist activity, or aids, abets, counsels, commands, or procures its commission.''; and

(B) in chapter 39, by inserting after section 985 the following new section:

''§ 986. Prohibition on extremist activities

''(a) PROHIBITION.—An individual who engages in extremist activities may not serve as a member of the armed forces.

''(b) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary of Defense shall prescribe regulations regarding the separation of a member of the armed forces who engages in extremist activities.

''(c) DISSEMINATION OF EXTREMIST CONTENT.—The Secretary of Defense may use extremist content knowingly shared, disseminated, or otherwise made available online (including on social media platforms and accounts) by an individual who serves in an armed force as cause for involuntary separation of such individual from an armed force.

''(d) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

''(1) The term 'extremist activities' has the meaning given such term in section 1805 of this title.

''(2) The term 'extremist content' means content that expresses support for extremist activities (as that term is defined in section 1805 of this title).''.

(2) CLERICAL AMENDMENTS.—

(A) PART II OF SUBTITLE A.—The table of chapters for part II of subtitle A of title 10, United States Code, is amended by inserting after the item relating to chapter 88 the following new item:

''CHAPTER 89—COUNTERING EXTREMISM''.

(B) CHAPTER 39.—The table of sections at the beginning of chapter 39 is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 985 the following new item:

''986. Prohibition on extremist activities.''.

(b) COORDINATION OF EFFORTS WITH INSPECTOR GENERAL.—Section 554(a)(3) of the William M. (Mac) Thornberry National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021 (Public Law 116–283) is amended by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

''(E) The Senior Official for Countering Extremism.''.

(c) REGULATIONS.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense shall prescribe regulations under chapter 89 of title 10, United States Code (including definitions under section 1805 of such title), as added by subsection (a).

(d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall take effect on the day that the Secretary of Defense prescribes regulations under subsection (c).

(e) PROGRESS REPORT.—Not later than 240 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense shall submit to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and House of Representatives a report on the status of the implementation of chapter 89 of title 10, United States Code, as added by subsection (a)(1)(A), and the implementation of section 986 of such title, as added by subsection (a)(1)(B).

SA 4729. Mr. WARNER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle E of title XII, add the following:

SEC. 1253. ELIGIBILITY FOR FOREIGN MILITARY SALES AND EXPORT STATUS UNDER ARMS EXPORT CONTROL ACT.

The Arms Export Control Act (22 U.S.C. 2751 et seq.) is amended—

(1) in sections 3(d)(2)(B), 3(d)(3)(A)(i), 3(d)(5), 21(e)(2)(A), 36(b)(1), 36(b)(2), 36(b)(6), 36(c)(2)(A), 36(c)(5), 36(d)(2)(A), 62(c)(1), and 63(a)(2), by inserting ''India,'' before ''or New Zealand'' each place it appears;

(2) in section 3(b)(2), by inserting ''the Government of India,'' before ''or the Government of New Zealand''; and

(3) in sections 21(h)(1)(A) and 21(h)(2), by inserting ''India,'' before ''or Israel'' each place it appears.

SA 4730. Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself and Mr. RISCH) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end, add the following:

DIVISION E—DEPARTMENT OF STATE AUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2021

SEC. 5001. SHORT TITLE.

This division may be cited as the ''Department of State Authorization Act of 2021''.

SEC. 5002. DEFINITIONS.

In this division:

(1) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.—The term '''appropriate congressional committees''' means the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate and the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives.

(2) DEPARTMENT.—If not otherwise specified, the term '''Department''' means the Department of State.

(3) SECRETARY.—If not otherwise specified, the term '''Secretary''' means the Secretary of State.

TITLE I—ORGANIZATION AND OPERATIONS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE

SEC. 5101. SENSE OF CONGRESS ON IMPORTANCE OF DEPARTMENT OF STATE'S WORK.

It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) United States global engagement is key to a stable and prosperous world;

(2) United States leadership is indispensable in light of the many complex and interconnected threats facing the United States and the world;

(3) diplomacy and development are critical tools of national power, and full deployment of these tools is vital to United States national security;

(4) challenges such as the global refugee and migration crises, terrorism, historic famine and food insecurity, and fragile or repressive societies cannot be addressed without sustained and robust United States diplomatic and development leadership;

(5) the United States Government must use all of the instruments of national security and foreign policy at its disposal to protect United States citizens, promote United States interests and values, and support global stability and prosperity;

(6) United States security and prosperity depend on having partners and allies that share our interests and values, and these partnerships are nurtured and our shared interests and values are promoted through United States diplomatic engagement, security cooperation, economic statecraft, and assistance that helps further economic development, good governance, including the rule of law and democratic institutions, and the development of shared responses to natural and humanitarian disasters;

(7) as the United States Government agencies primarily charged with conducting diplomacy and development, the Department

and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) require sustained and robust funding to carry out this important work, which is essential to our ability to project United States leadership and values and to advance United States interests around the world;

(8) the work of the Department and USAID makes the United States and the world safer and more prosperous by alleviating global poverty and hunger, fighting HIV/AIDS and other infectious diseases, strengthening alliances, expanding educational opportunities for women and girls, promoting good governance and democracy, supporting anti-corruption efforts, driving economic development and trade, preventing armed conflicts and humanitarian crises, and creating American jobs and export opportunities;

(9) the Department and USAID are vital national security agencies, whose work is critical to the projection of United States power and leadership worldwide, and without which Americans would be less safe, United States economic power would be diminished, and global stability and prosperity would suffer;

(10) investing in diplomacy and development before conflicts break out saves American lives while also being cost-effective; and

(11) the contributions of personnel working at the Department and USAID are extraordinarily valuable and allow the United States to maintain its leadership around the world.

SEC. 5102. ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR INTERNATIONAL NARCOTICS AND LAW ENFORCEMENT AFFAIRS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1(c) of the State Department Basic Authorities Act of 1956 (22 U.S.C. 2651a(c)) is amended—

(1) by redesignating paragraphs (3) and (4) as paragraphs (4) and (5); and

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

''(3) ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR INTERNATIONAL NARCOTICS AND LAW ENFORCEMENT AFFAIRS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—There is authorized to be in the Department of State an Assistant Secretary for International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs, who shall be responsible to the Secretary of State for all matters, programs, and related activities pertaining to international narcotics, anti-crime, and law enforcement affairs in the conduct of foreign policy by the Department, including, as appropriate, leading the coordination of programs carried out by United States Government agencies abroad, and such other related duties as the Secretary may from time to time designate.

''(B) AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITY.—The Assistant Secretary for International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs shall maintain continuous observation and coordination of all matters pertaining to international narcotics, anti-crime, and law enforcement affairs in the conduct of foreign policy, including programs carried out by other United States Government agencies when such programs pertain to the following matters:

''(i) Combating international narcotics production and trafficking.

''(ii) Strengthening foreign justice systems, including judicial and prosecutorial capacity, appeals systems, law enforcement agencies, prison systems, and the sharing of recovered assets.

''(iii) Training and equipping foreign police, border control, other government officials, and other civilian law enforcement authorities for anti-crime purposes, including ensuring that no foreign security unit or member of such unit shall receive such assistance from the United States Government absent appropriate vetting.

''(iv) Ensuring the inclusion of human rights and women's participation issues in law enforcement programs, in consultation with the Assistant Secretary for Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor, and other senior officials in regional and thematic bureaus and offices.

''(v) Combating, in conjunction with other relevant bureaus of the Department of State and other United States Government agencies, all forms of transnational organized crime, including human trafficking, illicit trafficking in arms, wildlife, and cultural property, migrant smuggling, corruption, money laundering, the illicit smuggling of bulk cash, the licit use of financial systems for malign purposes, and other new and emerging forms of crime.

''(vi) Identifying and responding to global corruption, including strengthening the capacity of foreign government institutions responsible for addressing financial crimes and engaging with multilateral organizations responsible for monitoring and supporting foreign governments' anti-corruption efforts.

''(C) ADDITIONAL DUTIES.—In addition to the responsibilities specified in subparagraph (B), the Assistant Secretary for International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs shall also—

''(i) carry out timely and substantive consultation with chiefs of mission and, as appropriate, the heads of other United States Government agencies to ensure effective coordination of all international narcotics and law enforcement programs carried out overseas by the Department and such other agencies;

''(ii) coordinate with the Office of National Drug Control Policy to ensure lessons learned from other United States Government agencies are available to the Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs of the Department;

''(iii) develop standard requirements for monitoring and evaluation of Bureau programs, including metrics for success that do not rely solely on the amounts of illegal drugs that are produced or seized;

''(iv) in coordination with the Secretary of State, annually certify in writing to the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate that United States and the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives enforcement personnel posted abroad whose activities are funded to any extent by the Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs are complying with section 207 of the Foreign Service Act of 1980 (22 U.S.C. 3927); and

''(v) carry out such other relevant duties as the Secretary may assign.

''(D) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this paragraph may be construed to limit or impair the authority or responsibility of any other Federal agency with respect to law enforcement, domestic security operations, or intelligence activities as defined in Executive Order 12333.''.

(b) MODIFICATION OF ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL NARCOTICS CONTROL STRATEGY REPORT.—Subsection (a) of section 489 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2291h) is amended by inserting after paragraph (9) the following new paragraph:

''(10) A separate section that contains an identification of all United States Government-supported units funded by the Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs and any Bureau-funded operations by such units in which United States law enforcement personnel have been physically present.''.

SEC. 5103. BUREAU OF CONSULAR AFFAIRS; BUREAU OF POPULATION, REFUGEES, AND MIGRATION.

Section 1 of the State Department Basic Authorities Act of 1956 (22 U.S.C. 2651a) is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsection (g) as subsection (j); and

(2) by inserting after subsection (f) the following new subsections:

''(g) BUREAU OF CONSULAR AFFAIRS.—There is in the Department of State the Bureau of Consular Affairs, which shall be headed by the Assistant Secretary of State for Consular Affairs.

''(h) BUREAU OF POPULATION, REFUGEES, AND MIGRATION.—There is in the Department of State the Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration, which shall be headed by the Assistant Secretary of State for Population, Refugees, and Migration.''.

SEC. 5104. OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL DISABILITY RIGHTS.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There should be established in the Department of State an Office of International Disability Rights (referred to in this section as the ''Office'').

(b) DUTIES.—The Office should—

(1) seek to ensure that all United States foreign operations are accessible to, and inclusive of, persons with disabilities;

(2) promote the human rights and full participation in international development activities of all persons with disabilities;

(3) promote disability inclusive practices and the training of Department of State staff on soliciting quality programs that are fully inclusive of people with disabilities;

(4) represent the United States in diplomatic and multilateral fora on matters relevant to the rights of persons with disabilities, and work to raise the profile of disability across a broader range of organizations contributing to international development efforts;

(5) conduct regular consultation with civil society organizations working to advance international disability rights and empower persons with disabilities internationally;

(6) consult with other relevant offices at the Department that are responsible for drafting annual reports documenting progress on human rights, including, wherever applicable, references to instances of discrimination, prejudice, or abuses of persons with disabilities;

(7) advise the Bureau of Human Resources or its equivalent within the Department regarding the hiring and recruitment and overseas practices of civil service employees and Foreign Service officers with disabilities and their family members with chronic medical conditions or disabilities; and

(8) carry out such other relevant duties as the Secretary of State may assign.

(c) SUPERVISION.—The Office may be headed by—

(1) a senior advisor to the appropriate Assistant Secretary of State; or

(2) an officer exercising significant authority who reports to the President or Secretary of State, appointed by and with the advice and consent of the Senate.

(d) CONSULTATION.—The Secretary of State should direct Ambassadors at Large, Representatives, Special Envoys, and coordinators working on human rights to consult with the Office to promote the human rights and full participation in international development activities of all persons with disabilities.

SEC. 5105. SPECIAL APPOINTMENT AUTHORITY.

Section 1 of the State Department Basic Authorities Act of 1956 (22 U.S.C. 2651a), as amended by section 5103 of this Act, is further amended by inserting after subsection (h) the following new subsection:

''(i) SPECIAL APPOINTMENTS.—

''(1) POSITIONS EXERCISING SIGNIFICANT AUTHORITY.—The President may, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, appoint an individual as a Special Envoy, Special Representative, Special Coordinator, Special Negotiator, Envoy, Representative, Coordinator, Special Advisor, or other position performing a similar function, regardless of title, at the Department of State exercising significant authority pursuant to the laws of the United States. Except as provided in paragraph (3) or in clause 3, section 2, article II of the Constitution (relating to recess appointments), an individual may not be designated as a Special Envoy, Special Representative, Special Coordinator, Special Negotiator, Envoy, Representative, Coordinator, Special Advisor, or other position performing a similar function, regardless of title, at the Department exercising significant authority pursuant to the laws of the United States without the advice and consent of the Senate.

''(2) POSITIONS NOT EXERCISING SIGNIFICANT AUTHORITY.—The President or Secretary of State may appoint any Special Envoy, Special Representative, Special Coordinator, Special Negotiator, Special Envoy, Representative, Coordinator, Special Advisor, or other position performing a similar function, regardless of title, at the Department of State not exercising significant authority pursuant to the laws of the United States without the advice and consent of the Senate, if the President or Secretary, not later than 15 days before the appointment of a person to such a position, submits to the appropriate congressional committees a notification that includes the following:

''(A) A certification that the position does not require the exercise of significant authority pursuant to the laws of the United States.

''(B) A description of the duties and purpose of the position.

''(C) The rationale for giving the specific title and function to the position.

''(3) LIMITED EXCEPTION FOR TEMPORARY APPOINTMENTS EXERCISING SIGNIFICANT AUTHORITY.—The President may maintain or establish a position with the title of Special Envoy, Special Representative, Special Coordinator, Special Negotiator, Envoy, Representative, Coordinator, Special Advisor, or other position performing a similar function, regardless of title, at the Department of State exercising significant authority pursuant to the laws of the United States for not longer than 180 days if the Secretary of State, not later than 15 days after the appointment of a person to such a position, or 30 days after the date of the enactment of this subsection, whichever is earlier, submits to the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate and the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives a notification that includes the following:

''(A) The necessity for conferring such title and function.

''(B) The dates during which such title and function will be held.

''(C) The justification for not submitting the proposed conferral of such title and function to the Senate as a nomination for advice and consent to appointment.

''(D) All relevant information concerning any potential conflict of interest which the proposed recipient of such title and function may have with regard to the appointment.

''(4) RENEWAL OF TEMPORARY APPOINTMENT.—The President may renew for one period not to exceed 180 days any position maintained or established under paragraph (3) if the President, not later than 15 days before issuing such renewal, submits to the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate and the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives a detailed justification on the necessity of such extension, including the dates with respect to which such title will continue to be held and the justification for not submitting such title to the Senate as a nomination for advice and consent.

''(5) EXEMPTION.—Paragraphs (1) through (4) shall not apply to a Special Envoy, Special Representative, Special Coordinator, Special Negotiator, Envoy, Representative, Coordinator, Special Advisor, or other person performing a similar function, regardless of title, at the Department of State if the position is expressly mandated by statute.

''(6) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This subsection shall apply to appointments made on or after January 3, 2023.''.

SEC. 5106. REPEAL OF AUTHORITY FOR SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE AND POLICY COORDINATOR FOR BURMA.

Section 7 of the Tom Lantos Block Burmese Jade (Junta's Anti-Democratic Efforts) Act of 2008 (Public Law 110–286; 50 U.S.C. 1701 note) relating to the establishment of a Special Representative and Policy Coordinator for Burma) is hereby repealed.

SEC. 5107. ANTI-PIRACY INFORMATION SHARING.

The Secretary is authorized to provide for the participation by the United States in the Information Sharing Centre located in Singapore, as established by the Regional Cooperation Agreement on Combating Piracy and Armed Robbery against Ships in Asia (ReCAAP).

SEC. 5108. IMPORTANCE OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS TRAINING TO NATIONAL SECURITY.

It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) the Department is a crucial national security agency, whose employees, both Foreign and Civil Service, require the best possible training at every stage of their careers to prepare them to promote and defend United States national interests and the health and safety of United States citizens abroad;

(2) the Secretary should explore establishing a ''training float'' requiring that a certain percentage of the Foreign Service shall be in long-term training at any given time;

(3) the Department's Foreign Service Institute should seek to substantially increase its educational and training offerings to Department personnel, including developing new and innovative educational and training courses, methods, programs, and opportunities; and

(4) consistent with existing Department gift acceptance authority and other applicable laws, the Department and Foreign Service Institute may accept funds and other resources from foundations, not-for-profit corporations, and other appropriate sources to help the Department and the Institute accomplish the goals specified in paragraph (3).

SEC. 5109. CLASSIFICATION AND ASSIGNMENT OF FOREIGN SERVICE OFFICERS.

The Foreign Service Act of 1980 is amended—

(1) in section 501 (22 U.S.C. 3981), by inserting ''If a position designated under this section is unfilled for more than 365 calendar days, such position may be filled, as appropriate, on a temporary basis, in accordance with section 309.'' after ''Positions designated under this section are excepted from the competitive service.''; and

(2) in paragraph (2) of section 502(a) (22 U.S.C. 3982(a)), by inserting '', or domestically, in a position working on issues relating to a particular country or geographic area,'' after ''geographic area''.

SEC. 5110. REPORTING ON IMPLEMENTATION OF GAO RECOMMENDATIONS.

(a) INITIAL REPORT.—Not later than 120 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report that lists all of the Government Accountability Office's recommendations relating to the Department that have not been fully implemented.

(b) COMPTROLLER GENERAL REPORT.—Not later than 30 days after the Secretary submits the report under subsection (a), the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report that identifies any discrepancies between the list of recommendations included in such report and the Government Accountability Office's list of outstanding recommendations for the Department.

(c) IMPLEMENTATION REPORT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 120 days after the date of the submission of the Comptroller General's report under subsection (b), the Secretary shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report that describes the implementation status of each recommendation from the Government Accountability Office included in the report submitted under subsection (a).

(2) JUSTIFICATION.—The report under paragraph (1) shall include—

(A) a detailed justification for each decision not to fully implement a recommendation or to implement a recommendation in a different manner than specified by the Government Accountability Office;

(B) a timeline for the full implementation of any recommendation the Secretary has decided to adopt, but has not yet fully implemented; and

(C) an explanation for any discrepancies included in the Comptroller General report submitted under subsection (b).

(d) FORM.—The information required in each report under this section shall be submitted in unclassified form, to the maximum extent practicable, but may be included in a classified annex to the extent necessary.

SEC. 5111. EXTENSION OF PERIOD FOR REIMBURSEMENT OF FISHERMEN FOR COSTS INCURRED FROM THE ILLEGAL SEIZURE AND DETENTION OF U.S.-FLAG FISHING VESSELS BY FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (e) of section 7 of the Fishermen's Protective Act of 1967 (22 U.S.C. 1977) is amended to read as follows:

''(e) AMOUNTS.—Payments may be made under this section only to such extent and in such amounts as are provided in advance in appropriation Acts.''.

(b) RETROACTIVE APPLICABILITY.—

(1) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall take effect on the date of the enactment of this Act and apply as if the date specified in subsection (e) of section 7 of the Fishermen's Protective Act of 1967, as in effect on the day before the date of the enactment of this Act, were the day after such date of enactment.

(2) AGREEMENTS AND PAYMENTS.—The Secretary is authorized to—

(A) enter into agreements pursuant to section 7 of the Fishermen's Protective Act of 1967 for any claims to which such section would otherwise apply but for the date specified in subsection (e) of such section, as in effect on the day before the date of the enactment of this Act; and

(B) make payments in accordance with agreements entered into pursuant to such section if any such payments have not been made as a result of the expiration of the date specified in such section, as in effect on the day before the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 5112. ART IN EMBASSIES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—No funds are authorized to be appropriated for the purchase of any piece of art for the purposes of installation or display in any embassy, consulate, or

other foreign mission of the United States if the purchase price of such piece of art is in excess of $50,000, unless such purchase is subject to prior consultation with, and the regular notification procedures of, the appropriate congressional committees.

(b) REPORT.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees and the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives a report on the costs of the Art in Embassies Program for each of fiscal years 2012, 2013, and 2014.

(c) SUNSET.—This section shall terminate on the date that is 2 years after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(d) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term ''art'' includes paintings, sculptures, photographs, industrial design, and craft art.

SEC. 5113. AMENDMENT OR REPEAL OF REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.

(a) BURMA.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 570 of Public Law 104–208 is amended—

(A) by amending subsection (c) to read as follows:

''(c) MULTILATERAL STRATEGY.—The President shall develop, in coordination with likeminded countries, a comprehensive, multilateral strategy to—

''(1) assist Burma in addressing corrosive malign influence of the People's Republic of China; and

''(2) support a return to democratic governance, and support constitutional, economic, and security sector reforms in Burma designed to—

''(A) advance democratic development and improve human rights practices and the quality of life; and

''(B) promote genuine national reconciliation.''; and

(B) in subsection (d)—

(i) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking ''six months'' and inserting ''year'';

(ii) by redesignating paragraph (3) as paragraph (7); and

(iii) by inserting after paragraph (2) the following new paragraphs:

''(3) improvements in human rights practices;

''(4) progress toward broad-based and inclusive economic growth; and

''(5) progress toward genuine national reconciliation.''.

(2) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by paragraph (1) shall take effect on the date of the enactment of this Act and apply with respect to the first report required under subsection (d) of section 570 of Public Law 104–208 that is required after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(b) REPEALS.—The following provisions of law are hereby repealed:

(1) Subsection (b) of section 804 of Public Law 101–246.

(2) Section 6 of Public Law 104–45.

(3) Subsection (c) of section 702 of Public Law 96–465 (22 U.S.C. 4022).

(4) Section 404 of the Arms Control and Disarmament Act (22 U.S.C. 2593b).

(5) Section 5 of Public Law 94–304 (22 U.S.C. 3005).

(6) Subsection (b) of section 502 of the International Security and Development Cooperation Act of 1985 (22 U.S.C. 2349aa–7).

(c) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State and the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report that includes each of the following:

(1) A list of all reports described in subsection (d) required to be submitted by their respective agency.

(2) For each such report, a citation to the provision of law under which the report is required to be submitted.

(3) The reporting frequency of each such report.

(4) The estimated cost of each report, to include personnel time costs.

(d) COVERED REPORTS.—A report described in this subsection is a recurring report that is required to be submitted to Congress by the Department of State or the United States Agency for International Development, or by any officer, official, component, or element of each entity.

(e) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES DEFINED.—In this section, the term ''appropriate congressional committees'' means the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate and the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives and the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives.

TITLE II—EMBASSY CONSTRUCTION

SEC. 5201. EMBASSY SECURITY, CONSTRUCTION, AND MAINTENANCE.

For ''Embassy Security, Construction, and Maintenance'', there is authorized to be appropriated $1,975,449,000 for fiscal year 2022.

SEC. 5202. STANDARD DESIGN IN CAPITAL CONSTRUCTION.

(a) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that the Department's Bureau of Overseas Building Operations (OBO) or successor office should give appropriate consideration to standardization in construction, in which each new United States embassy and consulate starts with a standard design and keeps customization to a minimum.

(b) CONSULTATION.—The Secretary shall carry out any new United States embassy compound or new consulate compound project that utilizes a non-standard design, including those projects that are in the design or pre-design phase as of the date of the enactment of this Act, only in consultation with the appropriate congressional committees. The Secretary shall provide the appropriate congressional committees, for each such project, the following documentation:

(1) A comparison of the estimated full lifecycle costs of the project to the estimated full lifecycle costs of such project if it were to use a standard design.

(2) A comparison of the estimated completion date of such project to the estimated completion date of such project if it were to use a standard design.

(3) A comparison of the security of the completed project to the security of such completed project if it were to use a standard design.

(4) A justification for the Secretary's selection of a non-standard design over a standard design for such project.

(5) A written explanation if any of the documentation necessary to support the comparisons and justification, as the case may be, described in paragraphs (1) through (4) cannot be provided.

(c) SUNSET.—The consultation requirement under subsection (b) shall expire on the date that is 4 years after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 5203. CAPITAL CONSTRUCTION TRANSPARENCY.

Section 118 of the Department of State Authorities Act, Fiscal Year 2017 (22 U.S.C. 304) is amended—

(1) in the section heading , by striking ''**ANNUAL REPORT ON EMBASSY CONSTRUCTION COSTS**'' and inserting ''**BIANNUAL REPORT ON OVERSEAS CAPITAL CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS**''; and

(2) by striking subsections (a) and (b) and inserting the following new subsections:

''(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this subsection and every 180 days thereafter until the date that is 4 years after such date of enactment, the Secretary shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees and the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives a comprehensive report regarding all ongoing overseas capital construction projects and major embassy security upgrade projects.

''(b) CONTENTS.—Each report required under subsection (a) shall include the following with respect to each ongoing overseas capital construction project and major embassy security upgrade project:

''(1) The initial cost estimate as specified in the proposed allocation of capital construction and maintenance funds required by the Committees on Appropriations for Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs.

''(2) The current cost estimate.

''(3) The value of each request for equitable adjustment received by the Department to date.

''(4) The value of each certified claim received by the Department to date.

''(5) The value of any usage of the project's contingency fund to date and the value of the remainder of the project's contingency fund.

''(6) An enumerated list of each request for adjustment and certified claim that remains outstanding or unresolved.

''(7) An enumerated list of each request for equitable adjustment and certified claim that has been fully adjudicated or that the Department has settled, and the final dollar amount of each adjudication or settlement.

''(8) The date of estimated completion specified in the proposed allocation of capital construction and maintenance funds required by the Committees on Appropriations not later than 45 days after the date of the enactment of an Act making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs.

''(9) The current date of estimated completion.''.

SEC. 5204. CONTRACTOR PERFORMANCE INFORMATION.

(a) DEADLINE FOR COMPLETION.—The Secretary shall complete all contractor performance evaluations outstanding as of the date of the enactment of this Act required by subpart 42.15 of the Federal Acquisition Regulation for those contractors engaged in construction of new embassy or new consulate compounds by April 1, 2022.

(b) PRIORITIZATION SYSTEM.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall develop a prioritization system for clearing the current backlog of required evaluations referred to in subsection (a).

(2) ELEMENTS.—The system required under paragraph (1) should prioritize the evaluations as follows:

(A) Project completion evaluations should be prioritized over annual evaluations.

(B) Evaluations for relatively large contracts should have priority.

(C) Evaluations that would be particularly informative for the awarding of government contracts should have priority.

(c) BRIEFING.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall brief the appropriate congressional committees on the Department's plan for completing all evaluations by April 1, 2022, in accordance with subsection (a) and the prioritization system developed pursuant to subsection (b).

(d) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) contractors deciding whether to bid on Department contracts would benefit from

greater understanding of the Department as a client; and

(2) the Department should develop a forum where contractors can comment on the Department's project management performance.

SEC. 5205. GROWTH PROJECTIONS FOR NEW EMBASSIES AND CONSULATES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—For each new United States embassy compound (NEC) and new consulate compound project (NCC) in or not yet in the design phase as of the date of the enactment of this Act, the Department shall project growth over the estimated life of the facility using all available and relevant data, including the following:

(1) Relevant historical trends for Department personnel and personnel from other agencies represented at the NEC or NCC that is to be constructed.

(2) An analysis of the tradeoffs between risk and the needs of United States Government policy conducted as part of the most recent Vital Presence Validation Process, if applicable.

(3) Reasonable assumptions about the strategic importance of the NEC or NCC, as the case may be, over the life of the building at issue.

(4) Any other data that would be helpful in projecting the future growth of NEC or NCC.

(b) OTHER FEDERAL AGENCIES.—The head of each Federal agency represented at a United States embassy or consulate shall provide to the Secretary, upon request, growth projections for the personnel of each such agency over the estimated life of each embassy or consulate, as the case may be.

(c) BASIS FOR ESTIMATES.—The Department shall base its growth assumption for all NECs and NCCs on the estimates required under subsections (a) and (b).

(d) CONGRESSIONAL NOTIFICATION.—Any congressional notification of site selection for a NEC or NCC submitted after the date of the enactment of this Act shall include the growth assumption used pursuant to subsection (c).

SEC. 5206. LONG-RANGE PLANNING PROCESS.

(a) PLANS REQUIRED.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter for the next five years as the Secretary of State considers appropriate, the Secretary shall develop—

(A) a comprehensive 6-year plan documenting the Department's overseas building program for the replacement of overseas diplomatic posts taking into account security factors under the Secure Embassy Construction and Counterterrorism Act of 1999 and other relevant statutes and regulations, as well as occupational safety and health factors pursuant to the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 and other relevant statutes and regulations, including environmental factors such as indoor air quality that impact employee health and safety; and

(B) a comprehensive 6-year plan detailing the Department's long-term planning for the maintenance and sustainment of completed diplomatic posts, which takes into account security factors under the Secure Embassy Construction and Counterterrorism Act of 1999 and other relevant statutes and regulations, as well as occupational safety and health factors pursuant to the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 and other relevant statutes and regulations, including environmental factors such as indoor air quality that impact employee health and safety.

(2) INITIAL REPORT.—The first plan developed pursuant to paragraph (1)(A) shall also include a one-time status report on existing small diplomatic posts and a strategy for establishing a physical diplomatic presence in countries in which there is no current physical diplomatic presence and with which the United States maintains diplomatic relations. Such report, which may include a classified annex, shall include the following:

(A) A description of the extent to which each small diplomatic post furthers the national interest of the United States.

(B) A description of how each small diplomatic post provides American Citizen Services, including data on specific services provided and the number of Americans receiving services over the previous year.

(C) A description of whether each small diplomatic post meets current security requirements.

(D) A description of the full financial cost of maintaining each small diplomatic post.

(E) Input from the relevant chiefs of mission on any unique operational or policy value the small diplomatic post provides.

(F) A recommendation of whether any small diplomatic posts should be closed.

(3) UPDATED INFORMATION.—The annual updates of each of the plans developed pursuant to paragraph (1) shall highlight any changes from the previous year's plan to the ordering of construction and maintenance projects.

(b) REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.—

(1) SUBMISSION OF PLANS TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 60 days after the completion of each plan required under subsection (a), the Secretary shall submit the plans to the appropriate congressional committees and the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives.

(2) REFERENCE IN BUDGET JUSTIFICATION MATERIALS.—In the budget justification materials submitted to the appropriate congressional committees in support of the Department's budget for any fiscal year (as submitted with the budget of the President under section 1105(a) of title 31, United States Code), the plans required under subsection (a) shall be referenced to justify funding requested for building and maintenance projects overseas.

(3) FORM OF REPORT.—Each report required under paragraph (1) shall be submitted in unclassified form but may include a classified annex.

(c) SMALL DIPLOMATIC POST DEFINED.—In this section, the term ''small diplomatic post'' means any United States embassy or consulate that has employed five or fewer United States Government employees or contractors on average over the 36 months prior to the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 5207. VALUE ENGINEERING AND RISK ASSESSMENT.

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

(1) Federal departments and agencies are required to use value engineering (VE) as a management tool, where appropriate, to reduce program and acquisition costs pursuant to OMB Circular A–131, Value Engineering, dated December 31, 2013.

(2) OBO has a Policy Directive and Standard Operation Procedure, dated May 24, 2017, on conducting risk management studies on all international construction projects.

(b) NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS.—

(1) SUBMISSION TO AUTHORIZING COMMITTEES.—Any operating plan that includes the allocation of capital construction and maintenance funds shall be submitted to the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate and the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives.

(2) REQUIREMENT TO CONFIRM COMPLETION OF VALUE ENGINEERING AND RISK ASSESSMENT STUDIES.—The notifications required under paragraph (1) shall include confirmation that the Department has completed the requisite VE and risk management process described in subsection (a), or applicable successor process.

(c) REPORTING AND BRIEFING REQUIREMENTS.—The Secretary shall provide to the appropriate congressional committees upon request—

(1) a description of each risk management study referred to in subsection (a)(2) and a table detailing which recommendations related to each such study were accepted and which were rejected; and

(2) a report or briefing detailing the rationale for not implementing any such recommendations that may otherwise yield significant cost savings to the Department if implemented.

SEC. 5208. BUSINESS VOLUME.

Section 402(c)(2)(E) of the Omnibus Diplomatic Security and Antiterrorism Act of 1986 (22 U.S.C. 4852(c)(2)(E)) is amended by striking ''in 3 years'' and inserting ''cumulatively over 3 years''.

SEC. 5209. EMBASSY SECURITY REQUESTS AND DEFICIENCIES.

The Secretary of State shall provide to the appropriate congressional committees, the Committee on Armed Services of the House of Representatives, and the Committee on Armed Services of the Senate upon request information on physical security deficiencies at United States diplomatic posts, including relating to the following:

(1) Requests made over the previous year by United States diplomatic posts for security upgrades.

(2) Significant security deficiencies at United States diplomatic posts that are not operating out of a new embassy compound or new consulate compound.

SEC. 5210. OVERSEAS SECURITY BRIEFINGS.

Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall revise the Foreign Affairs Manual to stipulate that information on the current threat environment shall be provided to all United States Government employees under chief of mission authority traveling to a foreign country on official business. To the extent practicable, such material shall be provided to such employees prior to their arrival at a United States diplomatic post or as soon as possible thereafter.

SEC. 5211. CONTRACTING METHODS IN CAPITAL CONSTRUCTION.

(a) DELIVERY.—Unless the Secretary of State notifies the appropriate congressional committees that the use of the design-build project delivery method would not be appropriate, the Secretary shall make use of such method at United States diplomatic posts that have not yet received design or capital construction contracts as of the date of the enactment of this Act.

(b) NOTIFICATION.—Before executing a contract for a delivery method other than design-build in accordance with subsection (a), the Secretary of State shall notify the appropriate congressional committees in writing of the decision, including the reasons therefor. The notification required by this subsection may be included in any other report regarding a new United States diplomatic post that is required to be submitted to the appropriate congressional committees.

(c) PERFORMANCE EVALUATION.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall report to the appropriate congressional committees regarding performance evaluation measures in accordance with GAO's ''Standards for Internal Control in the Federal Government'' that will be applicable to design and construction, lifecycle cost, and building maintenance programs of the Bureau of Overseas Building Operations of the Department.

SEC. 5212. COMPETITION IN EMBASSY CONSTRUCTION.

Not later than 45 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of

State shall submit to the appropriate congressional committee and the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives a report detailing steps the Department of State is taking to expand the embassy construction contractor base in order to increase competition and maximize value.

SEC. 5213. STATEMENT OF POLICY.

It is the policy of the United States that the Bureau of Overseas Building Operations of the Department or its successor office shall continue to balance functionality and security with accessibility, as defined by guidelines established by the United States Access Board in constructing embassies and consulates, and shall ensure compliance with the Architectural Barriers Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 4151 et seq.) to the fullest extent possible.

SEC. 5214. DEFINITIONS.

In this title:

(1) DESIGN-BUILD.—The term ''design-build'' means a method of project delivery in which one entity works under a single contract with the Department to provide design and construction services.

(2) NON-STANDARD DESIGN.—The term ''non-standard design'' means a design for a new embassy compound project or new consulate compound project that does not utilize a standardized design for the structural, spatial, or security requirements of such embassy compound or consulate compound, as the case may be.

TITLE III—PERSONNEL ISSUES

SEC. 5301. DEFENSE BASE ACT INSURANCE WAIVERS.

(a) APPLICATION FOR WAIVERS.—Not later than 30 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall apply to the Department of Labor for a waiver from insurance requirements under the Defense Base Act (42 U.S.C. 1651 et seq.) for all countries with respect to which the requirement was waived prior to January 2017, and for which there is not currently a waiver.

(b) CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENT.—Not later than 45 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall certify to the appropriate congressional committees that the requirement in subsection (a) has been met.

SEC. 5302. STUDY ON FOREIGN SERVICE ALLOWANCES.

(a) REPORT REQUIRED.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than one year after date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report detailing an empirical analysis on the effect of overseas allowances on the foreign assignment of Foreign Service officers (FSOs), to be conducted by a federally-funded research and development center with appropriate expertise in labor economics and military compensation.

(2) CONTENTS.—The analysis required under paragraph (1) shall—

(A) identify all allowances paid to FSOs assigned permanently or on temporary duty to foreign areas;

(B) examine the efficiency of the Foreign Service bidding system in determining foreign assignments;

(C) examine the factors that incentivize FSOs to bid on particular assignments, including danger levels and hardship conditions;

(D) examine the Department's strategy and process for incentivizing FSOs to bid on assignments that are historically in lower demand, including with monetary compensation, and whether monetary compensation is necessary for assignments in higher demand;

(E) make any relevant comparisons to military compensation and allowances, noting which allowances are shared or based on the same regulations;

(F) recommend options for restructuring allowances to improve the efficiency of the assignments system and better align FSO incentives with the needs of the Foreign Service, including any cost savings associated with such restructuring;

(G) recommend any statutory changes necessary to implement subparagraph (F), such as consolidating existing legal authorities for the provision of hardship and danger pay; and

(H) detail any effects of recommendations made pursuant to subparagraphs (F) and (G) on other United States Government departments and agencies with civilian employees permanently assigned or on temporary duty in foreign areas, following consultation with such departments and agencies.

(b) BRIEFING REQUIREMENT.—Before initiating the analysis required under subsection (a)(1), and not later than 60 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall provide to the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate and the Committee on Foreign Affairs in the House of Representatives a briefing on the implementation of this section that includes the following:

(1) The name of the federally funded research and development center that will conduct such analysis.

(2) The scope of such analysis and terms of reference for such analysis as specified between the Department and such federally funded research and development center.

(c) AVAILABILITY OF INFORMATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall make available to the federally-funded research and development center carrying out the analysis required under subsection (a)(1) all necessary and relevant information to allow such center to conduct such analysis in a quantitative and analytical manner, including historical data on the number of bids for each foreign assignment and any survey data collected by the Department from eligible bidders on their bid decision-making.

(2) COOPERATION.—The Secretary shall work with the heads of other relevant United States Government departments and agencies to ensure such departments and agencies provide all necessary and relevant information to the federally-funded research and development center carrying out the analysis required under subsection (a)(1).

(d) INTERIM REPORT TO CONGRESS.—The Secretary shall require that the chief executive officer of the federally-funded research and development center that carries out the analysis required under subsection (a)(1) submit to the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate and the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives an interim report on such analysis not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 5303. SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY FELLOWSHIPS.

Section 504 of the Foreign Relations Authorization Act, Fiscal Year 1979 (22 U.S.C. 2656d) is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

''(e) GRANTS AND COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS RELATED TO SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY FELLOWSHIP PROGRAMS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary is authorized to make grants or enter into cooperative agreements related to Department of State science and technology fellowship programs, including for assistance in recruiting fellows and the payment of stipends, travel, and other appropriate expenses to fellows.

''(2) EXCLUSION FROM CONSIDERATION AS COMPENSATION.—Stipends under paragraph (1) shall not be considered compensation for purposes of section 209 of title 18, United States Code.

''(3) MAXIMUM ANNUAL AMOUNT.—The total amount of grants made pursuant to this subsection may not exceed $500,000 in any fiscal year.''.

SEC. 5304. TRAVEL FOR SEPARATED FAMILIES.

Section 901(15) of the Foreign Service Act of 1980 (22 U.S.C. 4081(15)) is amended—

(1) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking ''1 round-trip per year for each child below age 21 of a member of the Service assigned abroad'' and inserting ''in the case of one or more children below age 21 of a member of the Service assigned abroad, 1 round-trip per year'';

(2) in subparagraph (A)—

(A) by inserting ''for each child'' before ''to visit the member abroad''; and

(B) by striking ''; or'' and inserting a comma;

(3) in subparagraph (B)—

(A) by inserting ''for each child'' before ''to visit the other parent''; and

(B) by inserting ''or'' after ''resides,'';

(4) by inserting after subparagraph (B) the following new subparagraph:

''(C) for one of the child's parents to visit the child or children abroad if the child or children do not regularly reside with that parent and that parent is not receiving an education allowance or educational travel allowance for the child or children under section 5924(4) of title 5, United States Code,''; and

(5) in the matter following subparagraph (C), as added by paragraph (4) of this section, by striking ''a payment'' and inserting ''the cost of round-trip travel''.

SEC. 5305. HOME LEAVE TRAVEL FOR SEPARATED FAMILIES.

Section 903(b) of the Foreign Service Act of 1980 (22 U.S.C. 4083(b)) is amended by adding at the end the following new sentence: ''In cases in which a member of the Service has official orders to an unaccompanied post and in which the family members of the member reside apart from the member at authorized locations outside the United States, the member may take the leave ordered under this section where that member's family members reside, notwithstanding section 6305 of title 5, United States Code.''.

SEC. 5306. SENSE OF CONGRESS REGARDING CERTAIN FELLOWSHIP PROGRAMS.

It is the sense of Congress that Department fellowships that promote the employment of candidates belonging to under-represented groups, including the Charles B. Rangel International Affairs Graduate Fellowship Program, the Thomas R. Pickering Foreign Affairs Fellowship Program, and the Donald M. Payne International Development Fellowship Program, represent smart investments vital for building a strong, capable, and representative national security workforce.

SEC. 5307. TECHNICAL CORRECTION.

Subparagraph (A) of section 601(c)(6) of the Foreign Service Act of 1980 (22 U.S.C. 4001(c)(6)) is amended, in the matter preceding clause (i), by—

(1) striking ''promotion'' and inserting ''promotion, on or after January 1, 2017,''; and

(2) striking ''individual joining the Service on or after January 1, 2017,'' and inserting ''Foreign Service officer, appointed under section 302(a)(1), who has general responsibility for carrying out the functions of the Service''.

SEC. 5308. FOREIGN SERVICE AWARDS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 614 of the Foreign Service Act of 1980 (22 U.S.C. 4013) is amended—

(1) by amending the section heading to read as follows: ''DEPARTMENT AWARDS''; and

(2) in the first sentence, by inserting ''or Civil Service'' after ''the Service''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The item relating to section 614 in the table of contents of the Foreign Service Act of 1980 is amended to read as follows:

''Sec. 614. Department awards.''.

SEC. 5309. DIPLOMATIC PROGRAMS.

(a) SENSE OF CONGRESS ON WORKFORCE RECRUITMENT.—It is the sense of Congress that the Secretary should continue to hold entry-level classes for Foreign Service officers and specialists and continue to recruit civil servants through programs such as the Presidential Management Fellows Program and Pathways Internship Programs in a manner and at a frequency consistent with prior years and consistent with the need to maintain a pool of experienced personnel effectively distributed across skill codes and ranks. It is further the sense of Congress that absent continuous recruitment and training of Foreign Service officers and civil servants, the Department will lack experienced, qualified personnel in the short, medium, and long terms.

(b) LIMITATION.—The Secretary should not implement any reduction-in-force action under section 3502 or 3595 of title 5, United States Code, or for any incentive payments for early separation or retirement under any other provision of law unless—

(1) the appropriate congressional committees are notified not less than 15 days in advance of such obligation or expenditure; and

(2) the Secretary has provided to the appropriate congressional committees a detailed report that describes the Department's strategic staffing goals, including—

(A) a justification that describes how any proposed workforce reduction enhances the effectiveness of the Department;

(B) a certification that such workforce reduction is in the national interest of the United States;

(C) a comprehensive strategic staffing plan for the Department, including 5-year workforce forecasting and a description of the anticipated impact of any proposed workforce reduction; and

(D) a dataset displaying comprehensive workforce data for all current and planned employees of the Department, disaggregated by—

(i) Foreign Service officer and Foreign Service specialist rank;

(ii) civil service job skill code, grade level, and bureau of assignment;

(iii) contracted employees, including the equivalent job skill code and bureau of assignment; and

(iv) employees hired under schedule C of subpart C of part 213 of title 5, Code of Federal Regulations, including their equivalent grade and job skill code and bureau of assignment.

SEC. 5310. SENSE OF CONGRESS REGARDING VETERANS EMPLOYMENT AT THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE.

It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) the Department should continue to promote the employment of veterans, in accordance with section 301 of the Foreign Service Act of 1980 (22 U.S.C. 3941), as amended by section 5406 of this Act, including those veterans belonging to traditionally underrepresented groups at the Department;

(2) veterans employed by the Department have made significant contributions to United States foreign policy in a variety of regional and global affairs bureaus and diplomatic posts overseas; and

(3) the Department should continue to encourage veteran employment and facilitate their participation in the workforce.

SEC. 5311. EMPLOYEE ASSIGNMENT RESTRICTIONS AND PRECLUSIONS.

(a) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that the Department should expand the appeal process it makes available to employees related to assignment preclusions and restrictions.

(b) APPEAL OF ASSIGNMENT RESTRICTION OR PRECLUSION.—Subsection (a) of section 414 of the Department of State Authorities Act, Fiscal Year 2017 (22 U.S.C. 2734c(a)) is amended by adding at the end the following new sentences: ''Such right and process shall ensure that any employee subjected to an assignment restriction or preclusion shall have the same appeal rights as provided by the Department regarding denial or revocation of a security clearance. Any such appeal shall be resolved not later than 60 days after such appeal is filed.''.

(c) NOTICE AND CERTIFICATION.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall revise, and certify to the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate and the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives regarding such revision, the Foreign Affairs Manual guidance regarding denial or revocation of a security clearance to expressly state that all review and appeal rights relating thereto shall also apply to any recommendation or decision to impose an assignment restriction or preclusion to an employee.

SEC. 5312. RECALL AND REEMPLOYMENT OF CAREER MEMBERS.

(a) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) career Department employees provide invaluable service to the United States as nonpartisan professionals who contribute subject matter expertise and professional skills to the successful development and execution of United States foreign policy; and

(2) reemployment of skilled former members of the Foreign and civil service who have voluntarily separated from the Foreign or civil service due to family reasons or to obtain professional skills outside government is of benefit to the Department.

(b) NOTICE OF EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES.—Title 5, United States Code, is amended by inserting after chapter 102 the following new chapter:

''CHAPTER 103—DEPARTMENT OF STATE

''Sec.

''10301. Notice of employment opportunities for Department of State and USAID positions.

''10302. Consulting services for the Department of State.

''§ 10301. Notice of employment opportunities for Department of State and USAID positions

''To ensure that individuals who have separated from the Department of State or the United States Agency for International Development and who are eligible for reappointment are aware of such opportunities, the Department of State and the United States Agency for International Development shall publicize notice of all employment opportunities, including positions for which the relevant agency is accepting applications from individuals within the agency's workforce under merit promotion procedures, on publicly accessible sites, including www.usajobs.gov. If using merit promotion procedures, the notice shall expressly state that former employees eligible for reinstatement may apply.''.

(c) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of chapters at the beginning of title 5, United States Code, is amended by inserting after the item relating to chapter 102 the following:

''103. Department of State .....10301.''.

SEC. 5313. STRATEGIC STAFFING PLAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 18 months after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees and the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives a comprehensive 5-year strategic staffing plan for the Department that is aligned with and furthers the objectives of the National Security Strategy of the United States of America issued in December 2017, or any subsequent strategy issued not later than 18 months after the date of the enactment of this Act, which shall include the following:

(1) A dataset displaying comprehensive workforce data, including all shortages in bureaus described in GAO report GAO–19–220, for all current and planned employees of the Department, disaggregated by—

(A) Foreign Service officer and Foreign Service specialist rank;

(B) civil service job skill code, grade level, and bureau of assignment;

(C) contracted employees, including the equivalent job skill code and bureau of assignment; and

(D) employees hired under schedule C of subpart C of part 213 of title 5, Code of Federal Regulations, including the equivalent grade and job skill code and bureau of assignment of such employee.

(2) Recommendations on the number of Foreign Service officers disaggregated by service cone that should be posted at each United States diplomatic post and in the District of Columbia, with a detailed basis for such recommendations.

(3) Recommendations on the number of civil service officers that should be employed by the Department, with a detailed basis for such recommendations.

(b) MAINTENANCE.—The dataset required under subsection (a)(1) shall be maintained and updated on a regular basis.

(c) CONSULTATION.—The Secretary shall lead the development of the plan required under subsection (a) but may consult or partner with private sector entities with expertise in labor economics, management, or human resources, as well as organizations familiar with the demands and needs of the Department's workforce.

(d) REPORT.—Not later than 120 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report regarding root causes of Foreign Service and civil service shortages, the effect of such shortages on national security objectives, and the Department's plan to implement recommendations described in GAO–19–220.

SEC. 5314. CONSULTING SERVICES.

Chapter 103 of title 5, United States Code, as added by section 5312, is amended by adding at the end the following:

''§ 10302. Consulting services for the Department of State

''Any consulting service obtained by the Department of State through procurement contract pursuant to section 3109 of title 5, United States Code, shall be limited to those contracts with respect to which expenditures are a matter of public record and available for public inspection, except if otherwise provided under existing law, or under existing Executive order issued pursuant to existing law.''.

SEC. 5315. INCENTIVES FOR CRITICAL POSTS.

Section 1115(d) of the Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2009 (Public Law 111–32) is amended by striking the last sentence.

SEC. 5316. EXTENSION OF AUTHORITY FOR CERTAIN ACCOUNTABILITY REVIEW BOARDS.

Section 301(a)(3) of the Omnibus Diplomatic Security and Antiterrorism Act of 1986 (22 U.S.C. 4831(a)(3)) is amended—

(1) in the heading, by striking ''AFGHANISTAN AND'' and inserting ''AFGHANISTAN, YEMEN, SYRIA, AND''; and

(2) in subparagraph (A)—

(A) in clause (i), by striking ''Afghanistan or'' and inserting ''Afghanistan, Yemen, Syria, or''; and

(B) in clause (ii), by striking ''beginning on October 1, 2005, and ending on September 30, 2009'' and inserting ''beginning on October 1, 2020, and ending on September 30, 2022''.

SEC. 5317. FOREIGN SERVICE SUSPENSION WITHOUT PAY.

Subsection (c) of section 610 of the Foreign Service Act of 1980 (22 U.S.C. 4010) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking ''suspend'' and inserting ''indefinitely suspend without duties'';

(2) by redesignating paragraph (5) as paragraph (7);

(3) by inserting after paragraph (4) the following new paragraphs:

''(5) Any member of the Service suspended from duties under this subsection may be suspended without pay only after a final written decision is provided to such member under paragraph (2).

''(6) If no final written decision under paragraph (2) has been provided within 1 calendar year of the date the suspension at issue was proposed, not later than 30 days thereafter the Secretary of State shall report to the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate in writing regarding the specific reasons for such delay.''; and

(4) in paragraph (7), as so redesignated—

(A) by striking ''(7) In this subsection:'';

(B) in subparagraph (A), by striking ''(A) The term'' and inserting the following:

''(7) In this subsection, the term'';

(C) by striking subparagraph (B) (relating to the definition of ''suspend'' and ''suspension''); and

(D) by redesignating clauses (i) and (ii) as subparagraphs (A) and (B), respectively; and moving such subparagraphs 2 ems to the left.

SEC. 5318. FOREIGN AFFAIRS MANUAL AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS HANDBOOK CHANGES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, and every 180 days thereafter for 5 years, the Secretary shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report detailing all changes made to the Foreign Affairs Manual or the Foreign Affairs Handbook.

(b) COVERED PERIODS.—The first report required under subsection (a) shall cover the 5-year period preceding the submission of such report. Each subsequent report shall cover the 180-day period preceding submission.

(c) CONTENTS.—Each report required under subsection (a) shall contain the following:

(1) The location within the Foreign Affairs Manual or the Foreign Affairs Handbook where a change has been made.

(2) The statutory basis for each such change.

(3) A side-by-side comparison of the Foreign Affairs Manual or Foreign Affairs Handbook before and after such change.

(4) A summary of such changes displayed in spreadsheet form.

SEC. 5319. WAIVER AUTHORITY FOR INDIVIDUAL OCCUPATIONAL REQUIREMENTS OF CERTAIN POSITIONS.

The Secretary of State may waive any or all of the individual occupational requirements with respect to an employee or prospective employee of the Department of State for a civilian position categorized under the GS–0130 occupational series if the Secretary determines that the individual possesses significant scientific, technological, engineering, or mathematical expertise that is integral to performing the duties of the applicable position, based on demonstrated job performance and qualifying experience. With respect to each waiver granted under this subsection, the Secretary shall set forth in a written document that is transmitted to the Director of the Office of Personnel Management the rationale for the decision of the Secretary to waive such requirements.

SEC. 5320. APPOINTMENT OF EMPLOYEES TO THE GLOBAL ENGAGEMENT CENTER.

The Secretary may appoint, for a 3-year period that may be extended for up to an additional 2 years, solely to carry out the functions of the Global Engagement Center, employees of the Department without regard to the provisions of title 5, United States Code, governing appointment in the competitive service, and may fix the basic compensation of such employees without regard to chapter 51 and subchapter III of chapter 53 of such title.

SEC. 5321. EDUCATION ALLOWANCES DUE TO CORONAVIRUS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The authority under section 5924 of title 5, United States Code, may be exercised by the Secretary of State and the heads of other Federal agencies for education allowances to employees who are in the United States with assignment orders to a foreign area and for whom service abroad has been interrupted or delayed because of the coronavirus pandemic without regard to the foreign area limitations referenced therein.

(b) TERMINATION.—The authority under subsection shall expire on September 30, 2022.

SEC. 5322. COMPETITIVE STATUS FOR CERTAIN EMPLOYEES HIRED BY INSPECTORS GENERAL TO SUPPORT THE LEAD IG MISSION.

Subparagraph (A) of section 8L(d)(5)(A) of the Inspector General Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App.) is amended by striking ''a lead Inspector General for'' and inserting ''any of the Inspectors General specified in subsection (c) for oversight of''.

SEC. 5323. REPORT RELATING TO FOREIGN SERVICE OFFICER TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 270 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a report certain fellowship or detail opportunities for Department of State Foreign Service personnel.

(b) ELEMENTS.—The report required by subsection (a) shall include the following elements:

(1) The number of Senior Foreign Service Officer generalists who, as of the date of the enactment of this Act, have done a tour of at least one year in any of the agencies or congressional committees described in subsection (a).

(2) The total number of senior Foreign Service Officer generalists as of the date of the enactment of this Act.

(3) The average number of Senior Foreign Service Officer generalists inducted annually during the 10 years preceding the date of the enactment of this Act.

(4) The total number of Department advisors stationed in any of the agencies or congressional offices described in subsection (a), including the agencies or offices in which such advisors serve.

(5) The total number of advisors from other United States Government agencies stationed in the Department of State (excluding defense attaches, senior defense officials, and other Department of Defense personnel stationed in United States missions abroad), the home agency of the advisor, and the offices in which such advisors serve.

TITLE IV—A DIVERSE WORKFORCE: RECRUITMENT, RETENTION, AND PROMOTION

SEC. 5401. DEFINITIONS.

In this title:

(1) APPLICANT FLOW DATA.—The term ''applicant flow data'' means data that tracks the rate of applications for job positions among demographic categories.

(2) DEMOGRAPHIC DATA.—The term ''demographic data'' means facts or statistics relating to the demographic categories specified in the Office of Management and Budget statistical policy directive entitled ''Standards for Maintaining, Collecting, and Presenting Federal Data on Race and Ethnicity'' (81 Fed. Reg. 67398).

(3) DIVERSITY.—The term ''diversity'' means those classes of persons protected under the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 U.S.C. 2000a et seq.) and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12101 et seq.).

(4) WORKFORCE.—The term ''workforce'' means—

(A) individuals serving in a position in the civil service (as defined in section 2101 of title 5, United States Code);

(B) individuals who are members of the Foreign Service (as defined in section 103 of the Foreign Service Act of 1980 (22 U.S.C. 3902));

(C) all individuals serving under a personal services contract;

(D) all individuals serving under a Foreign Service Limited appointment under section 309 of the Foreign Service Act of 1980; or

(E) individuals other than Locally Employed Staff working in the Department of State under any other authority.

SEC. 5402. EXIT INTERVIEWS FOR WORKFORCE.

(a) RETAINED MEMBERS.—The Director General of the Foreign Service and the Director of the Bureau of Human Resources or its equivalent shall conduct periodic interviews with a representative and diverse cross-section of the workforce of the Department—

(1) to understand the reasons of individuals in such workforce for remaining in a position in the Department; and

(2) to receive feedback on workplace policies, professional development opportunities, and other issues affecting the decision of individuals in the workforce to remain in the Department.

(b) DEPARTING MEMBERS.—The Director General of the Foreign Service and the Director of the Bureau of Human Resources or its equivalent shall provide an opportunity for an exit interview to each individual in the workforce of the Department who separates from service with the Department to better understand the reasons of such individual for leaving such service.

(c) USE OF ANALYSIS FROM INTERVIEWS.—The Director General of the Foreign Service and the Director of the Bureau of Human Resources or its equivalent shall analyze demographic data and other information obtained through interviews under subsections (a) and (b) to determine to what extent, if any, the diversity of those participating in such interviews impacts the results.

(d) TRACKING DATA.—The Department shall—

(1) track demographic data relating to participants in professional development programs and the rate of placement into senior positions for participants in such programs;

(2) annually evaluate such data—

(A) to identify ways to improve outreach and recruitment for such programs, consistent with merit system principles; and

(B) to understand the extent to which participation in any professional development program offered or sponsored by the Department differs among the demographic categories of the workforce; and

(3) actively encourage participation from a range of demographic categories, especially from categories with consistently low participation, in such professional development programs.

SEC. 5403. RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall—

(1) continue to seek a diverse and talented pool of applicants; and

(2) instruct the Director General of the Foreign Service and the Director of the Bureau of Human Resources of the Department to have a recruitment plan of action for the recruitment of people belonging to traditionally under-represented groups, which should include outreach at appropriate colleges, universities, affinity groups, and professional associations.

(b) SCOPE.—The diversity recruitment initiatives described in subsection (a) shall include—

(1) recruiting at women's colleges, historically Black colleges and universities, minority-serving institutions, and other institutions serving a significant percentage of minority students;

(2) placing job advertisements in newspapers, magazines, and job sites oriented toward diverse groups;

(3) sponsoring and recruiting at job fairs in urban and rural communities and land-grant colleges or universities;

(4) providing opportunities through highly respected, international leadership programs, that focus on diversity recruitment and retention;

(5) expanding the use of paid internships; and

(6) cultivating partnerships with organizations dedicated to the advancement of the profession of international affairs and national security to advance shared diversity goals.

(c) EXPAND TRAINING ON ANTI-HARASSMENT AND ANTI-DISCRIMINATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall, through the Foreign Service Institute and other educational and training opportunities—

(A) ensure the provision to all individuals in the workforce of training on anti-harassment and anti-discrimination information and policies, including in existing Foreign Service Institute courses or modules prioritized in the Department's Diversity and Inclusion Strategic Plan for 2016–2020 to promote diversity in Bureau awards or mitigate unconscious bias;

(B) expand the provision of training on workplace rights and responsibilities to focus on anti-harassment and anti-discrimination information and policies, including policies relating to sexual assault prevention and response; and

(C) make such expanded training mandatory for—

(i) individuals in senior and supervisory positions;

(ii) individuals having responsibilities related to recruitment, retention, or promotion of employees; and

(iii) any other individual determined by the Department who needs such training based on analysis by the Department or OPM analysis.

(2) BEST PRACTICES.—The Department shall give special attention to ensuring the continuous incorporation of research-based best practices in training provided under this subsection.

SEC. 5404. LEADERSHIP ENGAGEMENT AND ACCOUNTABILITY.

(a) REWARD AND RECOGNIZE EFFORTS TO PROMOTE DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall implement performance and advancement requirements that reward and recognize the efforts of individuals in senior positions and supervisors in the Department in fostering an inclusive environment and cultivating talent consistent with merit system principles, such as through participation in mentoring programs or sponsorship initiatives, recruitment events, and other similar opportunities.

(2) OUTREACH EVENTS.—The Secretary shall create opportunities for individuals in senior positions and supervisors in the Department to participate in outreach events and to discuss issues relating to diversity and inclusion with the workforce on a regular basis, including with employee resource groups.

(b) EXTERNAL ADVISORY COMMITTEES AND BOARDS.—For each external advisory committee or board to which individuals in senior positions in the Department appoint members, the Secretary is strongly encouraged by Congress to ensure such external advisory committee or board is developed, reviewed, and carried out by qualified teams that represent the diversity of the organization.

SEC. 5405. PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES AND TOOLS.

(a) EXPAND PROVISION OF PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND CAREER ADVANCEMENT OPPORTUNITIES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary is authorized to expand professional development opportunities that support the mission needs of the Department, such as—

(A) academic programs;

(B) private-public exchanges; and

(C) detail assignments to relevant positions in—

(i) private or international organizations;

(ii) State, local, and Tribal governments;

(iii) other branches of the Federal Government; or

(iv) professional schools of international affairs.

(2) TRAINING FOR SENIOR POSITIONS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall offer, or sponsor members of the workforce to participate in, a Senior Executive Service candidate development program or other program that trains members on the skills required for appointment to senior positions in the Department.

(B) REQUIREMENTS.—In determining which members of the workforce are granted professional development or career advancement opportunities under subparagraph (A), the Secretary shall—

(i) ensure any program offered or sponsored by the Department under such subparagraph comports with the requirements of subpart C of part 412 of title 5, Code of Federal Regulations, or any successor thereto, including merit staffing and assessment requirements;

(ii) consider the number of expected vacancies in senior positions as a factor in determining the number of candidates to select for such programs;

(iii) understand how participation in any program offered or sponsored by the Department under such subparagraph differs by gender, race, national origin, disability status, or other demographic categories; and

(iv) actively encourage participation from a range of demographic categories, especially from categories with consistently low participation.

SEC. 5406. EXAMINATION AND ORAL ASSESSMENT FOR THE FOREIGN SERVICE.

(a) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that the Department should offer both the Foreign Service written examination and oral assessment in more locations throughout the United States. Doing so would ease the financial burden on potential candidates who do not currently reside in and must travel at their own expense to one of the few locations where these assessments are offered.

(b) FOREIGN SERVICE EXAMINATIONS.—Section 301(b) of the Foreign Service Act of 1980 (22 U.S.C. 3941) is amended—

(1) by striking ''The Secretary'' and inserting: ''(1) The Secretary''; and

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

''(2) The Secretary shall ensure that the Board of Examiners for the Foreign Service annually offers the oral assessment examinations described in paragraph (1) in cities, chosen on a rotating basis, located in at least five cities in three different time zones across the United States.''.

SEC. 5407. PAYNE FELLOWSHIP AUTHORIZATION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Undergraduate and graduate components of the Donald M. Payne International Development Fellowship Program may conduct outreach to attract outstanding students with an interest in pursuing a Foreign Service career who represent diverse ethnic and socioeconomic backgrounds.

(b) REVIEW OF PAST PROGRAMS.—The Secretary shall review past programs designed to increase minority representation in international affairs positions.

SEC. 5408. VOLUNTARY PARTICIPATION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Nothing in this title should be construed so as to compel any employee to participate in the collection of the data or divulge any personal information. Department employees shall be informed that their participation in the data collection contemplated by this title is voluntary.

(b) PRIVACY PROTECTION.—Any data collected under this title shall be subject to the relevant privacy protection statutes and regulations applicable to Federal employees.

TITLE V—INFORMATION SECURITY

SEC. 5501. DEFINITIONS.

In this title:

(1) INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY.—The term ''intelligence community'' has the meaning given such term in section 3(4) of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3003(4)).

(2) RELEVANT CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.—The term ''relevant congressional committees'' means—

(A) the appropriate congressional committees;

(B) the Select Committee on Intelligence of the Senate; and

(C) the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence of the House of Representatives.

SEC. 5502. LIST OF CERTAIN TELECOMMUNICATIONS PROVIDERS.

(a) LIST OF COVERED CONTRACTORS.—Not later than 30 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary, in consultation with the Director of National Intelligence and other appropriate Federal agencies as determined jointly by the Secretary and the Director of National Intelligence, shall develop or maintain, as the case may be, and update as frequently as the Secretary determines appropriate, a list of covered contractors with respect to which the Department should seek to avoid entering into contracts. Not later than 30 days after the initial development of the list under this subsection, any update thereto, and annually thereafter for 5 years after such initial 30 day period, the Secretary shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a copy of such list.

(b) COVERED CONTRACTOR DEFINED.—In this section, the term ''covered contractor'' means a provider of telecommunications, telecommunications equipment, or information technology equipment, including hardware, software, or services, that has knowingly assisted or facilitated a cyber attack or conducted surveillance, including passive or active monitoring, carried out against—

(1) the United States by, or on behalf of, any government, or persons associated with

such government, listed as a cyber threat actor in the intelligence community's 2017 assessment of worldwide threats to United States national security or any subsequent worldwide threat assessment of the intelligence community; or

(2) individuals, including activists, journalists, opposition politicians, or other individuals for the purposes of suppressing dissent or intimidating critics, on behalf of a country included in the annual country reports on human rights practices of the Department for systematic acts of political repression, including arbitrary arrest or detention, torture, extrajudicial or politically motivated killing, or other gross violations of human rights.

SEC. 5503. FOREIGN RELATIONS OF THE UNITED STATES (FRUS) SERIES AND DECLASSIFICATION.

The State Department Basic Authorities Act of 1956 is amended—

(1) in section 402(a)(2) (22 U.S.C. 4352(a)(2)), by striking ''26'' and inserting ''20''; and

(2) in section 404 (22 U.S.C. 4354)—

(A) in subsection (a)(1), by striking ''30''and inserting ''25''; and

(B) in subsection (c)(1)(C), by striking ''30'' and inserting ''25''.

TITLE VI—PUBLIC DIPLOMACY

SEC. 5601. SHORT TITLE.

This title may be cited as the ''Public Diplomacy Modernization Act of 2021''.

SEC. 5602. AVOIDING DUPLICATION OF PROGRAMS AND EFFORTS.

The Secretary shall—

(1) identify opportunities for greater efficiency of operations, including through improved coordination of efforts across public diplomacy bureaus and offices of the Department; and

(2) maximize shared use of resources between, and within, such public diplomacy bureaus and offices in cases in which programs, facilities, or administrative functions are duplicative or substantially overlapping.

SEC. 5603. IMPROVING RESEARCH AND EVALUATION OF PUBLIC DIPLOMACY.

(a) RESEARCH AND EVALUATION ACTIVITIES.—The Secretary, acting through the Director of Research and Evaluation appointed pursuant to subsection (b), shall—

(1) conduct regular research and evaluation of public diplomacy programs and activities of the Department, including through the routine use of audience research, digital analytics, and impact evaluations, to plan and execute such programs and activities; and

(2) make available to Congress the findings of the research and evaluations conducted under paragraph (1).

(b) DIRECTOR OF RESEARCH AND EVALUATION.—

(1) APPOINTMENT.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall appoint a Director of Research and Evaluation (referred to in this subsection as the ''Director'') in the Office of Policy, Planning, and Resources for Public Diplomacy and Public Affairs of the Department.

(2) LIMITATION ON APPOINTMENT.—The appointment of the Director pursuant to paragraph (1) shall not result in an increase in the overall full-time equivalent positions within the Department.

(3) RESPONSIBILITIES.—The Director shall—

(A) coordinate and oversee the research and evaluation of public diplomacy programs and activities of the Department in order to—

(i) improve public diplomacy strategies and tactics; and

(ii) ensure that such programs and activities are increasing the knowledge, understanding, and trust of the United States by relevant target audiences;

(B) routinely organize and oversee audience research, digital analytics, and impact evaluations across all public diplomacy bureaus and offices of the Department;

(C) support United States diplomatic posts' public affairs sections;

(D) share appropriate public diplomacy research and evaluation information within the Department and with other appropriate Federal departments and agencies;

(E) regularly design and coordinate standardized research questions, methodologies, and procedures to ensure that public diplomacy programs and activities across all public diplomacy bureaus and offices are designed to meet appropriate foreign policy objectives; and

(F) report biannually to the United States Advisory Commission on Public Diplomacy, through the Subcommittee on Research and Evaluation established pursuant to subsection (f), regarding the research and evaluation of all public diplomacy bureaus and offices.

(4) GUIDANCE AND TRAINING.—Not later than 1 year after the appointment of the Director pursuant to paragraph (1), the Director shall develop guidance and training, including curriculum for use by the Foreign Service Institute, for all public diplomacy officers of the Department regarding the reading and interpretation of public diplomacy program and activity evaluation findings to ensure that such findings and related lessons learned are implemented in the planning and evaluation of all public diplomacy programs and activities of the Department.

(c) PRIORITIZING RESEARCH AND EVALUATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The head of the Office of Policy, Planning, and Resources for Public Diplomacy and Public Affairs of the Department shall ensure that research and evaluation of public diplomacy and activities of the Department, as coordinated and overseen by the Director pursuant to subsection (b), supports strategic planning and resource allocation across all public diplomacy bureaus and offices of the Department.

(2) ALLOCATION OF RESOURCES.—Amounts allocated for the purpose of research and evaluation of public diplomacy programs and activities of the Department pursuant to subsection (b) shall be made available to be disbursed at the direction of the Director of Research and Evaluation among the research and evaluation staff across all public diplomacy bureaus and offices of the Department.

(3) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that the Department should gradually increase its allocation of funds made available under the headings ''Educational and Cultural Exchange Programs'' and ''Diplomatic Programs'' for research and evaluation of public diplomacy programs and activities of the Department pursuant to subsection (b) to a percentage of program funds that is commensurate with Federal Government best practices.

(d) LIMITED EXEMPTION RELATING TO THE PAPERWORK REDUCTION ACT.—Chapter 35 of title 44, United States Code (commonly known as the ''Paperwork Reduction Act'') shall not apply to the collection of information directed at any individuals conducted by, or on behalf of, the Department of State for the purpose of audience research, monitoring, and evaluations, and in connection with the Department's activities conducted pursuant to any of the following:

(1) The Mutual Educational and Cultural Exchange Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2451 et seq.).

(2) Section 1287 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2017 (Public Law 114–328; 22 U.S.C. 2656 note).

(3) The Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2151 et seq.).

(e) LIMITED EXEMPTION RELATING TO THE PRIVACY ACT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Department shall maintain, collect, use, and disseminate records (as such term is defined in section 552a(a)(4) of title 5, United States Code) for audience research, digital analytics, and impact evaluation of communications related to public diplomacy efforts intended for foreign audiences.

(2) CONDITIONS.—Audience research, digital analytics, and impact evaluations under paragraph (1) shall be—

(A) reasonably tailored to meet the purposes of this subsection; and

(B) carried out with due regard for privacy and civil liberties guidance and oversight.

(f) UNITED STATES ADVISORY COMMISSION ON PUBLIC DIPLOMACY.—

(1) SUBCOMMITTEE FOR RESEARCH AND EVALUATION.—The United States Advisory Commission on Public Diplomacy shall establish a Subcommittee on Research and Evaluation to monitor and advise regarding audience research, digital analytics, and impact evaluations carried out by the Department and the United States Agency for Global Media.

(2) ANNUAL REPORT.—The Subcommittee on Research and Evaluation established pursuant to paragraph (1) shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees an annual report, in conjunction with the United States Advisory Commission on Public Diplomacy's Comprehensive Annual Report on the performance of the Department and the United States Agency for Global Media, describing all actions taken by the Subcommittee pursuant to paragraph (1) and any findings made as a result of such actions.

SEC. 5604. PERMANENT REAUTHORIZATION OF THE UNITED STATES ADVISORY COMMISSION ON PUBLIC DIPLOMACY.

Section 1334 of the Foreign Affairs Reform and Restructuring Act of 1998 (22 U.S.C. 6553) is amended—

(1) in the section heading, by striking ''**SUNSET**'' and inserting ''**CONTINUATION**''; and

(2) by striking ''until October 1, 2021''.

SEC. 5605. STREAMLINING OF SUPPORT FUNCTIONS.

(a) WORKING GROUP ESTABLISHED.—Not later than 60 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall establish a working group to explore the possibilities and cost-benefit analysis of transitioning to a shared services model as such pertains to human resources, travel, purchasing, budgetary planning, and all other executive support functions for all bureaus of the Department that report to the Under Secretary for Public Diplomacy of the Department.

(b) REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a plan to implement any such findings of the working group established under subsection (a).

SEC. 5606. GUIDANCE FOR CLOSURE OF PUBLIC DIPLOMACY FACILITIES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall adopt, and include in the Foreign Affairs Manual, guidelines to collect and utilize information from each diplomatic post at which the construction of a new embassy compound or new consulate compound would result in the closure or co-location of an American Space, American Center, American Corner, or any other public diplomacy facility under the Secure Embassy Construction and Counterterrorism Act of 1999 (22 U.S.C. 4865 et seq.).

(b) REQUIREMENTS.—The guidelines required by subsection (a) shall include the following:

(1) Standardized notification to each chief of mission at a diplomatic post describing the requirements of the Secure Embassy Construction and Counterterrorism Act of 1999 and the impact on the mission footprint of such requirements.

(2) An assessment and recommendations from each chief of mission of potential impacts to public diplomacy programming at such diplomatic post if any public diplomacy facility referred to in subsection (a) is closed or staff is co-located in accordance with such Act.

(3) A process by which assessments and recommendations under paragraph (2) are considered by the Secretary and the appropriate Under Secretaries and Assistant Secretaries of the Department.

(4) Notification to the appropriate congressional committees, prior to the initiation of a new embassy compound or new consulate compound design, of the intent to close any such public diplomacy facility or co-locate public diplomacy staff in accordance with such Act.

(c) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report containing the guidelines required under subsection (a) and any recommendations for any modifications to such guidelines.

SEC. 5607. DEFINITIONS.

In this title:

(1) AUDIENCE RESEARCH.—The term ''audience research'' means research conducted at the outset of a public diplomacy program or the outset of campaign planning and design regarding specific audience segments to understand the attitudes, interests, knowledge, and behaviors of such audience segments.

(2) DIGITAL ANALYTICS.—The term ''digital analytics'' means the analysis of qualitative and quantitative data, accumulated in digital format, to indicate the outputs and outcomes of a public diplomacy program or campaign.

(3) IMPACT EVALUATION.—The term ''impact evaluation'' means an assessment of the changes in the audience targeted by a public diplomacy program or campaign that can be attributed to such program or campaign.

(4) PUBLIC DIPLOMACY BUREAUS AND OFFICES.—The term ''public diplomacy bureaus and offices'' means, with respect to the Department, the following:

(A) The Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs.

(B) The Bureau of Global Public Affairs.

(C) The Office of Policy, Planning, and Resources for Public Diplomacy and Public Affairs.

(D) The Global Engagement Center.

(E) The public diplomacy functions within the regional and functional bureaus.

TITLE VII—COMBATING PUBLIC CORRUPTION

SEC. 5701. SENSE OF CONGRESS.

It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) it is in the foreign policy interest of the United States to help foreign countries promote good governance and combat public corruption;

(2) multiple Federal departments and agencies operate programs that promote good governance in foreign countries and enhance such countries' ability to combat public corruption; and

(3) the Department of State should—

(A) promote coordination among the Federal departments and agencies implementing programs to promote good governance and combat public corruption in foreign countries in order to improve effectiveness and efficiency; and

(B) identify areas in which United States efforts to help other countries promote good governance and combat public corruption could be enhanced.

SEC. 5702. DEFINITIONS.

In this title:

(1) CORRUPT ACTOR.—The term ''corrupt actor'' means—

(A) any foreign person or entity that is a government official or government entity responsible for, or complicit in, an act of corruption; and

(B) any company, in which a person or entity described in subparagraph (A) has a significant stake, which is responsible for, or complicit in, an act of corruption.

(2) CORRUPTION.—The term ''corruption'' means the unlawful exercise of entrusted public power for private gain, including by bribery, nepotism, fraud, or embezzlement.

(3) SIGNIFICANT CORRUPTION.—The term ''significant corruption'' means corruption committed at a high level of government that has some or all of the following characteristics:

(A) Illegitimately distorts major decision-making, such as policy or resource determinations, or other fundamental functions of governance.

(B) Involves economically or socially large-scale government activities.

SEC. 5703. PUBLICATION OF TIERED RANKING LIST.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of State shall annually publish, on a publicly accessible website, a tiered ranking of all foreign countries.

(b) TIER 1 COUNTRIES.—A country shall be ranked as a tier 1 country in the ranking published under subsection (a) if the government of such country is complying with the minimum standards set forth in section 5704.

(c) TIER 2 COUNTRIES.—A country shall be ranked as a tier 2 country in the ranking published under subsection (a) if the government of such country is making efforts to comply with the minimum standards set forth in section 5704, but is not achieving the requisite level of compliance to be ranked as a tier 1 country.

(d) TIER 3 COUNTRIES.—A country shall be ranked as a tier 3 country in the ranking published under subsection (a) if the government of such country is making de minimis or no efforts to comply with the minimum standards set forth in section 5704.

SEC. 5704. MINIMUM STANDARDS FOR THE ELIMINATION OF CORRUPTION AND ASSESSMENT OF EFFORTS TO COMBAT CORRUPTION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The government of a country is complying with the minimum standards for the elimination of corruption if the government—

(1) has enacted and implemented laws and established government structures, policies, and practices that prohibit corruption, including significant corruption;

(2) enforces the laws described in paragraph (1) by punishing any person who is found, through a fair judicial process, to have violated such laws;

(3) prescribes punishment for significant corruption that is commensurate with the punishment prescribed for serious crimes; and

(4) is making serious and sustained efforts to address corruption, including through prevention.

(b) FACTORS FOR ASSESSING GOVERNMENT EFFORTS TO COMBAT CORRUPTION.—In determining whether a government is making serious and sustained efforts to address corruption, the Secretary of State shall consider, to the extent relevant or appropriate, factors such as—

(1) whether the government of the country has criminalized corruption, investigates and prosecutes acts of corruption, and convicts and sentences persons responsible for such acts over which it has jurisdiction, including, as appropriate, incarcerating individuals convicted of such acts;

(2) whether the government of the country vigorously investigates, prosecutes, convicts, and sentences public officials who participate in or facilitate corruption, including nationals of the country who are deployed in foreign military assignments, trade delegations abroad, or other similar missions, who engage in or facilitate significant corruption;

(3) whether the government of the country has adopted measures to prevent corruption, such as measures to inform and educate the public, including potential victims, about the causes and consequences of corruption;

(4) what steps the government of the country has taken to prohibit government officials from participating in, facilitating, or condoning corruption, including the investigation, prosecution, and conviction of such officials;

(5) the extent to which the country provides access, or, as appropriate, makes adequate resources available, to civil society organizations and other institutions to combat corruption, including reporting, investigating, and monitoring;

(6) whether an independent judiciary or judicial body in the country is responsible for, and effectively capable of, deciding corruption cases impartially, on the basis of facts and in accordance with the law, without any improper restrictions, influences, inducements, pressures, threats, or interferences (direct or indirect);

(7) whether the government of the country is assisting in international investigations of transnational corruption networks and in other cooperative efforts to combat significant corruption, including, as appropriate, cooperating with the governments of other countries to extradite corrupt actors;

(8) whether the government of the country recognizes the rights of victims of corruption, ensures their access to justice, and takes steps to prevent victims from being further victimized or persecuted by corrupt actors, government officials, or others;

(9) whether the government of the country protects victims of corruption or whistleblowers from reprisal due to such persons having assisted in exposing corruption, and refrains from other discriminatory treatment of such persons;

(10) whether the government of the country is willing and able to recover and, as appropriate, return the proceeds of corruption;

(11) whether the government of the country is taking steps to implement financial transparency measures in line with the Financial Action Task Force recommendations, including due diligence and beneficial ownership transparency requirements;

(12) whether the government of the country is facilitating corruption in other countries in connection with state-directed investment, loans or grants for major infrastructure, or other initiatives; and

(13) such other information relating to corruption as the Secretary of State considers appropriate.

(c) ASSESSING GOVERNMENT EFFORTS TO COMBAT CORRUPTION IN RELATION TO RELEVANT INTERNATIONAL COMMITMENTS.—In determining whether a government is making serious and sustained efforts to address corruption, the Secretary of State shall consider the government of a country's compliance with the following, as relevant:

(1) The Inter-American Convention against Corruption of the Organization of American States, done at Caracas March 29, 1996.

(2) The Convention on Combating Bribery of Foreign Public Officials in International Business Transactions of the Organisation of

Economic Co-operation and Development, done at Paris December 21, 1997 (commonly referred to as the ''Anti-Bribery Convention'').

(3) The United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, done at New York November 15, 2000.

(4) The United Nations Convention against Corruption, done at New York October 31, 2003.

(5) Such other treaties, agreements, and international standards as the Secretary of State considers appropriate.

SEC. 5705. IMPOSITION OF SANCTIONS UNDER GLOBAL MAGNITSKY HUMAN RIGHTS ACCOUNTABILITY ACT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of State, in coordination with the Secretary of the Treasury, should evaluate whether there are foreign persons engaged in significant corruption for the purposes of potential imposition of sanctions under the Global Magnitsky Human Rights Accountability Act (subtitle F of title XII of Public Law 114–328; 22 U.S.C. 2656 note)—

(1) in all countries identified as tier 3 countries under section 5703; or

(2) in relation to the planning or construction or any operation of the Nord Stream 2 pipeline.

(b) REPORT REQUIRED.—Not later than 180 days after publishing the list required by section 5703(a) and annually thereafter, the Secretary of State shall submit to the committees specified in subsection (f) a report that includes—

(1) a list of foreign persons with respect to which the President imposed sanctions pursuant to the evaluation under subsection (a);

(2) the dates on which such sanctions were imposed;

(3) the reasons for imposing such sanctions; and

(4) a list of all foreign persons found to have been engaged in significant corruption in relation to the planning, construction, or operation of the Nord Stream 2 pipeline.

(c) FORM OF REPORT.—Each report required by subsection (b) shall be submitted in unclassified form but may include a classified annex.

(d) BRIEFING IN LIEU OF REPORT.—The Secretary of State, in coordination with the Secretary of the Treasury, may (except with respect to the list required by subsection (b)(4)) provide a briefing to the committees specified in subsection (f) instead of submitting a written report required under subsection (b), if doing so would better serve existing United States anti-corruption efforts or the national interests of the Untied States.

(e) TERMINATION OF REQUIREMENTS RELATING TO NORD STREAM 2.—The requirements under subsections (a)(2) and (b)(4) shall terminate on the date that is 5 years after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(f) COMMITTEES SPECIFIED.—The committees specified in this subsection are—

(1) the Committee on Foreign Relations, the Committee on Appropriations, the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs, and the Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate; and

(2) the Committee on Foreign Affairs, the Committee on Appropriations, the Committee on Financial Services, and the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives.

SEC. 5706. DESIGNATION OF EMBASSY ANTI-CORRUPTION POINTS OF CONTACT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of State shall annually designate an anti-corruption point of contact at the United States diplomatic post to each country identified as tier 2 or tier 3 under section 5703, or which the Secretary otherwise determines is in need of such a point of contact. The point of contact shall be the chief of mission or the chief of mission's designee.

(b) RESPONSIBILITIES.—Each anti-corruption point of contact designated under subsection (a) shall be responsible for enhancing coordination and promoting the implementation of a whole-of-government approach among the relevant Federal departments and agencies undertaking efforts to—

(1) promote good governance in foreign countries; and

(2) enhance the ability of such countries—

(A) to combat public corruption; and

(B) to develop and implement corruption risk assessment tools and mitigation strategies.

(c) TRAINING.—The Secretary of State shall implement appropriate training for anti-corruption points of contact designated under subsection (a).

TITLE VIII—GLOBAL MAGNITSKY HUMAN RIGHTS ACCOUNTABILITY REAUTHORIZATION ACT

SEC. 5801. SHORT TITLE.

This title may be cited as the ''Global Magnitsky Human Rights Accountability Reauthorization Act''.

SEC. 5802. MODIFICATIONS TO AND REAUTHORIZATION OF SANCTIONS WITH RESPECT TO HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—Section 1262 of the Global Magnitsky Human Rights Accountability Act (Subtitle F of title XII of Public Law 114–328; 22 U.S.C. 2656 note) is amended by striking paragraph (2) and inserting the following:

''(2) IMMEDIATE FAMILY MEMBER.—The term 'immediate family member', with respect to a foreign person, means the spouse, parent, sibling, or adult child of the person.''.

(b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—The Global Magnitsky Human Rights Accountability Act (Subtitle F of title XII of Public Law 114–328; 22 U.S.C. 2656 note) is amended by inserting after section 1262 the following new section:

''SEC. 1262A. SENSE OF CONGRESS.

''It is the sense of Congress that the President should establish and regularize information sharing and sanctions-related decision making with like-minded governments possessing human rights and anti-corruption sanctions programs similar in nature to those authorized under this subtitle.''.

(c) IMPOSITION OF SANCTIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (a) of section 1263 of the Global Magnitsky Human Rights Accountability Act (Subtitle F of title XII of Public Law 114–328; 22 U.S.C. 2656 note) is amended to read as follows:

''(a) IN GENERAL.—The President may impose the sanctions described in subsection (b) with respect to—

''(1) any foreign person that the President determines, based on credible information—

''(A) is responsible for or complicit in, or has directly or indirectly engaged in, serious human rights abuse;

''(B) is a current or former government official, or a person acting for or on behalf of such an official, who is responsible for or complicit in, or has directly or indirectly engaged in—

''(i) corruption, including—

''(I) the misappropriation of state assets;

''(II) the expropriation of private assets for personal gain;

''(III) corruption related to government contracts or the extraction of natural resources; or

''(IV) bribery; or

''(ii) the transfer or facilitation of the transfer of the proceeds of corruption;

''(C) is or has been a leader or official of—

''(i) an entity, including a government entity, that has engaged in, or whose members have engaged in, any of the activities described in subparagraph (A) or (B) related to the tenure of the leader or official; or

''(ii) an entity whose property and interests in property are blocked pursuant to this section as a result of activities related to the tenure of the leader or official;

''(D) has materially assisted, sponsored, or provided financial, material, or technological support for, or goods or services to or in support of—

''(i) an activity described in subparagraph (A) or (B) that is conducted by a foreign person;

''(ii) a person whose property and interests in property are blocked pursuant to this section; or

''(iii) an entity, including a government entity, that has engaged in, or whose members have engaged in, an activity described in subparagraph (A) or (B) conducted by a foreign person; or

''(E) is owned or controlled by, or has acted or been purported to act for or on behalf of, directly or indirectly, a person whose property and interests in property are blocked pursuant to this section; and

''(2) any immediate family member of a person described in paragraph (1).''.

(2) CONSIDERATION OF CERTAIN INFORMATION.—Subsection (c)(2) of such section is amended by inserting ''corruption and'' after ''monitor''.

(3) REQUESTS BY CONGRESS.—Subsection (d) of such section is amended—

(A) in paragraph (1)—

(i) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking ''subsection (a)'' and inserting ''subsection (a)(1)''; and

(ii) in subparagraph (B)(i), by inserting ''or an immediate family member of the person''; and

(B) in paragraph (2)—

(i) in subparagraph (A)—

(I) in the subparagraph heading, by striking ''HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS'' and inserting ''SERIOUS HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSE''; and

(II) by striking ''described in paragraph (1) or (2) of subsection (a)'' and inserting ''described in subsection (a)(1) relating to serious human rights abuse''; and

(ii) in subparagraph (B)—

(I) in the matter preceding clause (i), by striking ''described in paragraph (3) or (4) of subsection (a)'' and inserting ''described in subsection (a)(1) relating to corruption or the transfer or facilitation of the transfer of the proceeds of corruption''; and

(II) by striking ''ranking member of'' and all that follows through the period at the end and inserting ''ranking member of one of the appropriate congressional committees''.

(4) TERMINATION OF SANCTIONS.—Subsection (g) of such section is amended, in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by inserting ''and the immediate family members of that person'' after ''a person''.

(d) REPORTS TO CONGRESS.—Section 1264(a) of the Global Magnitsky Human Rights Accountability Act (Subtitle F of title XII of Public Law 114–328; 22 U.S.C. 2656 note) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (5), by striking ''; and'' and inserting a semicolon;

(2) in paragraph (6), by striking the period at the end and inserting ''; and''; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

''(7) A description of additional steps taken by the President through diplomacy, international engagement, and assistance to foreign or security sectors to address persistent underlying causes of serious human rights abuse and corruption in each country in which foreign persons with respect to which sanctions have been imposed under section 1263 are located.''.

(e) REPEAL OF SUNSET.—Section 1265 of the Global Magnitsky Human Rights Accountability Act (Subtitle F of title XII of Public Law 114–328; 22 U.S.C. 2656 note) is repealed.

TITLE IX—OTHER MATTERS

SEC. 5901. LIMITATION ON ASSISTANCE TO COUNTRIES IN DEFAULT.

Section 620(q) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2370(q)) is amended—

(1) by striking ''No assistance'' and inserting the following:

''(1) No assistance'';

(2) by inserting ''the government of'' before ''any country'';

(3) by inserting ''the government of'' before ''such country'' each place it appears;

(4) by striking ''determines'' and all that follows and inserting ''determines, after consultation with the Committee on Foreign Affairs and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Foreign Relations and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate, that assistance for such country is in the national interest of the United States.''; and

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

''(2) No assistance shall be furnished under this Act, the Peace Corps Act, the Millennium Challenge Act of 2003, the African Development Foundation Act, the BUILD Act of 2018, section 504 of the FREEDOM Support Act, or section 23 of the Arms Export Control Act to the government of any country which is in default during a period in excess of 1 calendar year in payment to the United States of principal or interest or any loan made to the government of such country by the United States unless the President determines, following consultation with the congressional committees specified in paragraph (1), that assistance for such country is in the national interest of the United States.''.

SEC. 5902. SEAN AND DAVID GOLDMAN CHILD ABDUCTION PREVENTION AND RETURN ACT OF 2014 AMENDMENT.

Subsection (b) of section 101 of the Sean and David Goldman International Child Abduction Prevention and Return Act of 2014 (22 U.S.C. 9111; Public Law 113–150) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (2)—

(A) in subparagraph (A)—

(i) by inserting '', respectively,'' after ''access cases''; and

(ii) by inserting ''and the number of children involved'' before the semicolon at the end; and

(B) in subparagraph (D), by inserting ''respectively, the number of children involved,'' after ''access cases,'';

(2) in paragraph (7), by inserting '', and number of children involved in such cases'' before the semicolon at the end;

(3) in paragraph (8), by striking ''and'' after the semicolon at the end;

(4) in paragraph (9), by striking the period at the end and inserting ''; and''; and

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

''(10) the total number of pending cases the Department of State has assigned to case officers and number of children involved for each country and as a total for all countries.''.

SEC. 5903. CONGRESSIONAL OVERSIGHT, QUARTERLY REVIEW, AND AUTHORITY RELATING TO CONCURRENCE PROVIDED BY CHIEFS OF MISSION FOR THE PROVISION OF SUPPORT RELATING TO CERTAIN UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS.

(a) NOTIFICATION REQUIRED.—Not later than 30 days after the date on which a chief of mission provides concurrence for the provision of United States Government support to entities or individuals engaged in facilitating or supporting United States Government operations within the area of responsibility of the chief of mission, the Secretary of State shall notify the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate and the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives of the provision of such concurrence.

(b) QUARTERLY REVIEW, DETERMINATION, AND BRIEFING REQUIRED.—Not less frequently than every 90 days, the Secretary of State shall, in order to ensure support described in subsection (a) continues to align with United States foreign policy objectives and the objectives of the Department of State—

(1) conduct a review of any concurrence described in subsection (a) in effect as of the date of the review;

(2) based on the review, determine whether to revoke any such concurrence pending further study and review; and

(3) brief the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate and the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives on the results of the review.

(c) REVOCATION OF CONCURRENCE.—Based on the review conducted pursuant to subsection (b), the Secretary may revoke any such concurrence.

(d) ANNUAL REPORT REQUIRED.—Not later than January 31 of each year, the Secretary of State shall submit to the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate and the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives a report that includes the following:

(1) A description of any support described in subsection (a) that was provided with the concurrence of a chief of mission during the calendar year preceding the calendar year in which the report is submitted.

(2) An analysis of the effects of the support described in paragraph (1) on diplomatic lines of effort, including with respect to—

(A) Nonproliferation, Anti-terrorism, Demining, and Related Programs (NADR) and associated Anti-Terrorism Assistance (ATA) programs;

(B) International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement (INCLE) programs; and

(C) Foreign Military Sales (FMS), Foreign Military Financing (FMF), and associated training programs.

SEC. 5904. REPORT ON EFFORTS OF THE CORONAVIRUS REPATRIATION TASK FORCE.

Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees, the Committee on Armed Services of the House of Representatives, and the Committee on Armed Services of the Senate a report evaluating the efforts of the Coronavirus Repatriation Task Force of the Department of State to repatriate United States citizens and legal permanent residents in response to the 2020 coronavirus outbreak. The report shall identify—

(1) the most significant impediments to repatriating such persons;

(2) the lessons learned from such repatriations; and

(3) any changes planned to future repatriation efforts of the Department of State to incorporate such lessons learned.

SA 4731. Mr. THUNE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place in title X, insert the following:

SEC. _____. DEVELOPMENT AND TESTING OF DYNAMIC SCHEDULING AND MANAGEMENT OF SPECIAL ACTIVITY AIRSPACE.

(a) SENSE OF CONGRESS ON SPECIAL ACTIVITY AIRSPACE SCHEDULING AND MANAGEMENT.—It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) where it does not conflict with safety, dynamic scheduling and management of special activity airspace (also referred to as ''dynamic airspace'') is expected to optimize the use of the national airspace system for all stakeholders; and

(2) the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration and the Secretary of Defense should take such actions as may be necessary to support ongoing efforts to develop dynamic scheduling and management of special activity airspace, including—

(A) the continuation of formal partnerships between the Federal Aviation Administration and the Department of Defense that focus on special activity airspace, future airspace needs, and joint solutions; and

(B) maturing research within their federally funded research and development centers, Federal partner agencies, and the aviation community.

(b) PILOT PROGRAM.—

(1) PILOT PROGRAM REQUIRED.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration, in coordination with the Secretary of Defense, shall establish a pilot program on developing and testing dynamic management of special activity airspace in order to accommodate emerging military training requirements through flexible scheduling, along with increasing access to existing special activity airspace used by the Department of Defense for test and training.

(2) TESTING OF SPECIAL ACTIVITY AIRSPACE SCHEDULING AND MANAGEMENT.—Under the pilot program established under paragraph (1), the Administrator and the Secretary shall jointly test not fewer than three areas of episodic or permanent special activity airspace designated by the Federal Aviation Administration for use by the Department of Defense, of which—

(A) at least one shall be over coastal waters of the United States;

(B) at least two shall be over land of the United States;

(C) access to airspace available for test and training is increased to accommodate dynamic scheduling of existing airspace to more efficiently and realistically provide test and training capabilities to Department of Defense aircrews; and

(D) any increase in access to airspace made available for test and training shall not conflict with the safe management of the national airspace system or the safety of all stakeholders of the national airspace system.

(c) REPORT BY THE ADMINISTRATOR.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not less than two years after the date of the establishment of the pilot program under subsection (b)(1), the Administrator shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a report on the interim findings of the Administrator with respect to the pilot program.

(2) ELEMENTS.—The report submitted under paragraph (1) shall include the following:

(A) An analysis of how the pilot program established under subsection (b)(1) affected access to special activity airspace by nonmilitary users of the national airspace system.

(B) An analysis of whether the dynamic management of special activity airspace conducted for the pilot program established under subsection (b)(1) contributed to more

efficient use of the national airspace system by all stakeholders.

(d) REPORT BY THE SECRETARY.—Not less than two years after the date of the establishment of the pilot program under subsection (b)(1), the Secretary shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a report on the interim findings of the Secretary with respect to the pilot program. Such report shall include an analysis of how the pilot program affected military test and training.

(e) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) The term ''appropriate committees of Congress'' means—

(A) the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation and the Committee on Armed Services of the Senate; and

(B) the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, and the Committee on Armed Services of the House of Representatives.

(2) The term ''special activity airspace'' means the following airspace with defined dimensions within the National Airspace System wherein limitations may be imposed upon aircraft operations:

(A) Restricted areas.

(B) Military operations areas.

(C) Air Traffic Control assigned airspace.

(D) Warning areas.

SA 4732. Mr. REED submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. _____. CYBERSECURITY TRANSPARENCY.

The Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. 78a et seq.) is amended by inserting after section 14B (15 U.S.C. 78n–2) the following:

''SEC. 14C. CYBERSECURITY TRANSPARENCY.

''(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section—

''(1) the term 'cybersecurity' means any action, step, or measure to detect, prevent, deter, mitigate, or address any cybersecurity threat or any potential cybersecurity threat;

''(2) the term 'cybersecurity threat'—

''(A) means an action, not protected by the First Amendment to the Constitution of the United States, on or through an information system that may result in an unauthorized effort to adversely impact the security, availability, confidentiality, or integrity of an information system or information that is stored on, processed by, or transiting an information system; and

''(B) does not include any action that solely involves a violation of a consumer term of service or a consumer licensing agreement;

''(3) the term 'information system'—

''(A) has the meaning given the term in section 3502 of title 44, United States Code; and

''(B) includes industrial control systems, such as supervisory control and data acquisition systems, distributed control systems, and programmable logic controllers;

''(4) the term 'NIST' means the National Institute of Standards and Technology; and

''(5) the term 'reporting company' means any company that is an issuer—

''(A) the securities of which are registered under section 12; or

''(B) that is required to file reports under section 15(d).

''(b) REQUIREMENT TO ISSUE RULES.—Not later than 360 days after the date of enactment of this section, the Commission shall issue final rules to require each reporting company, in the annual report of the reporting company submitted under section 13 or section 15(d) or in the annual proxy statement of the reporting company submitted under section 14(a)—

''(1) to disclose whether any member of the governing body, such as the board of directors or general partner, of the reporting company has expertise or experience in cybersecurity and in such detail as necessary to fully describe the nature of the expertise or experience; and

''(2) if no member of the governing body of the reporting company has expertise or experience in cybersecurity, to describe what other aspects of the reporting company's cybersecurity were taken into account by any person, such as an official serving on a nominating committee, that is responsible for identifying and evaluating nominees for membership to the governing body.

''(c) CYBERSECURITY EXPERTISE OR EXPERIENCE.—For purposes of subsection (b), the Commission, in consultation with NIST, shall define what constitutes expertise or experience in cybersecurity using commonly defined roles, specialties, knowledge, skills, and abilities, such as those provided in NIST Special Publication 800–181, entitled 'National Initiative for Cybersecurity Education (NICE) Cybersecurity Workforce Framework', or any successor thereto.''.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Mrs. MURRAY. 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 ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, November 16, 2021, at 10:00 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

The Committee on Energy and Natural Resources is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, November 16, 2021, at 10:00 a.m., to conduct a business meeting.

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

The Committee on Finance is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, November 16, 2021, at 10:15 a.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, November 16, 2021, at 10:00 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

The Select Committee on Intelligence is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, November 16, 2021, at 2:30 p.m., to conduct a closed briefing.

U.S. SUPREME COURT

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Mr. President, I rise today for now the ninth time to unmask the rightwing, dark money scheme to capture our Supreme Court. I say ''capture'' in the sense of regulatory capture, an Agency capture—a well-known phenomenon.

Today, I turn to an important tool of the scheme's apparatus: the orchestrated amicus curiae brief.

So, first things first, amicus—or friend of the court—briefs are an important instrument in our judicial system. They help those who aren't parties to a case to share their expertise, insight, or advocacy with the Court. I file them myself. ''Friend of the court'' briefs are necessary and useful, usually.

However, in recent years, the Court has had a lot more friends than it used to. Amici filed 781 briefs in the 2014 Supreme Court term—a more than 800-percent increase from the 1950s and a 95-percent increase just from 1995. In the 2010 term, 715 amicus briefs were filed in 78 cases. By 2019, that number had swelled to 911 briefs in just 57 cases. The average number of briefs per argued case almost doubled—from 9 in 2010 to 16 in 2019.

There is another odd feature to this uptick of amicus briefs. Most of the time, you file an amicus brief when the Justices have taken a case and are poised to actually decide the outcome of that case, at the so-called merits stage of the case, which makes sense because this is when the rulings actually become law. But these days, more and more amici arrive when the Court considers whether to take up the case, when the Justices are deciding whether to grant certiorari, or cert. Between 1982 and 2014, the percentage of petitions with at least one cert-stage amicus more than doubled.

Justices pay attention to amicus briefs. The Court cited amicus briefs 606 times in 417 opinions from 2008 to 2013—far more than in the past. These briefs don't always add value, and top appellate judges are beginning to sound that alarm.

Seventh Circuit Judge Michael Scudder said in 2020: ''Too many amicus briefs do not even pretend to offer value and instead merely repeat . . . a party's position'' and ''serve only as a show of hands on what interest groups are rooting for what outcome.''

OK. So what does this have to do with the scheme?

Well, what happens if the Justices whom dark money forces ushered onto the Court are looking for that show of hands?

I doubt it is just a coincidence that the rightwing donor machine that set out to capture the Court has also kicked into gear flotillas of amici that

inundate the Court with briefs, signaling their desire for a certain outcome—a showing of hands that is orchestrated.

Now, the scheme is, by design, hard to make out. It runs on anonymous dark money for a reason. It works through front groups, some with multiple fictitious names. It works hard and spends plenty to hide its hand. Still, look carefully, and the scheme's hand is there to see. Like eddies swirling the water's surface as a creature moves beneath, signs of rightwing donor influence swirl around the Court.

One of the strongest signs is that there is a pattern—a pattern of success when orchestrated flotillas of dark money amici, funded by a small number of wealthy rightwing donors, show up: they win. This Court, the Court that dark money built, delivers in their favor. Exhibit A is probably the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, where the idea for this scheme first bubble up years ago with the Powell memo.

Over the past 15 years or so, the chamber has filed more amicus briefs at the Supreme Court than almost anyone else and has gotten its preferred result 70 percent of the time. And no one knows what company or what interest the chamber may be fronting for. That is hidden from the Court and from the other parties.

The chamber can even hide if one of its members wrote or funded the chamber's amicus brief in that member's own case. So the members of the party and the chamber on behalf of the member file an amicus brief, and no one is the wiser.

So it is no surprise that the chamber is trying very hard to block the Judicial Conference from bringing more transparency and daylight into the funding of these amicus briefs.

It is not just the chamber in this deep racket here. If you take the recent anti-union cases—Janus v. AFSCME, Cedar Point Nursery v. Hassid, and Freidrichs v. California Teachers Association, each case drew 10 or more amicus filers connected to these scheme donors.

In both Freidrichs and Janus, scheme megadonor the Bradley Foundation funded the law groups representing the anti-union plaintiffs and also funded a dozen supporting amici. The front groups even swapped seats with a group representing plaintiffs in one case, turning up as an amicus in the other case and vice versa. It is a front-group, pea-and-shell game that the Court, for some reason, indulges. It is no surprise that all of these cases delivered big wins for corporate interests out to weaken organized labor.

Or you could look at the scheme's attack on the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau. The CFPB has long been a target of rightwing interests. The Center for Media and Democracy reported that 16—16—rightwing foundations, including the Bradley Foundation and Donors Trust, had donated almost $70 million to 11 amici who opposed the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau.

I did a brief in that case, an amicus brief of my own, and I put this graphic in my amicus brief as an appendix to show the Court the common funding of all of these groups that purported to come in as independent, unassociated amicus filers.

So here are the donors across the top—Donors Trust, Bradley Foundation, Scaife Foundation, Searle Trust, Charles Koch Foundation, Kirby Foundation, and the DONNA Foundation—and here are the groups that filed briefs. Every single one got money from Donors Trust, which is called the Koch brothers' ATM. It is the entity that hides who the real donor is, and it just shows up as Donors Trust.

Here is the Bradley Foundation—all but one, two, three. Here is the Scaife Foundation—all but one, two, three, four, five, and so on. So there is an enormous amount of overlap that I was able to figure out, as pointed out in my brief, and then the Center for Media and Democracy came through with a more complete report and did an even better job of researching that.

So remember from my previous speeches how it was the Federalist Society that was home to the dark money turnstile that selected all three of Trump's Supreme Court appointees. Eleven amici supporting the challenge to the CFPB received funding from entities that also funded the Federalist Society. So it is a pea-and-shell game of funded amici with a lot of shells.

And then there is the biggest scheme case of them all. You might call it the scheme-a-palooza. The case was called Americans for Prosperity Foundation v. Bonta. In this case, more than 50 dark money organizations filed amicus briefs at the cert stage, when the question is, Do we take the case, before it is even being argued on the merits? Fifty dark money groups appeared at the cert stage, and another 45 turned up at the merit stage, all to support the Americans for Prosperity Foundation, which you will recognize as the Koch-backed twin to Americans for Prosperity, which is the front group at the heart of the Koch brothers' political operation. It is the center of the rightwing political dark money web.

Essentially, the Americans for Prosperity Foundation and Americans for Prosperity are the same organization. In current, state-of-the-art, dark money politics, you twin a 501(c)(3) and a 501(c)(4) and work them as a pair.

Sure enough, if you look at Americans for Prosperity and Americans for Prosperity Foundation, they share quite a lot. They share the exact same address, for instance: 1310 North Courthouse Road, Suite 700, Arlington, VA. They share the same CEO. They share the same senior vice president of grassroots in Americans for Prosperity and senior vice president for State operations in Americans for Prosperity Foundation. They share the same senior vice president of policy. They share the same chairman of the board. They share the same president. If you were to do a piercing of the corporate veil analysis, you would be hard-pressed to show that these are not essentially the same organization.

And that armada of amici that came into the Americans for Prosperity Foundation case, all of them received funding from the Koch political network or the Koch identity laundering group, Donors Trust.

At least eleven prominent rightwing groups gave close to $222 million, spread across 69 of those amici who came in to support their fellow Americans for Prosperity Foundation.

If the little flotillas of a dozen or so in the CFPB case and in the anti-labor cases were sending a signal to the Court, this turnout was a screaming alarm—a megaphone—in the Court's face.

So what made the AFPF case such a big deal for the scheme? Well, this case gave ''the Court that dark money built'' an opportunity to do something that dark money donors desperately wanted. It gave the Court the opportunity to create for the dark money donors a new constitutional right—a new constitutional right to dark money, the essential political weapon for the scheme. And the Court did it. The Republican Justices, six to three, did it.

''The Court that dark money built'' struck down a State rule requiring limited disclosure of nonprofit donor information from a very political nonprofit and went on to cast a shadow of doubt on the constitutionality of disclosure requirements of any kind.

The amicus mischief at the Court continues. Look at the gun case before the Court right now, New York State Rifle & Pistol Association v. Bruen. This case is priority No. 1 for the NRA and its gun industry backers. It has been a centerpiece of the scheme for a very long time to have the Court create gun rights that even a Republican Congress won't give to the firearms industry. So in this case, the amicus signal flags are flying.

Sixty-five organizations filed briefs supporting the NRA affiliate that brought the challenge. At least 13 of those groups have ties to the scheme's dark money funding network.

Several amici are arms of other amici; that is, the fundraising or lobbying arm of an organization that itself also filed a brief in the case. At least five amici are NRA affiliates, and they were joined by the NRA's ''Civil Rights Defense Fund.'' And, believe it or not, thanks to leaks by Russian hackers, we have seen that the NRA paid a lawyer at one of the amicus groups hundreds of thousands of dollars to file pro-NRA briefs in this case, none of which was disclosed to the Court, none of which was disclosed to the parties, none of which was disclosed to the public. It took Russian hackers to find out that the NRA was funneling money to an amicus for a brief.

Well, it seems like the Justices got the signal from all of those dark-

money-funded amici. Based on questioning from the Court Republicans at oral argument, this case looks almost certain to go in the scheme's favor.

Pause to consider what this means. The NRA basically cloned itself to amplify its voice before the Court, just as other scheme front groups have done in other cases, in wave upon orchestrated wave of amicus briefs, washing into the cases that matter to the scheme's big donors.

And when those little orchestrated flotillas or the big orchestrated armadas show up at the Court to signal what they want, they always get what they want from the dark money majority at the Court—always. Maybe not all they want always—some groups ask for more than others. Some signal where they want the Court to go in future cases, not just what they want in this case. But the response from the Republicans on ''the Court that dark money built'' is clear. They heed the dark money signals every single time.

Our Supreme Court is awash in dark money influence, with flotillas of dark-money-funded front groups—front groups that don't bother to ''offer value,'' that aren't even real, in the sense that they have no real business or function, that exist merely to signal their donors' desired outcomes, while hiding their donors' identities.

It is an armada of fakery that the court indulges. This fakery lets a small, wealthy, donor elite manufacture sham allies to get themselves a bigger say at the Supreme Court than everyone else. They are out to get the Court to do stuff for them that Americans don't want and that Congress won't vote for. But with a captured Court, they can get what they want, and they do.

The American people may not be able to see all of the rot, but they can see enough to know that something is rotten over there across First Street at that Court. We must set it right.

To be continued.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Rhode Island.

REMOVAL OF INJUNCTION OF SECRECY—TREATY DOCUMENT NO. 117–1

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Mr. President, as if in executive session, I ask unanimous consent that the injunction of secrecy be removed from the following treaty transmitted to the Senate on November 16, 2021, by the President of the United States: Amendment to Montreal Protocol ''Kigali Amendment,'' Treaty Document No. 117–1. I further ask that the treaty be considered as having been read the first time; that it be referred, with accompanying papers, to the Committee on Foreign Relations and ordered to be printed; and that the President's message be printed in the RECORD.

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

The message of the President is as follows:

To the Senate of the United States:

With a view to receiving the advice and consent of the Senate to ratification, I transmit herewith the Amendment to the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer (the ''Montreal Protocol''), adopted at Kigali on October 15, 2016, by the Twenty-Eighth Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol (the ''Kigali Amendment''). The report of the Department of State is also enclosed for the information of the Senate.

The principal features of the Kigali Amendment provide for a gradual phasedown in the production and consumption of hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs), which are alternatives to ozone-depleting substances being phased out under the Montreal Protocol, as well as related provisions concerning reporting, licensing, control of trade with non-Parties, and control of certain byproduct emissions.

The United States has sufficient domestic authority to implement obligations under the Kigali Amendment, including through the American Innovation and Manufacturing Act of 2020 (the ''AIM Act'') and the Clean Air Act. The Environmental Protection Agency's recent rulemakings under the AIM Act establish a domestic HFC allocation system and other provisions that would enable the United States to begin implementation of the provisions of the Kigali Amendment.

The Kigali Amendment has strong support from the U.S. business community and nongovernmental organizations. Ratification by the United States would advance U.S. interests in remaining a leader in the development and deployment of HFC alternatives, ensuring access to rapidly growing refrigeration and cooling markets overseas and stimulating U.S. investment, exports, and job growth in this sector. Ratification will also ensure the United States continues to have a full voice to represent U.S. economic and environmental interests as implementation of the Kigali Amendment moves forward in coming years.

The Kigali Amendment entered into force on January 1, 2019, and there are currently 124 Parties to the Amendment. The Senate has given its advice and consent to ratification of all four previous amendments to the Montreal Protocol, with bipartisan support. I recommend that the Senate give favorable consideration to the Kigali Amendment and give its advice and consent to ratification at the earliest date.

JOSEPH R. BIDEN, Jr.,
THE WHITE HOUSE, *November 16, 2021*.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session to consider the following nominations en bloc: Calendar Nos. 466, 509, and 358; that the Senate vote on the nominations en bloc without intervening action or debate; the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate; that any statements related to the nominations be printed in the Record; that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action, and the Senate resume legislative session.

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

The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the following nominations, en bloc: subject to qualifications provided by law, the following for Director, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Commissioned Officer Corps and Office of Marine and Aviation Operations to be Rear Admiral, Nancy A. Hann; Willie L. Phillips, Jr., of the District of Columbia, to be a Member of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission for a term expiring June 30, 2026; and Richard Trumka, Jr., of Maryland, to be a Commissioner of the Consumer Product Safety Commission for a term of seven years from October 27, 2021?

The nominations were confirmed en bloc.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate will now resume legislative session.

NATIONAL COLLEGE APPLICATION MONTH

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 449, submitted earlier today.

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 449) designating November 2021 as ''National College Application Month''.

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

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and 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. 449) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

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

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF THE LATE SENATOR MAX CLELAND

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S.

Res. 451 regarding Max Cleland submitted earlier today.

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

The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 451) honoring the life and legacy of the late Senator Max Cleland.

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

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

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

The resolution (S. Res. 451) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

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

NATIONAL HOMELESS CHILDREN AND YOUTH AWARENESS MONTH

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 452, submitted earlier today.

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 452) recognizing November 2021 as ''National Homeless Children and Youth Awareness Month''.

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

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and 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. 452) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

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

MEASURE PLACED ON THE CALENDAR—S. 3206

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Mr. President, I understand there is a bill at the desk that is due for a second reading.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will read the title of the bill for the second time.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 3206) to repeal the provisions of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act that impose new information reporting requirements with respect to digital asset transfers.

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. In order to place the bill on the calendar under the provisions of rule XIV, I would object to further proceedings.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection having been heard, the bill will be placed on the calendar.

ORDERS FOR WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2021

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 9:30 a.m., Wednesday, November 17; that following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and morning business be closed; that upon the conclusion of morning business, the Senate proceed to executive session to resume consideration of the Nelson nomination.

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

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. For the information of the Senate, there will be two rollcall votes at 10 a.m. on cloture on the Nelson nomination and cloture on the motion to proceed to the NDAA.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 9:30 A.M. TOMORROW

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. If there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that it stand adjourned under the provisions of S. Res. 451 and do so as a further mark of respect honoring the life and legacy of the late Senator Max Cleland.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 6:36 p.m., adjourned until Wednesday, November 17, 2021, at 9:30 a.m.

CONFIRMATIONS

Executive nominations confirmed by the Senate November 16, 2021:

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

ROBERT FARRELL BONNIE, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE UNDER SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE FOR FARM PRODUCTION AND CONSERVATION.

CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION

RICHARD TRUMKA, JR., OF MARYLAND, TO BE A COMMISSIONER OF THE CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION FOR A TERM OF SEVEN YEARS FROM OCTOBER 27, 2021.

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

GRAHAM SCOTT STEELE, OF CALIFORNIA, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY.

NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION

SUBJECT TO QUALIFICATIONS PROVIDED BY LAW, THE FOLLOWING FOR DIRECTOR, NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION COMMISSIONED OFFICER CORPS AND OFFICE OF MARINE AND AVIATION OPERATIONS.

To be rear admiral

NANCY A. HANN

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

JONATHAN KANTER, OF MARYLAND, TO BE AN ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL.

FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

WILLIE L. PHILLIPS, JR., OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION FOR A TERM EXPIRING JUNE 30, 2026.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

CELEBRATING THE 108TH BIRTHDAY OF CALHOUN COUNTY NATIVE AND LONG-TIME MALVERN RESIDENT, EDNA RAYBORN REGAN

HON. BRUCE WESTERMAN

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 16, 2021

Mr. WESTERMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 108th birthday of Fourth District native and longtime resident, Mrs. Edna Rayborn Regan. Mrs. Regan spent her birthday celebrating the special occasion in the company of her friends and family.

Born on November 2, 1913, in Calhoun County, Mrs. Regan attended school at Bearden High School where she graduated in 1932. Later, in 1938, she married John Douglas, with whom she shares two sons, three grandchildren, and five great grandchildren. Throughout the years, Mrs. Regan has maintained high spirits and fierce independence, driving until she was 97 and living in her home until she was 100. Early on, Mrs. Regan developed an interest in history, which led to her taking on the role of historian in her family. She is able to trace her family's lineage back several generations without the aid of computers. Thanks to her tireless efforts, her family was able to travel and visit their early ancestral home, which would have never been possible without her determination.

She has since created binders full of stories, pictures, and history to ensure that her family will always cherish from where they came. In Mrs. Regan's spare time, you will rarely find her in her room at her assisted living facility. She enjoys visiting with friends, writing poetry and painting. I take this time today to ask that our Nation join me in wishing Mrs. Edna Rayborn Regan a happy 108th birthday.

HONORING THE ROTARY CLUB OF VALLEJO

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 16, 2021

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Rotary Club of Vallejo as it celebrates its 100th year anniversary.

The Rotary Club of Vallejo was temporarily formed by 19 businessmen in July 1921 before its permanent admittance to Rotary International on November 6, 1921. As a part of Rotary International, the club's mission is to provide humanitarian service to the community through the improvement of health, support of education, and alleviation of poverty, while promoting high ethical standards, goodwill, and peace.

The Rotary Club of Vallejo promotes local programs, many that benefit the youth in the Vallejo community. They organized the Dictionary Program to give every third grader a dictionary within the Vallejo City Unified School District and in Vallejo private schools. With a goal to create strong leaders within the community, the Vallejo Rotary Club created a Youth Leadership Program where seven Vallejo high school students participate in a week-long program to learn leadership skills at an outdoor camp. The Club has also generously supported the "Breakfast Club" program, providing breakfast and a safe space to do homework for Vallejo's middle school students before the start of the school day.

Along with the services it has provided, the Rotary Club of Vallejo has also funded the development of many community projects, including the Mullen Theater at the Children's Wonderland Park and the flag pavilion and fountain at California Maritime Academy. Further, the club has generously contributed to the art mural in the children's section at the Vallejo John F. Kennedy Library, and a scholarship program for six graduating seniors.

Madam Speaker, there is no doubt that the Rotary Club of Vallejo's achievements and contributions have left a profound impact on the Vallejo community. Therefore, it is fitting and proper that we honor it here today.

HONORING THE 190TH ANNIVERSARY OF PRESENTATION ACADEMY

HON. JOHN A. YARMUTH

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 16, 2021

Mr. YARMUTH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the 190th Anniversary of Presentation Academy. This home of academic excellence is not only the first Catholic school in Louisville, but also our city's oldest continually operating school.

In 1831, Mother Catherine Spalding and the Sisters of Charity of Nazareth founded Presentation Academy, and over the past 190 years, the city of Louisville and Presentation have grown and changed together. It is an honor to recognize this iconic institution and its commitment to educating and inspiring young women. In making diversity, inclusivity and individuality a core part of the learning environment at Presentation, you have prepared generations of young women to take on the challenges of the future.

Following a long tradition, senior Toppers sign Presentation's tower on their last day of school, and I am grateful to the many Presentation alumnae who have also left their signature on Louisville and beyond. I have no doubt that this legacy of service and activism will continue for years to come.

Madam Speaker, colleagues, please join me in extending our congratulations to the administration, faculty, staff, parents, students, and alumnae of Presentation Academy as they celebrate nearly two centuries of changing lives through education and service. They are an absolute treasure to our community, and I wish them the best as they come together to celebrate this incredible milestone.

DR. BERNADETTE ALBANESE

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 16, 2021

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Bernadette Albanese of the Tri-County Health Department for her dedication and service to the people of Adams, Arapahoe and Douglas Counties during the COVID–19 pandemic. In addition to her duties as a Pediatric Infectious Disease Specialist and Medical Epidemiologist for Tri-County Health Department, Dr. Albanese went above and beyond to engage, educate and inform the community about COVID–19, including by participating in three Telephone Town Halls with my office and thousands of my constituents.

Dr. Albanese, who specializes in communicable disease control, outbreak investigations, disease surveillance and general health trends, eagerly partnered with our office to help inform constituents on the most up-to-date and accurate information on COVID–19. On these Telephone Town Halls, Dr. Albanese used her background in disease control and epidemiology to facilitate informed conversations with constituents and answer their questions during an uncertain time.

There is no amount of recognition that can accurately display just how much Dr. Albanese has done for us. It is because of essential workers like Dr. Albanese that we have been able to make it this far in the pandemic. I wish her nothing but the best in the future, as we continue to fight against COVID–19.

HONORING THE LIFE OF ERIC SAWYER

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 16, 2021

Mr. COURTNEY. Madam Speaker, it is with great sorrow that I rise today to honor the life of the late Eric "Ric" Sawyer, a longstanding eastern Connecticut resident who passed on November 5, 2021, at the age of 76. Having served the State of Connecticut and our nation in a variety of capacities, public service was engrained within Ric's outlook on life. In fact, I can attest to the fact that community service was a vital aspect of the entire Sawyer family, as I had the opportunity to briefly serve with Ric's partner, Pamela Sawyer, in the Connecticut General Assembly, who is now going on to lead the Town of Bolton, Connecticut as its First Selectwoman after more than two decades in the Assembly.

Born a stone's throw away in Providence, Rhode Island to Dr. Carl and Gertrude Sawyer, Ric was destined to spend his life giving back to his country. Ric joined the military at a young age in 1967, where he was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant and went on to proudly serve across seas as a pilot with the U.S. Army and National Guard (USANG) during the Vietnam Conflict. After a year on tour in Vietnam, Eric was not only promoted to the rank of captain for his integrity as a commissioned officer but then also shipped across the world to Germany for another two years in foreign service. Captain Sawyer concluded his long stint in active duty with countless recognitions of his skilled leadership through military campaigns. Among his several accolades, Captain Eric Sawyer was most notably bestowed with a Distinguished Flying Cross and the Bronze Star.

After serving abroad, Ric returned home determined to strengthen his New England roots and direct his career in service toward his local community. Upon retiring from the USANG with a total of 27 years as a pilot, Ric spent the remainder of his career as a state police and corporate helicopter pilot. Though he was always dutiful in his work, Ric's prosperity was ultimately reflected by way of spending time with his family, network of friends and cultivation of several hobbies.

Madam Speaker, it is an honor to represent constituents who are as humble, dutiful, and distinguished as Ric Sawyer. Though Ric's legacy and character will continue to have a ripple effect as a force of altruism, particularly for those who knew him in the Bolton community, his loss and what it means for the region cannot be understated. It is worth finding solace, however, in the impact that his legacy will have upon the local community as well as his surviving family and loved ones, namely, his wife Pam, daughters Margaret and Elizabeth and son-in-law Sean, and six siblings. He is predeceased by one sibling, Richard Sawyer. To that end, I ask that the entire House join me in setting Eric Sawyer's name further into stone, and recognizing his life and service to our Nation.

RECOGNIZING LIEUTENANT JASON SHAW FOR RECEIVING A LIFE-SAVER AWARD

HON. CHERI BUSTOS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 16, 2021

Mrs. BUSTOS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Galesburg Police Department Lieutenant Jason Shaw on receiving a Life-Saver Award by Galesburg Mayor Peter Schwartzman on November 1, 2021.

Fellow GPD Officer Chris Hootman experienced a medical emergency at his residence and contacted Lieutenant Jason Shaw, who acted swiftly to dispatch paramedics and Officer Dan Williams to the scene. After Lieutenant Shaw helped assess that Officer Hootman would require more care than St. Mary Medical Center in Galesburg could offer, with Lieutenant Cromien following behind, Officer Williams and Lieutenant Shaw transported Officer Hootman by ambulance to St. Francis Medical Center in Peoria. On the way, paramedics had to pull over to provide immediate life-saving measures. While Officer Williams and Lieutenant Shaw rendered these mitigations, Lieutenant Cromien got out of her car and drove the ambulance the rest of the way. He was able to receive necessary medical care and is now recovering from his sustained trauma.

Officer Chris Hootman was recently named School Resource Officer at Galesburg High School. Lieutenants Shaw and Cromien and Officer Williams saved his life, and thanks to this act of valor, he can continue to keep our children safe.

It is because of committed and selfless leaders such as these three first responders that I am especially proud to serve Illinois' 17th Congressional District. Madam Speaker, I would like to, again, formally congratulate Lieutenant Jason Shaw and thank him for saving the life of Officer Chris Hootman.

RECOGNIZING MASTER SERGEANT FERNANDO G. SCHIEFELBEIN, UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS (RETIRED)

HON. GREGORY F. MURPHY

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 16, 2021

Mr. MURPHY of North Carolina. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay a heartfelt tribute to a distinguished Marine, Master Sergeant (MSgt) Fernando Schiefelbein of the United States Marine Corps, to honor his long and illustrious career in public service on active duty and as a civil servant. MSgt. Schiefelbein started his service in 1980 as a private nominated to attend Sea School and has been serving our great Nation with dedication and honor ever since. His retirement after 38 plus years of commitment to the United States Marine Corps and to the United States is extraordinary.

In May 2001, Master Sergeant Schiefelbein retired from active duty after 21 plus years of outstanding service. Master Sergeant Schiefelbein's personal awards and decorations include the Meritorious Service Medal (2nd Award), Navy/Marine Corps Commendation Medal (2nd Award), Combat Action Ribbon, Navy Unit Commendation Medal (2nd Award), Meritorious Unit Commendation (4th Award), Navy "E" Ribbon, Good Conduct Medal (6th Award), Marine Corps Expeditionary Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal (2nd Award), Southwest Asia Service Medal (3rd Award), Armed Forces Service Medal, Sea Service Deployment Ribbon (8th Award), Navy Arctic Service Ribbon, Marine Corps Recruiting Service Ribbon, Kuwait Liberation Medal (Saudi Arabia), and the Kuwait Liberation Medal (Kuwait).

Fernando Schiefelbein now serves as an Operations Specialist for Marine Corps Installations East and Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune, North Carolina. He has served in this capacity since October 2005.

During this period, Mr. Schiefelbein has successfully assisted in the planning and management of numerous VIP visits including U.S. Presidential and First Lady, U.S. Congressional Members and staff, U.S. Pentagon officials and staff, state and local politicians, foreign political dignitaries. military general officers and staff from all branches of service, veterans, and their families.

Mr. Schiefelbein serves also as an Emergency Operations Center (EOC) operator. An active participant and statistician reporter during this current COVID–19 Pandemic, he helps ensure officers are apprised of needed information for troop readiness. His responsibilities include assisting in plans and procedures for responding to natural disasters and other emergencies and preparing the cumulative reports for all installations included under the Marine Corps Installations East umbrella.

Mr. Schiefelbein is a member of the Beirut Memorial Advisory Board being appointed by the Mayor of Jacksonville, North Carolina. In 2010 Mr. Schiefelbein was appointed Administrator to the Lejeune Memorial Gardens Steering Committee, presiding over these quarterly meetings to the Base's Chief of Staff as well as the City of Jacksonville City Manager's Office. As Administrator he proudly supports requests to fly United States or Branch of Service flags at any of the memorials.

He also schedules reservations for ceremonial use at any of the memorials including professional military education classes, retirements and reenlistments, graduations, funerals, weddings, and formal ceremonies such as the Vietnam Veterans Recognition Day Ceremony, POW/MIA Recognition Ceremony, and the Montfort Point Marine Day Ceremony, and the 9/11 Patriot Day Ceremony. He enjoys acting as docent at the Lejeune Memorial Gardens to visiting dignitaries, veteran reunion groups and public/private school groups as they learn about veteran appreciation and community service.

Mr. Schiefelbein serves as the Camp Lejeune Base's liaison to the annual Jacksonville/Onslow County Veteran's Day Parade Committee and Jacksonville/Onslow County Christmas Parade Committee. Mr. Schiefelbein works with veteran organizations in the community both in his work capacity and as a concerned veteran himself. He is a member and past chairman of the MCB Camp Lejeune Military Retiree Council as well as the MCB Camp Lejeune liaison for the Onslow County Council of Veteran Organizations. He holds memberships in Non-Commissioned Officer Association, Disabled American Veterans, and Veterans of Foreign Wars.

Madam Speaker, and all congressional members of the 117th U.S. Congress, please join me in honoring the retirement of this incredible and noble Marine and wishing Master Sergeant Fernando Schiefelbein and his devoted wife Betty, a happy retirement from his life of outstanding public service.

IN RECOGNITION OF ASSISTANT CHIEF WILLIAM CHRISTOPHER CHANDLER

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 16, 2021

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Assistant Chief of Police William Christopher Chandler and his exemplary public service to the City of The Colony, Texas. After over 31 years as a Texas Police Officer, he is retiring as a respected law enforcement professional and community leader.

In high school, Chief Chandler met a fellow student and the love of his life, Olga. Chief

Chandler and Olga married after high school in January 1986, and he started working at Houston Lighting and Power Company as a Power Plant Manintenance Mechanic. Olga attended the University of Houston on a full scholarship, and the couple intended that Chief Chandler would enroll in college after she graduated. Life got in the way, and while Olga was attending college, they added to their family with the births of two sons.

Following in the footsteps of his father, a police officer, Chief Chandler began his law enforcement career in December 1989, joining his cousin as a fellow officer at the Jacinto City Police Department. He was promoted to Sergeant in 1993 by Chief Joe Clark. In 1996, Chief Clark was hired as Chief of The Colony Police Department, and he hired Chief Chandler away to serve as his Lieutenant and second-in-command. May 28, 1996 marked the first day of Chief Chandler's career at The Colony Police Department.

Chief Chandler was promoted to the rank of Captain in October 1998 and Assistant Chief in March 2012. Chief Chandler worked in the Operations Division overseeing Patrol, SWAT, Crossing Guards, and Bike Patrol. In January 2016, he took over the Support Services Division and oversaw the Criminal Investigations Division, School Resource Officers, Jail Operations, Communications, and Records.

He has been a committed life-long learner. He earned his Associates Degree in Criminal Justice from Collin County Community College, followed by a Bachelors of Applied Arts and Sciences Degree in 2021 from the University of North Texas. He is a graduate of the Bill Blackwood Law Enforcement Management Institute of Texas Leadership Command College at Sam Houston State University in Huntsville. He also graduated from the Federal Bureau of Investigation National Academy, Session No. 275, at Quantico, Virginia. Chief Chandler holds a Master Peace Officer License through the Texas Commission of Law Enforcement (TCOLE) and has compiled more than 5,890 hours of training since beginning his career.

He and Olga are the proud parent of three boys, each who have followed their father into law enforcement and are serving as officers in the cities of Frisco, Plano, and Carrollton.

For more than three decades, he has been devoted to protecting the citizens of the communities he has served, putting strangers' safety above his own. I am deeply grateful for his public service to the City of The Colony and North Texas, and I wish Chief Chandler and his family the best in his retirement.

REMEMBERING AND HONORING SERGEI MAGNITSKY

HON. STEVE COHEN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 16, 2021

Mr. COHEN. Madam Speaker, today we remember and honor Sergei Magnitsky, the Russian tax lawyer who in 2008 uncovered a massive fraud scheme of hundreds of millions of dollars perpetrated by law enforcement officers. In any normal situation, Mr. Magnitsky would have been praised for his efforts. But this was Putin's Russia, and he was arrested by the very people whose nefarious dealings he exposed. The conditions Mr. Magnitsky faced in prison for almost a year were inhumane, and on November 16, 2009, already weakened and seriously ill, he did not survive the beatings he received from prison guards.

Twelve years later, Putin still controls Russia. Throughout the country, hundreds of prisoners of conscience languish behind bars because of their political opinions, their activism, and even their religious beliefs.

Thanks to Sergei Magnitsky's determination to stand up for what is right in the face of overwhelming state power, the laws that bear his name ensure they will not be forgotten. His story is the story of many others—not only in Russia, but worldwide. Exposing human rights abuses and corruption carries many risks in many countries. Yet there are many brave people who continue to reveal the truth.

The Magnitsky Act has become a living memorial to Sergei Magnitsky's bravery. We in Congress originally passed this legislation to sanction those involved in the death of Mr. Magnitsky. Since then, we have expanded it to cover the world's worst human rights abusers. What began here has spread internationally as the United Kingdom, the European Union, and Canada have all adopted their own Magnitsky sanctions. Many others, such as Japan, Australia, and Taiwan, are considering their own legislation.

Magnitsky sanctions have completely changed the nature of the fight for human rights and against corruption. They not only protect our own system against abuse but also provide a measure of justice to those denied it abroad. We will keep encouraging our democratic allies to adopt similar sanctions so that one day there will be no safe haven left for kleptocrats and their blood money.

Finding justice for Sergei Magnitskyin Putin's Russia seems more impossible with each passing year. However, we have not forgotten his tragic story and we will never stop calling for accountability for those who imprisoned him and ultimately killed him; those who enabled corruption and abetted murder. We are determined to not let his memory fade. Instead, he will serve as an indelible reminder of all those who suffer under corrupt regimes.

RECOGNIZING OFFICER DAN WILLIAMS FOR RECEIVING A LIFE-SAVER AWARD

HON. CHERI BUSTOS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 16, 2021

Mr. BUSTOS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Galesburg Police Department Officer Dan Williams on receiving Life-Saver Awards by Galesburg Mayor Peter Schwartzman on November 1, 2021.

Fellow GPD Officer Chris Hootman experienced a medical emergency at his residence and contacted Lieutenant Jason Shaw, who acted swiftly to dispatch paramedics and Officer Dan Williams to the scene. After Officer Williams helped determine that Officer Hootman would require more care than St. Mary Medical Center in Galesburg could offer, with Lieutenant Steffanie Cromien following behind, Officer Williams and Lieutenant Shaw transported Officer Hootman by ambulance to St. Francis Medical Center in Peoria. On the way, paramedics had to pull over to provide immediate life-saving measures. While Officer Williams and Lieutenant Shaw rendered these mitigations, Lieutenant Cromien got out of her car and drove the ambulance the rest of the way. He was able to receive necessary medical care and is now recovering from his sustained trauma.

Officer Chris Hootman was recently named School Resource Officer at Galesburg High School. Officer Williams played a key role in saving his life, and thanks to this heroic act, he can continue to keep our children safe.

It is because of committed and selfless leaders such as these three first responders that I am especially proud to serve Illinois' 17th Congressional District. Madam Speaker, I would like to, again, formally congratulate Officer Dan Williams and thank him for saving the life of Officer Chris Hootman.

DR. DAWN COMSTOCK

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 16, 2021

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Dawn Comstock, Executive Director of the Jefferson County Public Health Department (JCPH) for her dedication and service to the people of Jefferson County, Colorado throughout the COVID–19 pandemic. In addition to her leadership role at JCPH, Dr. Comstock went above and beyond to engage, educate and inform the community about COVID–19, including by participating in four Telephone Town Halls with my office and thousands of my constituents.

After a successful career as a tenured professor at the University of Colorado Anschutz, Dr. Comstock answered the call to serve her community in the middle of a global pandemic, stepping into her role as Executive Director in February 2011. Participating in Telephone Town Halls, Dr. Comstock provided timely updates on COVID–19 and answered constituents' questions regarding how to protect themselves and their families during an uncertain time. Her insights and knowledge were invaluable to my constituents.

There is no amount of recognition that can accurately display just how much Dr. Comstock has done for us. It is because of essential workers like Dr. Comstock that we have been able to make it this far in the pandemic. I wish her nothing but the best in the future, as we continue to fight against COVID–19.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. PATRICK T. McHENRY

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 16, 2021

Mr. MCHENRY. Madam Speaker, on Roll Call No. 373 on the passage of S. 1095, taken on November 15, 2021, I am not recorded due to an unforeseen family obligation. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 373.

RECOGNIZING THE EFFORTS OF AZERBAIJAN TO STRIVE FOR PEACE

HON. ROBERT B. ADERHOLT

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 16, 2021

Mr. ADERHOLT. Madam Speaker, today, I want to call attention to the longstanding relationship between the United States and Azerbaijan, and to recognize the efforts of Azerbaijan to strive for peace.

After the collapse of the Soviet Union, the United States was one of the first countries to recognize the independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity of Azerbaijan. Since then, Azerbaijan has been a strong partner of the United States and its allies. Our countries continue to work together to promote European energy security, expand trade and investment, and combat terrorism, Azerbaijani servicemen served shoulder-to-shoulder with U.S. forces in Kosovo, Iraq, and Afghanistan.

While more than a year has passed since the end of the 44-day war between Armenia and Azerbaijan, tensions remain high in the region. I support the efforts of resolving the Armenia-Azerbaijan conflict through negotiations, as they seek to establish basic conditions for the continued development of relations between all countries of this region and establishing long-term peace and prosperity in the South Caucasus.

I believe peace between Armenia and Azerbaijan will not only boost bilateral relations between the two countries, but regional partnership and cooperation at large.

May God continue to bless the people of Azerbaijan and the United States. I pray that the strategic partnerships our countries have forged over the years will continue to flourish as they seek peace and security.

RECOGNIZING THE RETIREMENT OF MR. TOMMY WHITAKER OF PORTLAND, TENNESSEE

HON. JOHN W. ROSE

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 16, 2021

Mr. ROSE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize my friend and constituent Mr. Tommy Whitaker. On November 14, one day before his 70th birthday, Tommy retired after 45 years as an employee and 16 years as president and CEO of The Farmer's Bank headquartered in Portland, TN. Tommy is a proud Tennessean who has dedicated his career to serving the financial needs of his fellow citizens.

Tommy graduated from the University of Tennessee with a B.B.A. before attending the Graduate School of Banking at Louisiana State University.

Tommy married his wife Shirley and raised two wonderful children—Susan Hand and Joseph Whitaker—all while continuing to work for the Portland community. Today, he is the proud grandfather of Grayson Whitaker.

In addition to his many decades at the bank, Tommy serves the Upper Cumberland community as president of Cumberland Electric Membership Corporation, and as a member of the City of Portland's Industrial Development Board. Previously, he served for seven years on the University of Tennessee Board of Trustees.

Tommy is one of Tennessee's most influential bankers and his strong character and devotion to service before self has gained him the respect of his community and beyond. It is truly an end of an era for The Farmer's Bank. During his tenure, the bank has had significant growth, has produced steadily increasing returns to its stockholders, and now has a strong team to move the bank forward for years to come.

As the U.S. Representative for Tennessee's Sixth Congressional District, I am grateful for Tommy's friendship, his service to Tennessee, and his commitment to put people first.

An inspiring leader with a human touch, I hope Tommy Whitaker enjoys his much-deserved retirement back in Middle Tennessee.

RECOGNIZING DR. JOHN DOUGLAS

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 16, 2021

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. John Douglas, Executive Director of the Tri-County Health Department, for his dedication and service to the people of Adams, Arapahoe and Douglas Counties throughout the COVID–19 pandemic. In addition to his duties as Executive Director, Dr. Douglas went above and beyond by engaging, informing and educating community members, including by participating in seven Telephone Town Halls with my office and speaking to thousands of my constituents.

With more than 43 years of experience in the medical field as an Infectious Disease Specialist, Dr. Douglas has enormous experience in the field of public health and has played an instrumental role in disseminating accurate and timely information to Coloradans throughout the pandemic. On Telephone Town Halls, Dr. Douglas provided timely updates on COVID–19 and answered constituent's questions regarding how to protect themselves and their families. Under Dr. Douglas's leadership, residents of our community were empowered and informed as we worked together to help limit the transmission and impact of COVID–19 on our community.

There is no amount of recognition that can accurately display just how much Dr. Douglas has done for us. It is because of essential workers like Dr. Douglas that we have been able to make it this far in the pandemic. I wish him nothing but the best in the future, as we continue to fight against COVID–19.

HONORING THE RETIREMENT OF MARY JAROSZ FROM THE SOUTHERN WAYNE COUNTY REGIONAL CHAMBER

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 16, 2021

Mrs. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mrs. Mary Jarosz of Riverview, Michigan on the occasion of her retirement from the Southern Wayne County Regional Chamber after over twenty-five years of service as Legislative & Business Forum Coordinator. Her significant contributions to our Downriver community are worthy of commendation.

Born in Colombia, she moved to the United States at a young age. She grew up on the eastside of Detroit and attended Wayne State University. When former Southern Wayne County Regional Chamber President Ed Clemente noticed Mrs. Jarosz's consistent attendance and interest in the Chamber's forum series, he offered her the opportunity to lead the series—and the rest is history. Since then, Mrs. Jarosz has turned the forum into the fantastic program that we know today, bringing in speakers from all areas of government and business. These speakers have included Former President George H.W. Bush, Michigan governors, state and federal legislators, and other leaders. Each year she has begun the series with an annual address from ''Downriver's champion'' the late Congressman John Dingell, a tradition that continues today with Congresswoman DINGELL. The effects of her hard work are felt in all areas of the forum and her impact will continue to be evident for years to come.

An active member of the Downriver community, her service does not end with her coordinator role. Mrs. Jarosz has served on the Southern Wayne County Regional Chamber Board of Directors, representing Crystal Gardens Banquet Center in Southgate and on the City of Riverview's Board of Review. She is also a member of the Chamber's Public Policy Committee and has been a trusted friend and advisor to countless Chamber Presidents. In her efforts to educate the youngest of our neighbors, she has worked with local leaders to offer free admission to local high schoolers, so they have the opportunity to attend the legislative and business forums at no cost to them. A resident of Riverview, Michigan for nearly 55 years, she still lives there with her husband Rick. Together they have two children, two grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren. Her dedication to the community that she calls home is an inspiration to all who have crossed her path.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Mary Jarosz for her dedicated service to the Southern Wayne County Regional Chamber. We are grateful for her years spent improving the lives of all Michiganders. I join with Mary's family, friends, and colleagues in extending my best wishes to her in retirement.

RECOGNIZING LIEUTENANT STEPHANIE CROMIEN FOR RECEIVING A LIFE-SAVER AWARD

HON. CHERI BUSTOS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 16, 2021

Mrs. BUSTOS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Galesburg Police Department Lieutenant Stephanie Cromien on receiving a Life-Saver Award by Galesburg Mayor Peter Schwartzman on November 1, 2021.

Fellow GPO Officer Chris Hootman experienced a medical emergency at his residence

and contacted Lieutenant Jason Shaw, who acted swiftly to dispatch paramedics and Officer Dan Williams to the scene. After Lieutenant Shaw and Officer Williams determined that Officer Hootman would require more care than St. Mary Medical Center in Galesburg could offer, with Lieutenant Cromien following behind, Officer Williams and Lieutenant Shaw transported Officer Hootman by ambulance to St. Francis Medical Center in Peoria. On the way, paramedics had to pull over to provide immediate life-saving measures. While Officer Williams and Lieutenant Shaw rendered these mitigations, Lieutenant Cromien got out of her car and drove the ambulance the rest of the way. He was able to receive necessary medical care and is now recovering from his sustained trauma.

Officer Chris Hootman was recently named School Resource Officer at Galesburg High School. Lieutenant Cromien helped save his life, and thanks to this act of heroism, he can continue to keep our children safe.

It is because of committed and selfless leaders such as these three first responders that I am especially proud to serve Illinois' 17th Congressional District. Madam Speaker, I would like to, again, formally congratulate Lieutenant Stephanie Cromien and thank her for saving the life of Officer Chris Hootman.

HONORING RIDGE GREENE

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 16, 2021

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Ridge Greene, who demonstrated an unwavering commitment to the betterment of the Port Costa community in California's 5th Congressional District.

Born in Burlingame, CA, Mr. Greene spent years cruising the South Pacific before moving to Port Costa in Contra Costa County in the 1980s. Since his arrival, Port Costa has felt the impact of his tremendous compassion and dedication to community activism. As Senior Project Manager at RGM Karmer INC, Mr. Greene paved the way for large-scale construction projects for Bay Area School Districts. Utilizing his expertise in construction, he became a crucial member of the Port Costa Recycles, an innovative grassroots community recycling program.

Among a multitude of community involvements, Mr. Greene played a key role in the Port Costa Conservation Society as well as the restoration of the Port Costa School building. As a board member of the Port Costa Conservation Society, Mr. Greene helped save the historic, but physically neglected school building. He became the chairman of the board, and continually used his role as chairman to lead restoration efforts. Mr. Greene was vital in the planning and oversight of the construction work for the school building, and his knowledge of the State Historic Preservation Office's requirements proved invaluable in preserving the historic status of the Port Costa School.

After 30 years, Mr. Greene retired on April 15, 2021 from the Board of Directors of the Port Costa Conservation Society. Nonetheless, Mr. Greene continues to serve his community. His relentless will and caring heart have led him to serve as a construction consultant to the board. Additionally, Mr. Greene is a lifetime member of E Clampus Vitus, where he is described as a ''Clamper,'' and a retired member of the fire commission in Crockett-Carquinez's fire district. In retirement, he looks forward to traveling more with his wife, Monica, and spending time with his two loving children, Clare and Aaron.

Madam Speaker, it is no doubt that the historic 1911 Port Costa School will serve as a visual testimony to Mr. Greene's impact for generations to come. Therefore, it is fitting and proper that we honor him here today.

DR. MARGARET HUFFMAN

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 16, 2021

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Margaret Huffman, Director of Community Health Services for the Jefferson County Public Health Department (JCPH) for her dedication and service to the people of Jefferson County, Colorado throughout the COVID–19 pandemic. In addition to her role at JCPH, Dr. Huffman went above and beyond to engage, educate and inform the community about COVID–19, including by participating in one of my Telephone Town Halls with my office and thousands of my constituents.

With more than 20 years of public health and nursing expertise, Dr. Huffman was always ready and willing to provide timely updates on COVID–19 and answered constituent's questions regarding how to protect themselves and their families during an uncertain time.

I would like to extend a personal thank you to Dr. Huffman for her leadership, commitment and sacrifice as a public health official in our community. Her service has helped to keep our residents and community safe and healthy. I also appreciate her ongoing partnership with my office. Again, I thank Dr. Huffman for her dedication to the residents of the Denver Metro region and the State of Colorado.

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S8215–S8317

Measures Introduced: Three bills and seven resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 3213–3215, S. Res. 447–452, and S. Con. Res. 21. **Page S8236**

Measures Reported:

S. Res. 345, expressing the sense of the Senate on the political situation in Belarus, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute and with an amended preamble.

S. 2428, to amend title 31, United States Code, to modify False Claims Act procedures, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. **Page S8236**

Measures Passed:

National College Application Month: Senate agreed to S. Res. 449, designating November 2021 as ''National College Application Month''. **Page S8316**

Honoring the late Senator Max Cleland: Senate agreed to S. Res. 451, honoring the life and legacy of the late Senator Max Cleland. **Pages S8316–17**

National Homeless Children and Youth Awareness Month: Senate agreed to S. Res. 452, recognizing November 2021 as ''National Homeless Children and Youth Awareness Month''. **Page S8317**

Message from the President: Senate received the following message from the President of the United States:

Transmitting, pursuant to law, a report of the continuation of the national emergency that was originally declared in Executive Order 13851 of November 27, 2018, with respect to Nicaragua; which was referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs. (PM–17) **Page S8235**

Removal of Injunction of Secrecy: The injunction of secrecy was removed from the following treaty:

Amendment to Montreal Protocol (''Kigali Amendment'') (Treaty Doc. No. 117–1).

The treaty was transmitted to the Senate today, considered as having been read for the first time, and referred, with accompanying papers, to the Committee on Foreign Relations and ordered to be printed. **Page S8316**

Nelson Nomination—Agreement: Senate resumed consideration of the nomination of Brian Eddie Nelson, of California, to be Under Secretary of the Treasury for Terrorism and Financial Crimes. **Pages S8224–32**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that notwithstanding Rule XXII, the vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Brian Eddie Nelson, and the vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the motion to proceed to consideration of H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, occur at 10 a.m. on Wednesday, November 17, 2021; and that if cloture is invoked on the nomination of Brian Eddie Nelson, all post-cloture time be considered expired, and Senate vote on confirmation of the nomination at a time to be determined by the Majority Leader, in consultation with the Republican Leader. **Page S8223**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the nomination of Brian Eddie Nelson at approximately 9:30 a.m., on Wednesday, November 17, 2021. **Page S8317**

Nominations Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nominations:

By 53 yeas to 42 nays (Vote No. EX. 467), Graham Scott Steele, of California, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Treasury. **Pages S8215–22**

By 76 yeas to 19 nays (Vote No. EX. 469), Robert Farrell Bonnie, of Virginia, to be Under Secretary of Agriculture for Farm Production and Conservation. **Pages S8222–24**

During consideration of this nomination today, Senate also took the following action:

By 75 yeas to 20 nays (Vote No. EX. 468), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination. **Pages S8222–23**

By 68 yeas to 29 nays (Vote No. EX. 470), Jonathan Kanter, of Maryland, to be an Assistant Attorney General. **Pages S8232–33**

Richard Trumka, Jr., of Maryland, to be a Commissioner of the Consumer Product Safety Commission for a term of seven years from October 27, 2021.

Willie L. Phillips, Jr., of the District of Columbia, to be a Member of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission for a term expiring June 30, 2026.

1 National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration nomination in the rank of admiral. **Page S8316**

Messages from the House: **Page S8235**

Measures Referred: **Page S8235**

Measures Placed on the Calendar: **Page S8235**

Enrolled Bills Presented: **Page S8235**

Executive Communications: **Pages S8235–36**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S8236–41**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: **Pages S8241–44**

Additional Statements: **Page S8234**

Amendments Submitted: **Pages S8244–S8314**

Authorities for Committees to Meet: **Page S8314**

Privileges of the Floor:

Record Votes: Four record votes were taken today. (Total—470) **Pages S8222, S8223, S8224, S8233**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 10 a.m. and adjourned, as a further mark of respect to the memory of the late Senator Max Cleland, in accordance with S. Res. 451, at 6:36 p.m., until 9:30 a.m. on Wednesday, November 17, 2021. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S8317.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

ENERGY PRICE TRENDS

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the causes, outlook, and implications of domestic and international energy price trends, after receiving testimony from Stephen Nalley, Acting Administrator, Energy Information Administration, Department of Energy; Tim Gould, Chief Energy Economist, International Energy Agency, Paris, France; and Robert Bryce, *A Question of Power: Electricity and the Wealth of Nations*, Austin, Texas.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on Finance: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Lisa W. Wang, of the District of Columbia, to be an Assistant Secretary, and Maria Louise Lago, of New York, to be Under Secretary for International Trade, both of the Department of Commerce, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

DHS OVERSIGHT

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee concluded an oversight hearing to examine the Department of Homeland Security, after receiving testimony from Alejandro N. Mayorkas, Secretary of Homeland Security.

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: 9 public bills, H.R. 5982–5990; and 1 resolution, H. Res. 794, were introduced. **Page H6317**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages H6318–19**

Reports Filed: There were no reports filed today.

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein she appointed Representative Cardenas to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. **Page H6269**

Recess: The House recessed at 10:54 a.m. and reconvened at 12 noon. **Page H6275**

Suspensions: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures:

VA Electronic Health Record Transparency Act of 2021: H.R. 4591, amended, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to submit to Congress periodic reports on the costs of the Department of Veterans Affairs Electronic Health Record Modernization program; **Pages H6278–79**

Agreed to amend the title so as to read: "To direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to submit to Congress periodic reports on the costs, performance metrics, and outcomes of the Department of Veterans Affairs Electronic Health Record Modernization program; **Page H6279**

VITAL Assessment Act: H.R. 5516, amended, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to submit to Congress a report on the Veterans Integration to Academic Leadership program of the Department of Veterans Affairs; **Pages H6279–80**

Burn Pit Registry Enhancement Act: H.R. 2433, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to take actions necessary to ensure that certain individuals may update the burn pit registry with a registered individual's cause of death; **Pages H6280–81**

VA Assessment by Independent Measures Act: H.R. 4626, amended, to amend title 38, United States Code, to require an independent assessment of health care delivery systems and management processes of the Department of Veterans Affairs be conducted once every 10 years; **Pages H6281–83**

Protections for Student Veterans Act: H.R. 5603, amended, to amend title 38, United States Code, to establish protections for a member of the Armed Forces who leaves a course of education, paid for with certain educational assistance, to perform certain service; **Pages H6283–86**

Protecting Moms Who Served Act of 2021: S. 796, to codify maternity care coordination programs at the Department of Veterans Affairs, by a ⅔ yea-and-nay vote of 414 yeas to 9 nays, Roll No. 374; **Pages H6286–88, H6297–98**

Student Veterans Counseling Centers Eligibility Act: H.R. 4233, to amend title 38, United States Code, to furnish Vet Center readjustment counseling and related mental health services to veterans and members of the Armed Forces using certain educational assistance benefits, by a ⅔ yea-and-nay vote of 420 yeas to 4 nays, Roll No. 375; **Pages H6288–89, H6298**

Bringing Registered Apprenticeships to Veterans Education Act: H.R. 147, amended, to amend titles 10 and 38, United States Code, to make certain improvements to transitional services for separating members of the Armed Forces and educational assistance under laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, by a ⅔ yea-and-nay vote of 427 yeas with none voting "nay", Roll No. 376; **Pages H6289–91, H6295–99**

Agreed to amend the title so as to read: "To amend title 10, United States Code, to make certain improvements to services and benefits for veterans and separating members of the Armed Forces with respect to apprenticeship programs, and for other purposes."; **Page H6291**

Homeland Procurement Reform Act: H.R. 2915, amended, to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 regarding the procurement of certain items related to national security interests for Department of Homeland Security frontline operational components; and **Pages H6292–94**

DHS Acquisition Review Board Act of 2021: H.R. 5652, to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to establish the Acquisition Review Board in the Department of Homeland Security. **Pages H6294–96**

Recess: The House recessed at 2:01 p.m. and reconvened at 2:45 p.m. **Page H6297**

Suspensions—Proceedings Postponed: The House debated the following measures under suspension of the rules. Further proceedings were postponed.

Amending title 38, United States Code, to establish in the Department of Veterans Affairs an Advisory Committee on United States Outlying Areas and Freely Associated States: H.R. 3730, amended, to amend title 38, United States Code, to establish in the Department of Veterans Affairs an Advisory Committee on United States Outlying Areas and Freely Associated States; and **Pages H6291–92**

TSA Reaching Across Nationalities, Societies, and Languages to Advance Traveler Education Act: H.R. 5574, amended, to require the TSA to develop a plan to ensure that TSA material disseminated in major airports can be better understood by more people accessing such airports. **Pages H6296–97**

Presidential Message: Read a message from the President wherein he notified Congress that the national emergency with respect to Nicaragua that was declared in Executive Order 13851 of November 27, 2018 is to continue in effect beyond November 27, 2021—referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and ordered to be printed (H. Doc. 117–75). **Page H6301**

Senate Referral: S. 2923 was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources. **Page H6316**

Quorum Calls—Votes: Three yea-and-nay votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H6297–98, H6298, and H6299.

Adjournment: The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 6:47 p.m.

Committee Meetings

A LOOK AT THE RENEWABLE ECONOMY IN RURAL AMERICA

Committee on Agriculture: Subcommittee on Commodity Exchanges, Energy, and Credit held a hearing entitled ''A Look at the Renewable Economy in Rural America''. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

SECURING AMERICA'S FUTURE: SUPPLY CHAIN SOLUTIONS FOR A CLEAN ENERGY ECONOMY

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Environment and Climate Change; and Subcommittee on Energy held a joint hearing entitled ''Securing America's Future: Supply Chain Solutions for a Clean Energy Economy''. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Financial Services: Full Committee held a markup on H.R. 2311, the ''Credit Union Governance Modernization Act of 2021''; H.R. 2620, the ''Investor Choice Act of 2021''; H.R. 5910, the ''Holding SPACs Accountable Act of 2021''; H.R. 5911, the ''Fair Hiring in Banking Act''; H.R. 5913, the ''Protecting Investors from Excessive SPACs Fees Act of 2021''; and H.R. 5914, the ''Empowering States to Protect Seniors from Bad Actors''. H.R. 2311, H.R. 2620, H.R. 5910, H.R. 5911, H.R. 5913, and H.R. 5914 were ordered reported, as amended.

NATIONAL SECURITY IMPLICATIONS OF CLIMATE CHANGE IN THE ARCTIC

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Subcommittee on Europe, Energy, the Environment, and Cyber held a hearing entitled ''National Security Implications of Climate Change in the Arctic''. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

THE BIDEN ADMINISTRATION'S POLICY PRIORITIES FOR LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Subcommittee on the Western Hemisphere, Civilian Security, Migration and International Economic Policy held a hearing entitled ''The Biden Administration's Policy Priorities for Latin America and the Caribbean''. Testimony was heard from Brian Nichols, Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Western Hemisphere Affairs, Department of State.

ON THE FRONTLINES IN TURBULENT TIMES: WORKFORCE PERSPECTIVES ON THE STATE OF TRANSPORTATION SECURITY

Committee on Homeland Security: Subcommittee on Transportation and Maritime Security held a hearing entitled ''On the Frontlines in Turbulent Times: Workforce Perspectives on the State of Transportation Security''. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

SILENCED: HOW FORCED ARBITRATION KEEPS VICTIMS OF SEXUAL VIOLENCE AND SEXUAL HARASSMENT IN THE SHADOWS

Committee on the Judiciary: Full Committee held a hearing entitled ''Silenced: How Forced Arbitration Keeps Victims of Sexual Violence and Sexual Harassment in the Shadows''. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

PLUGGING IN PUBLIC LANDS: TRANSMISSION INFRASTRUCTURE FOR RENEWABLE ENERGY

Committee on Natural Resources: Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources held a hearing entitled ''Plugging in Public Lands: Transmission Infrastructure for Renewable Energy''. Testimony was heard from Janea Scott, Senior Counselor to the Assistant Secretary for Land and Minerals, Department of the Interior; and public witnesses.

LEGISLATIVE MEASURES

Committee on Natural Resources: Subcommittee on Water, Oceans, and Wildlife, hearing on H.R. 59, the ''Strengthening Fishing Communities and Increasing Flexibility in Fisheries Management Act''; H.R. 4690, the ''Sustaining America's Fisheries for the Future Act of 2021''; and H.R. 5770, the ''Forage Fish Conservation Act of 2021''. Testimony was heard from Representative Dingell; Janet Coit, Assistant Administrator, National Marine Fisheries Service, and Acting Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere, Deputy Administrator, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Department of Commerce; and public witnesses.

CRACKING DOWN ON RANSOMWARE: STRATEGIES FOR DISRUPTING CRIMINAL HACKERS AND BUILDING RESILIENCE AGAINST CYBER THREATS

Committee on Oversight and Reform: Full Committee held a hearing entitled ''Cracking Down on Ransomware: Strategies for Disrupting Criminal Hackers and Building Resilience Against Cyber Threats''. Testimony was heard from Chris Inglis, National Cyber Director, Executive Office of the

President; Brandon Wales, Executive Director, Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency, Department of Homeland Security; and Bryan Vorndran, Assistant Director, Cyber Division, Federal Bureau of Investigation.

CENSURING REPRESENTATIVE PAUL GOSAR

Committee on Rules: Full Committee held a hearing on H. Res. 789, Censuring Representative Paul Gosar. The Committee granted, by record vote of 9–4, a closed rule providing for consideration of H. Res. 789, Censuring Representative Paul Gosar. The rule provides one hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Ethics or their designees. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the resolution. The rule provides that the amendment printed in the Rules Committee report shall be considered as adopted and the resolution, as amended, shall be considered as read.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology: Full Committee held a markup on H.R. 5781, the ''National Wildland Fire Risk Reduction Program Act''; H.R. 1437, the ''PRECIP Act''; and H.R. 5324, the ''NWR Modernization Act of 2021''. H.R. 5781, H.R. 1437, and H.R. 5324 were ordered reported, as amended.

A DISCUSSION WITH SBA ADMINISTRATOR ISABELLA CASILLAS GUZMAN

Committee on Small Business: Full Committee held a hearing entitled ''A Discussion with SBA Administrator Isabella Casillas Guzman''. Testimony was heard from Isabella Casillas Guzman, Administrator, U.S. Small Business Administration.

REBUILDING COAST GUARD INFRASTRUCTURE TO SUSTAIN AND ENHANCE MISSION CAPABILITY

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation held a hearing entitled ''Rebuilding Coast Guard Infrastructure to Sustain and Enhance Mission Capability''. Testimony was heard from Vice Admiral Paul Thomas, Deputy Commandant for Mission Support, U.S. Coast Guard; and Heather MacLeod, Acting Director, Homeland Security and Justice, Government Accountability Office.

THE OPPORTUNITY ZONE PROGRAM AND WHO IT LEFT BEHIND

Committee on Ways and Means: Subcommittee on Oversight held a hearing entitled ''The Opportunity Zone Program and Who It Left Behind''. Testimony was heard from Jessica Lucas-Judy, Director, Strategic Issues, Government Accountability Office; and public witnesses.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2021

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry: to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Chavonda J. Jacobs-Young, of Georgia, to be Under Secretary for Research, Education, and Economics, and Margo Schlanger, of Michigan, to be an Assistant Secretary, both of the Department of Agriculture, 10:15 a.m., SR–301.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: business meeting to consider the nominations of Alanna McCargo, of Virginia, to be President, Government National Mortgage Association, and James Arthur Jemison II, of Michigan, and Elizabeth de Leon Bhargava, of New York, both to be an Assistant Secretary, all of the Department of Housing and Urban Development, and Arun Venkataraman, of the District of Columbia, to be Assistant Secretary of Commerce and Director General of the United States and Foreign Commercial Service, Time to be announced, S–207, Capitol.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: business meeting to consider S. 594, to double the existing penalties for the provision of misleading or inaccurate caller identification information, S. 1127, to require the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to make certain operational models available to the public, S. 46, to reauthorize the Coral Reef Conservation Act of 2000 and to establish the United States Coral Reef Task Force, S. 2699, to establish a cybersecurity literacy campaign, the nominations of Laurie E. Locascio, of Maryland, to be Under Secretary of Commerce for Standards and Technology, Max Vekich, of Washington, to be a Federal Maritime Commissioner, Christopher A. Coes, of Georgia, to be an Assistant Secretary of Transportation, and routine lists in the Coast Guard; to be immediately followed by a hearing to examine the nominations of Jessica Rosenworcel, of Connecticut, to be a Member of the Federal Communications Commission, Alvaro M. Bedoya, of Maryland, to be a Federal Trade Commissioner, and Jainey Kumar Bavishi, of New York, to be Assistant Secretary for Oceans and Atmosphere, and Arun Venkataraman, of the District of Columbia, to be Assistant Secretary and Director General of the United States and Foreign Commercial Service, both of the Department of Commerce, 10 a.m., SR–253.

Committee on Environment and Public Works: to hold hearings to examine the nomination of Martha Williams, of Montana, to be Director of the United States Fish and

Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, 10 a.m., SD–406.

Committee on Finance: business meeting to consider the nominations of Maria L. Pagan, of Puerto Rico, to be a Deputy United States Trade Representative (Geneva Office), with the rank of Ambassador, Brent Neiman, of Illinois, to be a Deputy Under Secretary, and Joshua Frost, of New York, to be an Assistant Secretary, both of the Department of the Treasury, Samuel R. Bagenstos, of Michigan, to be General Counsel, and Christi A. Grimm, of Colorado, to be Inspector General, both of the Department of Health and Human Services, and Christopher S. Wilson, of the District of Columbia, to be Chief Innovation and Intellectual Property Negotiator, Office of the United States Trade Representative, with the rank of Ambassador, 9:30 a.m., SD–215.

Committee on Foreign Relations: to hold hearings to examine Afghanistan, focusing on U.S. policy lessons learned, 10 a.m., SD–G50/VTC.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Subcommittee on Government Operations and Border Management, to hold hearings to examine security, trade, and travel flows at the Southwest border ports of entry, focusing on the Federal government perspective, 2:30 p.m., SD–342/VTC.

Committee on Indian Affairs: business meeting to consider S. 648, to amend the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009 to make a technical correction to the water rights settlement for Shoshone-Paiute Tribes of the Duck Valley Reservation; to be immediately followed by a hearing to examine S. 1364, to provide for the recognition of the Lumbee Tribe of North Carolina, H.R. 1975, to take certain land located in San Diego County, California, into trust for the benefit of the Pala Band of Mission Indians, H.R. 2088, to take certain Federal lands in Tennessee into trust for the benefit of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, and H.R. 4881, to direct the Secretary of the Interior to take into trust for the Pascua Yaqui Tribe of Arizona certain land in Pima County, Arizona, 2:30 p.m., SD–628.

Committee on the Judiciary: to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Bridget Meehan Brennan, Charles Esque Fleming, and David Augustin Ruiz, each to be a United States District Judge for the Northern District of Ohio, and John H. Chun, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Washington, 10 a.m., SD–226.

Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship: business meeting to consider S. 1617, to modify the requirements for the Administrator of the Small Business Administration relating to declaring a disaster in a rural area, S. 1621, to reauthorize and limit the pre-disaster mitigation program of the Small Business Administration, the nomination of Dilawar Syed, of California, to be Deputy Administrator of the Small Business Administration, and other pending calendar business, 2:30 p.m., SR–428A.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: to hold hearings to examine S. 1296, to require a pilot program on activities under the Transition Assistance Program for a reduction in suicide among veterans, S. 1564, to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to provide support to university law school programs that are designed to provide legal assistance to veterans, S. 1607, to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to improve how the Department of Veterans Affairs discloses to individuals entitled to educational assistance from the Department risks associated with using such assistance at particular educational institutions and to restore entitlement of students to such assistance who are pursuing programs of education at educational institutions that are subject to Federal or State civil enforcement action, S. 1664, to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to take certain actions to improve the processing by the Department of Veterans Affairs of claims for disability compensation for post-traumatic stress disorder, S. 1838, to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to carry out a pilot program on using alternative credit scoring information for veterans and members of the Armed Forces, S. 1850, to preserve the memorials to chaplains at Arlington National Cemetery, S. 1881, to reauthorize and improve a grant program to assist institutions of higher education in establishing, maintaining, improving, and operating Student Veteran Centers, S. 1936, to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for extensions of the time limitations for use of entitlement under Department of Veterans Affairs educational assistance programs by reason of school closures due to emergency and other situations, S. 2089, to amend title 38, United States Code, to ensure that grants provided by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs for State veterans' cemeteries do not restrict States from authorizing the interment of certain deceased members of the reserve components of the Armed Forces in such cemeteries, S. 2329, to ensure that only licensed health care professionals furnish disability examinations under a certain Department of Veterans Affairs pilot program for use of contract physicians for disability examinations, S. 2405, to amend title 38, United States Code, to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to award grants to States to improve outreach to veterans, S. 2431, to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to require the employees of the Department of Veterans Affairs to receive training developed by the Inspector General of the Department on reporting wrongdoing to, responding to requests from, and cooperating with the Office of Inspector General, S. 2513, to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the application and review process of the Department of Veterans Affairs for clothing allowance claims submitted by veterans, S. 2644, to amend title 38, United States Code, to expand eligibility for Post-9/11 Educational Assistance to members of the National Guard who perform certain full-time duty, S. 2687, to provide the Inspector General of the Department of Veterans Affairs testimonial subpoena authority, S. 2761, to amend title 38, United States Code, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to maintain demographic information regarding veterans and publish such information on a website of the Department of Veterans Affairs, S. 2794, to amend title 38, United States Code, to increase automatic maximum coverage under the Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance program and the Veterans' Group Life Insurance program, S. 3047, to establish a pilot program to support medical residency and fellowship programs that assist veterans, S. 3094, to

amend title 38, United States Code, to improve homeless veterans reintegration programs, S. 3163, to improve access to medical examinations required by veterans to obtain disability compensation or pension under laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, and an original bill entitled, ''Veterans Benefits Improvement Act'', 3 p.m., SR–418.

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

United States Senate Caucus on International Narcotics Control: to hold hearings to examine the nexus between the illicit drug trade and corruption, 1 p.m., SD–608.

House

Committee on Agriculture, Subcommittee on Livestock and Foreign Agriculture, hearing entitled ''Trade Policy and Priorities'', 10 a.m., 1300 Longworth and Zoom.

Committee on Appropriations, Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies, hearing entitled ''U.S. Role in Global COVID–19 Vaccine Equity'', 10:30 a.m., Webex.

Committee on Education and Labor, Subcommittee on Early Childhood, Elementary, and Secondary Education; and Subcommittee on Higher Education and Workforce Investment, joint hearing entitled ''Examining the Implementation of COVID–19 Education Funds'', 10:15 a.m., Zoom.

Committee on Energy and Commerce, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 5561, the ''Early Hearing Detection and Intervention Reauthorization Act''; H.R. 5487, the ''SHINE for Autumn Act of 2021''; H.R. 1193, the ''CAROL Act''; H.R. 1667, the ''Dr. Lorna Breen Health Care Provider Protection Act''; H.R. 3320, the ''Allied Health Workforce Diversity Act of 2021''; H.R. 4555, the ''Oral Health Literacy and Awareness Act of 2021''; H.R. 5551, the ''Improving the Health of Children Act''; H.R. 3537, the ''Accelerating Access to Critical Therapies for ALS Act''; H.R. 1218, the ''Data Mapping to Save Moms' Lives Act''; H.R. 2501, the ''Spectrum Coordination Act''; H.R. 5502, the ''Integrity, Notification, and Fairness in Online Retail Marketplaces for Consumers Act''; and H.R. 4594, the ''Restoring Brand USA Act'', 10:30 a.m., 2123 Rayburn and Webex.

Committee on Foreign Affairs, Subcommittee on the Middle East, North Africa, and Global Counterterrorism, hearing entitled ''The FY22 Budget: State Department Counterterrorism Bureau'', 10 a.m., 2172 Rayburn and Webex.

Committee on Homeland Security, Subcommittee on Intelligence and Counterterrorism; and Subcommittee on Cybersecurity, Infrastructure Protection, and Innovation, joint hearing entitled ''A Whole-of-Government Approach to Combatting Ransomware: Examining DHS's Role'', 10 a.m., 310 Cannon and Webex.

Committee on the Judiciary, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 4445, the ''Ending Forced Arbitration of Sexual Assault and Sexual Harassment Act of 2021''; H.R. 612, the ''Downwinders Parity Act of 2021''; H.R. 1621, the ''Prohibiting Punishment of Acquitted Conduct Act of 2021''; H.R. 5720, the ''Courthouse Ethics and Transparency Act of 2021''; H.R. 5961, to make revisions in title 5, United States Code, as necessary to keep the title current, and to make technical amendments to improve the United States Code; and H.R. 5962, to make revisions in title 51, United States Code, as necessary to keep the title current, and to make technical amendments to improve the United States Code, 10 a.m., 2141 Rayburn and Zoom.

Committee on Natural Resources, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 404, the ''Driftnet Modernization and Bycatch Reduction Act of 2021''; H.R. 667, the ''Desert Sage Youth Wellness Center Access Improvement Act''; H.R. 1931, the ''Japanese American Confinement Education Act''; H.R. 2026, the ''Global Amphibian Protection Act of 2021''; H.R. 2793, the ''Highlands Conservation Reauthorization Act of 2021''; H.R. 3128, the ''American Fisheries Advisory Committee Act of 2021''; H.R. 3197, the ''Save the Liberty Theatre Act of 2021''; H.R. 3326, the ''Public Land Renewable Energy Development Act of 2021''; H.R. 3531, the ''Women Who Worked on the Home Front World War II Memorial Act''; H.R. 3600, the ''Route 66 National Historic Trail Designation Act''; H.R. 4494, the ''Frederick Jobs and Historic Preservation Training Center Land Acquisition Act''; H.R. 4648, the ''Cane River Creole National Historical Park Boundary Modification Act''; H.R. 4706, the ''Blackwell School National Historic Site Act''; H.R. 5001, the ''Upper Colorado and San Juan River Basins Recovery Act''; H.R. 5345, the ''Saline Lake Ecosystems in the Great Basin States Program Act of 2021''; and S. 2923, the ''Fishery Resource Disasters Improvement Act'', 10 a.m., Webex.

Committee on Oversight and Reform, Subcommittee on National Security, hearing entitled ''Invisible Wounds: Preventing Suicide in Our Nation's Military and Veteran Communities'', 10 a.m., 2154 Rayburn and Zoom.

Select Subcommittee on the Coronavirus Crisis, hearing entitled ''Combating Coronavirus Cons and the Monetization of Misinformation'', 2 p.m., 2154 Rayburn and Zoom.

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, Subcommittee on Energy, hearing entitled ''Fostering a New Era of Fusion Energy Research and Technology Development'', 10 a.m., Zoom.

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, Full Committee, hearing entitled ''Industry and Labor Perspectives: A Further Look at North American Supply Chain Challenges'', 10:30 a.m., 2167 Rayburn and Zoom.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs, Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs; and Subcommittee on Health, joint hearing entitled ''Supporting Survivors: Assessing VA's Military Sexual Trauma Programs'', 10 a.m., HVC–210 and Zoom.

Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee on Trade, hearing entitled ''Strengthening the U.S.-Africa Trade and Investment Relationship'', 11 a.m., Webex.

Joint Meetings

Joint Economic Committee: to hold hearings to examine cryptocurrency, focusing on digital assets and the role of government, 2:30 p.m., 210, Cannon Building.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

9:30 a.m., Wednesday, November 17

Senate Chamber

Program for Wednesday: Senate will continue consideration of the nomination of Brian Eddie Nelson, of California, to be Under Secretary of the Treasury for Terrorism and Financial Crimes.

At approximately 10 a.m., Senate will vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Brian Eddie Nelson, and on the motion to invoke cloture on the motion to proceed to consideration of H.R. 4350, National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2022.

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

10 a.m., Wednesday, November 17

House Chamber

Program for Wednesday: Consideration of measures under suspension of the Rules.

Extensions of Remarks, as inserted in this issue

HOUSE

Aderholt, Robert B., Ala., E1244
Burgess, Michael C., Tex., E1242
Bustos, Cheri, Ill., E1242, E1243, E1244
Cohen, Steve, Tenn., E1243
Courtney, Joe, Conn., E1241
Dingell, Debbie, Mich., E1244
McHenry, Patrick T., N.C., E1243
Murphy, Gregory F., N.C., E1242
Perlmutter, Ed, Colo., E1241, E1243, E1244, E1245
Rose, John W., Tenn., E1244
Thompson, Mike, Calif., E1241, E1245
Westerman, Bruce, Ark., E1241
Yarmuth, John A., Ky., E1241

Congressional Record

The *Congressional Record* (USPS 087–390). The Periodicals postage is paid at Washington, D.C. The public proceedings of each House of Congress, as reported by the Official Reporters thereof, are printed pursuant to directions of the Joint Committee on Printing as authorized by appropriate provisions of Title 44, United States Code, and published for each day that one or both Houses are in session, excepting very infrequent instances when two or more unusually small consecutive issues are printed one time. ¶Public access to the *Congressional Record* is available online through the U.S. Government Publishing Office, at *www.govinfo.gov*, free of charge to the user. The information is updated online each day the *Congressional Record* is published. For more information, contact the GPO Customer Contact Center, U.S. Government Publishing Office. Phone 202–512–1800, or 866–512–1800 (toll-free). E-Mail, *contactcenter@gpo.gov*. ¶To place an order for any of these products, visit the U.S. Government Online Bookstore at: bookstore.gpo.gov. Mail orders to: Superintendent of Documents, P.O. Box 979050, St. Louis, MO 63197–9000, or phone orders to 866–512–1800 (toll-free), 202–512–1800 (D.C. area), or fax to 202–512–2104. Remit check or money order, made payable to the Superintendent of Documents, or use VISA, MasterCard, Discover, American Express, or GPO Deposit Account. ¶Following each session of Congress, the daily *Congressional Record* is revised, printed, permanently bound and sold by the Superintendent of Documents in individual parts or by sets. ¶With the exception of copyrighted articles, there are no restrictions on the republication of material from the *Congressional Record*.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to the Superintendent of Documents, *Congressional Record*, U.S. Government Publishing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402, along with the entire mailing label from the last issue received.