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House of Representatives

The House met at noon and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. BUTTERFIELD).

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
March 7, 2022.

I hereby appoint the Honorable G. K. BUTTERFIELD 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 10, 2022, 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 1:50 p.m.

CRISIS AT OUR SOUTHERN BORDER CONTINUES

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

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, last week President Biden addressed Congress and the Nation and claimed that he was committed to securing our southern border, but sadly his actions have not matched his words.

According to Border Patrol reports, there were over 150,000 migrant encounters at our southern border just during the month of January, a 96 percent increase from the previous year. As we stand here today, more drugs like meth, heroin, cocaine, and fentanyl are pouring into our country through our southern border.

President Biden had a chance to offer solutions to this crisis at the State of the Union, but instead he gave flippant remarks that belittled the struggles that American families are currently facing.

We cannot afford to leave our southern border open any longer. We cannot afford to let these drugs continue to kill the fathers, mothers, sons, and daughters in our communities.

Mr. Speaker, it is time for President Biden to get serious about the crisis at our southern border. It is time to give law enforcement the tools that they need. It is time to keep our communities once again safe.

HONORING THE MEMORY OF BETTY WUNDER

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

Mr. COLE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the memory of Betty Wunder, who dedicated many of her 82 years providing unconditional care and comfort to children and adults throughout Oklahoma in her profession of diagnostic radiology, but primarily out of her unwavering view of life guided by integrity.

Betty arrived in Oklahoma City at the University of Oklahoma Children's Hospital in December of 1971, and immediately began to make revolutionary changes in her department. She rewrote protocols for pediatric x-ray to promote a safer experience for children undergoing this procedure, which are still used in radiology departments nationwide today.

Betty quickly rose through the ranks inside the Children's Hospital becoming an associate professor at OU Health Sciences Center in 1977 by a unanimous vote of the Board of Regents. As with every position she held, she took this one very seriously and assisted in the development of the curriculum for what is now the radiology technology degree.

Betty later became the administrative director of radiology in the summer of 1981. She possessed the rare quality of understanding the need for everyone involved to be successful and rarely allowed the light of honor or esteem to be shown to her. From her point of view it was always a group effort or no effort at all.

In the early 1980s, Betty was instrumental in working with others in the State to guide the purchase of the first MRI machine in Oklahoma at the Children's Hospital. She was very proud of this accomplishment and believes it put Children's on the map in terms of expanding diagnostic and treatment options for Oklahoma children.

Throughout her career she was a member of the American Society of Radiologic Technologists and the Oklahoma Society of Radiologic Technologists. She received many awards and honors during her career, including the 1983 and 1986 Radiology Technologist of the Year.

In retirement, Betty accepted a position on the advisory board of CommunityWorks, an Oklahoma behavioral and mental health continuum of care. She also reveled in her ability to effect care for children and adolescents in the Department of Human Services and the Oklahoma Juvenile Affairs care.

She was hands-on with the kids, staff, and her beloved quality assurance program. Betty was a teacher to all who were prepared and willing to learn. She brought out the best in people with great respect for their capabilities and humanity.

Mr. Speaker, she will be missed and revered.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 2 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 5 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1400

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Ms. GARCIA of Texas) at 2 p.m.

PRAYER

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

Eternal God, You are our dwelling place. Though lives are overturned, people are forced to flee from their homes, and whole communities are being destroyed, You are their refuge.

Reveal Yourself in the kindnesses of strangers, the abundant generosity from neighboring communities, and the outpouring of support from around the world. May these stories of hospitality be a testimony to Your provision and steadfast love.

In the erosion of certainty and security, this dismantling of normal life, underneath are Your everlasting arms. The vulnerable who have lost everything, those for whom the foundations of life have eroded, catch them in Your loving embrace.

Uphold them not just by the compassion offered and the love shown but by the depth of faith shared in You and in Your salvation.

Destroy the wicked intent of the adversary. May all who endure harm this day raise the shield of Your help and wield the sword of Your righteousness.

We call upon Your strong and sovereign name.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands (Ms. PLASKETT) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. PLASKETT led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

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

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

GUARANTEE EQUAL TREATMENT FOR ALL REFUGEES FROM UKRAINE

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

Ms. PLASKETT. Madam Speaker, the nation of Ukraine is dealing with an alarming crisis, a war. I have been overwhelmed by the number of images and stories of families trying to escape the terrors and war crimes being unjustly committed against the people of this country. Since February 24, more than 870,000—now we understand more than 1 million—Ukrainians have fled the country.

However, within that exodus are disturbing reports of mistreatment of Black families, Africans, and Asians as they try to evacuate a deadly war zone. This is unacceptable.

My office has been working with other members of the Congressional Black Caucus—Chairman GREG MEEKS of the Foreign Affairs Committee and BARBARA LEE of the Appropriations Committee—to determine the veracity, the specifics, and the extent of the allegations.

While we stand with Ukraine and encourage America's commitment to the Ukrainian Government, any engagement of the United States and American dollars appropriated to humanitarian efforts or lethal weapons must guarantee that all refugees, all fleeing, are treated equally. We will not move from that position.

STOP FINANCING RUSSIA'S OIL ECONOMY

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

Mr. COMER. Madam Speaker, I rise to stand in solidarity with the people of Ukraine in the face of unprovoked Russian invasion.

Vladimir Putin's war has sent millions of Ukrainians fleeing, and he is now targeting civilian populations, schools, and hospitals.

Economic sanctions have begun to cripple their economy. Private-sector companies have also isolated Russia from many aspects of the 21st century economy. But unfortunately, all economic leverage has not been utilized. We must do more.

I do not support sending American troops into this conflict. However, America can demonstrate leadership by cutting off our purchases of Russian oil. But just like on many other aspects of this crisis, President Biden is playing catch-up. He has yet to take the commonsense step of stopping American financing of Russia's oil economy.

Now more than ever, we should be massively increasing domestic oil production. But President Biden is more focused on pandering to his far-left environmental base than making America energy independent from an enemy.

We must stop financing Russia's war on Ukraine. President Biden must act.

END TITLE 42 EXPULSIONS

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

Mrs. CHERFILUS-MCCORMICK. I rise today, Madam Speaker, to urge the Biden administration to end title 42 and allow Haitian migrants to request U.S. humanitarian refuge before an asylum officer or an immigration judge in compliance with the Immigration and Nationality Act. As of yesterday, we saw more than 150 Haitian migrants land on our shores in Florida seeking asylum. For the last 6 months, we have seen more and more Haitian families risk their lives to come to our borders by sea or by foot.

The United States continues to use title 42, which has been said to be a violation of title 42 by the Federal appeals court as of Friday, which they said they can't stomach seeing people being deported without due process.

So, I rise today to ask for the administration to no longer use title 42 and to allow the Haitian immigrants to actually have due process and be able to articulate their need for critical fear.

I welcome the ruling by the Federal court of appeals this past Friday, which states that the Biden administration may not expel migrants.

HONORING THE LIFE OF GLEN MCCALL

(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. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Glen McCall of Ottumwa, Iowa.

Glen passed away peacefully on March 2 at Ottumwa Regional Health Center following a long battle with pulmonary fibrosis.

A native Iowan and an Army veteran, Glen and his wife, Kay, lived in Iowa for almost 60 years. He worked at CSI in Humeston as a radio technician for years and then worked as a farmer in Leon before moving to Ottumwa as an entrepreneur to open McCall Communications, a two-way radio sales and service shop. Glen and Kay ran the store for almost 40 years.

Glen was always happy to give his neighbors a helping hand and was a longtime member of the Rotary Club of Ottumwa, serving as secretary for decades.

His kindness, compassion, humor, and ever-ready smile were appreciated by all those whom he encountered.

Glen dedicated his life to serving and helping the community he loved and making Ottumwa the best place to live, work, and raise a family.

Glen's wife, Kay, their children, four grandchildren, six great-grandchildren, and all his loved ones are in my prayers.

I would also like to extend a joyful, happy 25th birthday to Caroline and Charlie Kiley.

We also stand with Ukraine.

CONTINUING THE BIDEN BOOM

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

Ms. GARCIA of Texas. Madam Speaker, the Biden boom continues.

Last month, 678,000 jobs were created, and unemployment ticked down to 3.8 percent—less than 4 percent. This follows the greatest year of job growth in American history and the fastest economic growth in nearly 40 years.

But it is not only the fact that new jobs were created, Madam Speaker. It is also the fact that they are well-paying jobs—terrific and impressive. These jobs have given Americans the dignity of a good paycheck and much-needed financial breathing room.

On the public-health front, vaccination rates have increased 50 percent since last March, making it possible for 99.9 percent of our schools to reopen and stay safely open. This is the result of strong leadership in the White House, Congress' partnership, and the backing of the American people.

Together, we are building a better America, and we are standing strong with Ukraine.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. CHERFILUS-MCCORMICK) laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, March 3, 2022.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
The Speaker, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on March 3, 2022, at 4:35 p.m.

That the Senate passed S. 198.

That the Senate passed S. 2771.

That the Senate passed S. 3103.

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 3665.

Appointments:

Afghanistan War Commission (5)

With best wishes, I am,

Sincerely,

CHERYL L. JOHNSON,
Clerk.

COMMUNICATION FROM CHAIR OF COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

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

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON ETHICS,
Washington, DC, March 7, 2022.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker, Washington, DC.

DEAR SPEAKER PELOSI: On November 30, 2021, the Committee on Ethics (Committee) received notice of a fine imposed upon Representative Randy Weber by the Sergeant at Arms pursuant to House Resolution 38 and House Rule II, clause 3(g). Representative Weber did not file an appeal with the Committee prior to the expiration of the time period specified in clause 3(g)(3)(B) of House Rule II.

Sincerely,

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

COMMUNICATION FROM CHAIR OF COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

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

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON ETHICS,
Washington, DC, February 22, 2022.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker, Washington, DC.

DEAR SPEAKER PELOSI: On December 14, 2022, the Committee on Ethics (Committee) received notice of a fine imposed upon Representative Andrew Clyde by the Sergeant at Arms pursuant to House Resolution 38 and House Rule II, clause 3(g).

On December 16, 2022, the Committee received notices of two fines imposed upon Representative Clyde by the Sergeant at Arms pursuant to House Resolution 38 and House Rule II, clause 3(g).

On January 13, 2022, the Committee received an appeal from Representative Clyde of the above fines pursuant to House Resolution 38 and House Rule II, clause 3(g). The appeal was received after the Committee adopted its written rules.

A majority of the Committee did not agree to the appeal.

Sincerely,

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

COMMUNICATION FROM CHAIR OF COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

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

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON ETHICS,
Washington, DC, February 22, 2022.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker, Washington, DC.

DEAR SPEAKER PELOSI: On January 18, 2022, the Committee on Ethics (Committee) received notices of two fines imposed upon Representative Marjorie Taylor Greene by the Sergeant at Arms pursuant to House Resolution 38 and House Rule II, clause 3(g). Representative Greene did not file appeals with the Committee prior to the expiration of the time period specified in clause 3(g)(3)(B) of House Rule II.

Sincerely,

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

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. GARCIA of Texas). 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 12 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1600

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Ms. ROSS) at 4 o'clock p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. 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.

HOMELAND SECURITY CAPABILITIES PRESERVATION ACT

Mrs. DEMINGS. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5615) to direct the Secretary of Homeland Security to submit a plan to make Federal assistance available to certain urban areas that previously received Urban Area Security Initiative funding to preserve homeland security capabilities, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5615

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 Security Capabilities Preservation Act''.

SEC. 2. PRESERVATION OF HOMELAND SECURITY CAPABILITIES.

(a) PLAN.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Homeland Security, acting through the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, shall submit to the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate a plan, informed by the survey information collected pursuant to subsection (b), to make Federal assistance available for at least three consecutive fiscal years to certain urban areas that in the current fiscal year did not receive grant funding under the Urban Area Security Initiative under section 2003 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 604) and require continued Federal assistance for the purpose of preserving a homeland security capability related to preventing, preparing for, protecting against, and responding to acts of terrorism that had been developed or otherwise supported through prior grant funding under such Initiative and allow for such urban areas to transition to such urban areas costs of preserving such homeland security capabilities.

(2) ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENT.—The plan required under paragraph (1) shall also contain a prohibition on an urban area that in a fiscal year is eligible to receive Federal assistance described in such paragraph from also receiving grant funding under the Urban Area Security Initiative under section 2003 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002. In such a case, such plan shall require such an urban area to promptly notify the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency regarding the preference of such urban area to retain either—

(A) such eligibility for such Federal assistance; or

(B) such receipt of such grant funding.

(b) SURVEY.—In developing the plan required under subsection (a), the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, shall, to ascertain the scope of Federal assistance required, survey urban areas that—

(1) did not receive grant funding under the Urban Area Security Initiative under section 2003 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 in the current fiscal year concerning homeland security capabilities related to preventing, preparing for, protecting against, and responding to acts of terrorism that had been developed or otherwise supported through funding under such Initiative that are at risk of being reduced or eliminated without such Federal assistance;

(2) received such funding in the current fiscal year, but did not receive such funding in at least one fiscal year in the six fiscal years immediately preceding the current fiscal year; and

(3) any other urban areas the Secretary determines appropriate.

(c) EXEMPTION.—The Secretary of Homeland Security may exempt the Federal Emergency Management Agency from the requirements of subchapter I of chapter 35 of title 44, United States Code (commonly referred to as the ''Paperwork Reduction Act''), for purposes of carrying out subsection (b) if the Secretary determines that complying with such requirements would delay the development of the plan required under subsection (a).

(d) CONTENTS.—The plan required under subsection (a) shall—

(1) establish eligibility criteria for urban areas to receive Federal assistance pursuant to such plan to provide assistance for the purpose described in such subsection;

(2) identify annual funding levels for such Federal assistance in accordance with the survey required under subsection (b); and

(3) consider a range of approaches to make such Federal assistance available to such urban areas, including—

(A) modifications to the Urban Area Security Initiative under section 2003 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 in a manner that would not affect the availability of funding to urban areas under such Initiative;

(B) the establishment of a competitive grant program;

(C) the establishment of a formula grant program; and

(D) a timeline for the implementation of any such approach and, if necessary, a legislative proposal to authorize any such approach.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Florida (Mrs. DEMINGS) and the gentleman from New York (Mr. KATKO) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Florida.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. DEMINGS. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which 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 gentlewoman from Florida?

There was no objection.

Mrs. DEMINGS. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of my bill, H.R. 5615, the Homeland Security Capabilities Preservation Act.

In the wake of September 11, there was a recognition that cities across the Nation could be targeted for terrorism and that they did not have the resources to develop core capabilities to prevent, protect against, and respond to terrorist attacks and other catastrophic events on their own.

Starting in 2003, cities across the Nation began receiving dedicated counterterrorism grant funding from the Department of Homeland Security's Urban Area Security Initiative grant program.

The UASI program, as it has come to be known, provides first responders with the tools, resources, and training they need to safely and effectively protect their communities.

At its height, the UASI program funded approximately 60 cities.

In recent years, however, the number of cities receiving funding from the program has been reduced to, on average, 30 each year.

While support to cities like New York, Los Angeles, and Chicago has remained constant, year-to-year fluctuations in grant funding levels and changes in DHS' risk formula have resulted in some cities losing funding unexpectedly.

As a result, cities like Orlando, Las Vegas, and Omaha face uncertainty year after year about whether they will receive UASI funding or will be forced to try and maintain core homeland security capabilities on their own.

The sudden loss of Federal support places great strain on cities that often lack the resources to cover such unexpected costs.

My bill, the Homeland Security Capabilities Preservation Act, which is cosponsored by my friend from Nebraska (Mr. BACON) recognizes the importance of preserving capabilities achieved with Federal grant dollars, particularly given how dynamic the terrorism threat landscape is today.

It directs DHS to develop a plan for how to support the transition of costs associated with maintaining homeland security core capabilities achieved through UASI investments.

Specifically, my bill would direct DHS, acting through FEMA, to survey current and former UASI cities regarding their capabilities that were achieved through UASI grant funding that are at risk of being reduced or eliminated without Federal assistance.

Additionally, the bill would require DHS, if needed, to submit a plan on how to make Federal assistance available to former UASI jurisdictions to take on the costs of preserving UASI-funded homeland security capabilities, including legislation.

This plan is the first step to ensure that all cities have the capabilities they need to secure themselves from terrorist threats.

Madam Speaker, I urge my House colleagues to support this legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 5615, the Homeland Security Capabilities Preservation Act.

The DHS Urban Area Security Initiative provides critical funding to high-risk urban areas. Since UASI funding is risk-based, there are urban areas that develop and support certain counterterrorism capabilities using the grant funding but don't remain on the high-risk list and therefore don't consistently receive funding every year.

This legislation simply directs the Secretary of Homeland Security to submit to Congress a plan to make Federal assistance available for at least 3 consecutive fiscal years to certain urban areas that did not receive funding under UASI.

This plan will inform Congress about the needs and concerns of certain urban areas that may not consistently receive such funding.

I urge Members to join me in supporting H.R. 5615, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. DEMINGS. Madam Speaker, I have no further speakers, I am prepared to close, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mrs. DEMINGS. Madam Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Madam Speaker, H.R. 5615 is the first step in ensuring that cities that fall on and off the UASI list will have the opportunity to preserve their capabilities that were built out with the funding provided by the program.

Enacting H.R. 5615 is timelier now more than ever, particularly given how dynamic the terrorist threat landscape is today.

I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 5615, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Florida (Mrs. DEMINGS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 5615.

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.

DHS BASIC TRAINING ACCREDITATION IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2021

Mrs. DEMINGS. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the

bill (H.R. 5616) to require reporting regarding accreditation of basic training programs of the Department of Homeland Security, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5616

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 Basic Training Accreditation Improvement Act of 2021''.

SEC. 2. REPORTING ON BASIC TRAINING PROGRAMS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY.

(a) ANNUAL REPORTING.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act and annually thereafter, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall report to the relevant congressional committees on the accreditation status for each basic training program within the Department of Homeland Security, including information relating to the following:

(A) The date on which each such program achieved initial accreditation, or in the case of a program that is not currently accredited, the reasons for not obtaining or maintaining accreditation, the activities, if any, taken to achieve accreditation, and an anticipated timeline for accreditation of such program.

(B) The date each such program most recently received accreditation or reaccreditation, if applicable.

(C) Each such program's anticipated accreditation or next reaccreditation date.

(D) The name of the accreditation manager for each such program.

(2) TERMINATION OF REPORTING REQUIREMENT.—Annual reports under paragraph (1) shall terminate when all basic training programs of the Department of Homeland Security are accredited.

(b) LAPSE IN ACCREDITATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—If a basic training program of the Department of Homeland Security loses accreditation, the head of the relevant component of the Department shall notify the Secretary of Homeland Security not later than 30 days after such loss.

(2) NOTICE TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 30 days after receiving a notification pursuant to paragraph (1), the Secretary of Homeland Security shall notify the relevant congressional committees of the lapse in accreditation at issue, the reason for such lapse, and the activities underway and planned to regain accreditation.

(c) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) ACCREDITATION.—The term ''accreditation'' means the recognition by a board that a basic training program is administered, developed, and delivered according to an applicable set of standards.

(2) ACCREDITATION MANAGER.—The term ''accreditation manager'' means the individual assigned by the component of the Department of Homeland Security to manage accreditation activities for a basic training program.

(3) BASIC TRAINING PROGRAM.—The term ''basic training program'' means an entry level program of the Department of Homeland Security that is transitional to law enforcement service, provides training on critical competencies and responsibilities, and is typically a requirement for appointment to a law enforcement service job or job series.

(4) REACCREDITATION.—The term ''reaccreditation'' means the assessment of a basic training program after initial accreditation to ensure the continued compliance with an applicable set of standards.

(5) RELEVANT CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.—The term ''relevant congressional committees'' means the Committee on Homeland Security and the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs and the Committee of the Judiciary of the Senate.

SEC. 3. RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT.

The Under Secretary for Science and Technology of the Department of Homeland Security shall carry out research and development of systems and technologies to enhance access to training offered by the Federal Law Enforcement Training Centers to State, local, Tribal, and territorial law enforcement, with particular attention to law enforcement in rural and remote communities, for the purpose of enhancing domestic preparedness for and collective response to terrorism and other homeland security threats.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Florida (Mrs. DEMINGS) and the gentleman from New York (Mr. KATKO) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Florida.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. DEMINGS. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which 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 gentlewoman from Florida?

There was no objection.

Mrs. DEMINGS. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, today, I rise to urge my colleagues to support H.R. 5616, the DHS Basic Training Accreditation Improvement Act of 2021.

Every year, DHS onboards thousands of new officers who all must successfully complete basic law enforcement training programs.

As a former police chief with 27 years of law enforcement service, I have seen how training saves lives.

Unfortunately, at DHS, several of the basic training programs tailored to component officers are not accredited.

In some cases, programs have been unaccredited for several years.

Unaccredited programs include: the U.S. Border Patrol Academy, the Customs and Border Protections' Field Operations Academy Officer Basic Training program, and the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services' Officer Basic Training program.

In 2019, the head of the Department's Federal Law Enforcement Training Centers testified before the Homeland Security Committee that accreditation is important because it ''assigns rigor to training processes'' and ''results in the best product.''

H.R. 5616 seeks to improve the quality of the training provided to all new DHS officers.

It does this by requiring the Department to report to Congress on the accreditation status of each of its basic training programs.

For those programs that are not accredited, it requires DHS to report: the reasons for not obtaining or maintaining accreditation; the activities, if any, taken to achieve accreditation; and the anticipated timeline for accreditation of the program.

Further, H.R. 5616 requires DHS to continue to report to Congress annually until all DHS basic training programs are accredited.

H.R. 5616 also directs DHS to engage in research to help State, local, Tribal, and territorial law enforcement officers better access the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center training opportunities, including those that enhance national preparedness and response to terrorism.

I introduced this bill in October to direct DHS to prioritize improving its basic training programs to maintain a higher standard of excellence for new officers and position them to effectively safeguard the American people, our homeland, and institutions.

Madam Speaker, I urge my House colleagues to support this legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY,
Washington, DC, February 7, 2022.

Hon. BENNIE G. THOMPSON,
Chairman, Committee on Homeland Security, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: This letter is to advise you that the Committee on the Judiciary has now had an opportunity to review the provisions in H.R. 5616, the ''DHS Basic Training Accreditation Improvement Act of 2021,'' that fall within our Rule X jurisdiction. I appreciate your consulting with us on those provisions. The Judiciary Committee has no objection to your including them in the bill for consideration on the House floor, and to expedite that consideration is willing to forgo action on H.R. 5616, with the understanding that we do not thereby waive any future jurisdictional claim over those provisions or their subject matters.

In the event a House-Senate conference on this or similar legislation is convened, the Judiciary Committee reserves the right to request an appropriate number of conferees to address any concerns with these or similar provisions that may arise in conference.

Please place this letter 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 committees.

Sincerely,

JERROLD NADLER,
Chairman.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY,
Washington, DC, February 7, 2022.

Hon. JERROLD NADLER,
Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN NADLER: Thank you for your letter regarding H.R. 5616, the ''DHS Basic Training Accreditation Improvement Act of 2021.'' I recognize that the Committee on the Judiciary has a jurisdictional interest in H.R. 5616, and I appreciate your effort to allow this bill to be considered on the House floor.

I concur with you that forgoing action on the bill does not in any way prejudice the Committee on the Judiciary with respect to

its jurisdictional prerogatives on this bill or similar legislation in the future, and I would support your effort to seek appointment of an appropriate number of conferees to any House—Senate conference involving this legislation.

I will include our letters on H.R. 5616 in the Committee report on this measure and in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD during floor consideration of this bill. I look forward to working with you on this legislation and other matters of great importance to this Nation.

Sincerely,

BENNIE G. THOMPSON,
Chairman, Committee on Homeland Security.

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

Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 5616, the DHS Basic Training Accreditation Improvement Act of 2021.

This legislation requires the Secretary of Homeland Security to report to Congress on an annual basis on the accreditation status for each basic training program within the Department. It also requires congressional notification within 30 days of a lapse of accreditation for any Department basic training program.

This legislation will help bring needed congressional oversight to DHS basic training programs by ensuring that DHS is transparent about any accreditation shortcomings and properly addresses them.

Madam Speaker, I urge members to join me in supporting H.R. 5616, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. DEMINGS. Madam Speaker, I have no more speakers, I am prepared to close, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. KATKO. Madam Speaker, I urge Members to support this bill, I think it is a good bill, and I commend my friend for bringing it to the floor.

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

Mrs. DEMINGS. Madam Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Madam Speaker, our top priority, as Members of Congress, is protecting the safety and security of the American people.

We have no room for error when it comes to keeping Americans safe.

H.R. 5616 prioritizes the quality of training DHS offers its newest officers and ensures that State, local, and Tribal law enforcement entities have better access to trainings that will make American communities safer.

I thank my colleagues on the Homeland Security Committee for unanimously supporting H.R. 5616.

Madam Speaker, I urge the rest of my colleagues to support H.R. 5616, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Florida (Mrs. DEMINGS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 5616, 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.

Mrs. GREENE of Georgia. Madam 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.

□ 1615

SHADOW WOLVES ENHANCEMENT ACT

Mrs. DEMINGS. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5681) to authorize the reclassification of the tactical enforcement officers (commonly known as the ''Shadow Wolves'') in the Homeland Security Investigations tactical patrol unit operating on the lands of the Tohono O'odham Nation as special agents, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5681

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 ''Shadow Wolves Enhancement Act''.

SEC. 2. RECLASSIFICATION OF SHADOW WOLVES AS GS–1811 SPECIAL AGENTS.

The Director of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement is authorized—

(1) to reclassify the GS–1801 tactical enforcement officers (commonly known as ''Shadow Wolves'') assigned to the Homeland Security Investigations tactical patrol unit operating on the lands of the Tohono O'odham Nation, as of the date of the enactment of this Act, as GS–1811 special agents, upon the successful completion of—

(A) the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center's Criminal Investigator Training Program; and

(B)(i) Customs Basic Enforcement School, if the officer was hired before March 2003; or

(ii) U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement Homeland Security Investigations Special Agent Training, if the officer was hired during or after March 2003;

(2) to classify any Shadow Wolves who are assigned to the unit referred to in paragraph (1) after such date of enactment as GS–1811 special agents upon the successful completion of the training described in paragraph (1); and

(3) to classify as GS–1811 special agents upon the successful completion of the training described in paragraph (1) any Shadow Wolves who are hired as part of a comparable unit (regardless of location) established after such date of enactment with the approval and consent of the appropriate Indian tribe.

SEC. 3. EXPANSION OF SHADOW WOLVES PROGRAM.

Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall submit to the Comptroller General of the United States, the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate, and the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives a strategy for—

(1) retaining existing Shadow Wolves;

(2) recruiting new Shadow Wolves; and

(3) expanding comparable units referred to in section 2(3) to appropriate areas near the international border between the United States and Canada or the international border between the United States and Mexico, with the approval and consent of the appropriate Indian tribe.

SEC. 4. GAO REPORT.

Not later than 1 year after receiving the strategy required under section 3 and annually thereafter for the following two years, 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—

(1) an assessment of the effectiveness of such strategy; and

(2) any recommendations for improvements to the strategy that the Comptroller General determines to be appropriate.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Florida (Mrs. DEMINGS) and the gentleman from New York (Mr. KATKO) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Florida.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. DEMINGS. 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 this measure.

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

There was no objection.

Mrs. DEMINGS. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 5681, the Shadow Wolves Enhancement Act.

This bipartisan legislation, sponsored by the gentleman from New York (Mr. KATKO), the ranking member of the Homeland Security Committee, seeks to resolve limitations to career advancement and pay equity for Native American officers, a part of the Shadow Wolves program.

Shadow Wolves are officers that form ICE Homeland Security Investigations' tactical patrol unit. These officers operate in the Tohono O'odham Nation, located in southern Arizona, and track human and drug smugglers along Tribal lands.

Since 1974, the Tohono O'odham Nation has allowed Shadow Wolves to patrol its lands to stem the flow of illicit activity within the region. This elite unit leverages both technology and the traditional art of tracking to detect footprints, tire tracks, and clothing associated with smuggling operations.

Over the last few years, Shadow Wolves have increasingly expanded their operation beyond tracking to investigative work and support response.

Under current law, Shadow Wolves can only be hired as tactical officers in a lower pay grade, although most of the officers have completed special agent training.

H.R. 5681 reclassifies Shadow Wolves as special agents upon successfully completing the law enforcement training requirements. H.R. 5681 also directs DHS to establish a strategy for preserving the Shadow Wolves and expanding comparable units with the consent of relevant Native American Tribes.

By passing this bipartisan bill today, this body is prioritizing the development of a diverse and equitable Federal workforce. I urge my colleagues to join with the Tohono O'odham Nation and the Shadow Wolves officers and support H.R. 5681. I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Madam Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 5681, the Shadow Wolves Enhancement Act.

This bill authorizes adjustments to the job classifications of officers assigned to the Homeland Security Investigations unit operating in the Tohono O'odham Nation, also known as the Shadow Wolves.

The Shadow Wolves are the Department of Homeland Security's only tracking unit that is entirely composed of Native Americans. The Shadow Wolves were established by congressional mandate in 1974 to combat rampant smuggling that was occurring from Mexico into the United States through the Tohono O'odham Nation.

For the past 40 years, the Shadow Wolves have been patrolling a 76-mile stretch of the border, utilizing a combination of high-tech equipment and the traditional art of tracking passed down from generation to generation on the Nation.

The Shadow Wolves take their name from the way the unit operates, like a wolf pack, relying mostly on their ability to track. They use a technique called cutting for sign, which closely observes and analyzes any physical evidence left by smugglers. I was fortunate enough to personally observe this impressive technique during my visit to Arizona last year.

The Shadow Wolves' professionalism, skill, dedication, and presence have proven critical for border security and are essential in building Tribal stakeholder trust and engagement.

And for an elite unit, their operations couldn't be more impressive. Between 2010 and 2020, Shadow Wolves' efforts led to 437 criminal arrests, and the seizure of over 117,000 pounds of narcotics, 45 weapons, 251 vehicles, and over $800,000 in U.S. currency.

In recent years, the Shadow Wolves' mission has evolved from tracking into more investigative work. Unfortunately, the current hiring authority for the Shadow Wolves' program does not allow current Shadow Wolves to be reclassified at the appropriate level for investigative work, even if they have all the prerequisite experience.

Further, this lack of authority has led to pay inequities and limited upward mobility for current Shadow Wolves officers. Without the passage of this critical legislation, the entire Shadow Wolves program is at risk of becoming nonoperational as current officers retire.

My bill, the Shadow Wolves Enhancement Act, allows current Shadow Wolves to be reclassified as GS–1811 special agents upon the successful completion of training. It also addresses pay equity for current Shadow Wolves and allows new Native American applicants to be added to the unit.

This bill also requires the Secretary of Homeland Security to develop a strategy to retain existing Shadow Wolves and expand comparable units along the international land borders both north and south of our country with the approval of appropriate Tribal governments.

Every day, the Shadow Wolves carry out a difficult and dangerous mission under increasingly challenging circumstances. Every day, they report for duty and help secure the border across arduous desert terrain and rugged mountainous areas.

Today is the day that we in Congress honor their efforts and modernize the Shadow Wolves program. Passage of this legislation will provide long-term viability for a truly unique and necessary border security program and a pathway for future Native American applicants.

This act has strong bipartisan support in the House and the Senate, as well as support from the Department of Homeland Security and, of course, the Tohono O'odham Nation.

Madam Speaker, I include in the RECORD a resolution from the Tohono O'odham Nation Legislative Council in support of the Shadow Wolves Enhancement Act.

RESOLUTION OF THE TOHONO O'ODHAM LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

SUPPORTING FEDERAL LEGISLATION TO RECLASSIFY HOMELAND SECURITY INVESTIGATIONS TACTICAL OFFICERS ''SHADOW WOLVES'' AS SPECIAL AGENTS

Whereas, the Constitution of the Tohono O'odham Nation vests the Legislative Council with the authority to ''promote, protect and provide for public health, peace, morals, education and general welfare of the Tohono O'odham Nation and its members'' and to ''consult with the Congress of the United States and appropriate federal agencies regarding federal activities that affect the Tohono O'odham Nation . . .'' (Constitution, Article VI, Section 1(c)(2) and Section 1(j)); and

Whereas, the Tohono O'odham Nation (''Nation'') is a federally recognized Indian tribe located on approximately 4,500 square miles in southern Arizona, with approximately 65 miles of its border on the International Boundary with Mexico; and

Whereas, over many years, the Nation has cooperated with the U.S. Customs and Border Protection to stem the flow of narcotics and undocumented immigrants while maintaining the Nation's opposition to a physical wall (Resolution No. 17–053); and

Whereas, since 1974, the Nation has allowed the U.S. Customs Service to staff a facility in Sells, and in return the U.S. Customs Service employed up to 25 Native Americans as Customs Patrol Officers; and

Whereas, around 1985, the U.S. Customs Service organized these Native American Customs Patrol Officers into a select unit which came to be known as the ''Shadow Wolves,'' which utilized the unique knowledge and skill of Native Americans to track and interdict smugglers crossing the lands of the Nation; and

Whereas, the Shadow Wolves have gained an international reputation as a small but highly effective interdiction unit of the U.S. Customs Service; and

Whereas, U.S. Senator Kyrsten Sinema is proposing a bill to authorize the Director of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement to reclassify the members of the Shadow Wolves unit from tactical officers to special agents; and

Whereas, this reclassification could improve the pay scale for Shadow Wolves, improve their ability to enforce immigration and customs laws, and better investigate and track cross-border illegal activity; and

Whereas, the Nation's chairperson, Border Security Delegation, Appropriations and Domestic Affairs Committees have reviewed the legislation and recommend support.

Now, therefore, be it *Resolved* that the Tohono O'odham Legislative Council supports federal legislation to reclassify Homeland Security Investigations Tactical Officers ''Shadow Wolves'' as special agents.

The foregoing Resolution was passed by the Tohono O'odham Legislative Council on the 06th day of MARCH, 2020 at a meeting at which a quorum was present with a vote of 3,175.7 FOR; -0- AGAINST; -0- NOT VOTING; and [02] ABSENT, pursuant to the powers vested in the Council by Article VI, Section l(c)(2) and (j) of the Constitution of the Tohono O'odham Nation, adopted by the Tohono O'odham Nation on January 18, 1986; and approved by the Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs (Operations) on March 6, 1986, pursuant to Section 16 of the Act of June 18, 1934 (48 Stat.984).

Tohono O'Odham Legislative Council:

TIMOTHY JOAQUIN,
Legislative Chairman, 6 day of March, 2020.

Attest:

EVONNE WILSON,
Legislative Secretary, 6 day of March, 2020.

Said Resolution was submitted for approval to the office of the Chairman of the Tohono O'odham Nation on the 6 day of March, 2020 at 4:54 o'clock, p.m., pursuant to the provisions of Section 5 of Article VII of the Constitution and will become effective upon his approval or upon his failure to either approve or disapprove it within 48 hours of submittal.

Tohono O'Odham Legislative Council:

TIMOTHY JOAQUIN,
Legislative Chairman, on the 06 day of March, 2020 at 5:22 o'clock, p.m.

NED NORRIS, Jr., *Chairman, Tohono O'odham Nation.*

Returned to the Legislative Secretary on the 6 day of March, 2020, at 5:32 o'clock, p.m.

EVONNE WILSON,
Legislative Secretary.

Mr. KATKO. Madam Speaker, I strongly urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to support this critical legislation in support of our Native American friends and partners.

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

Mrs. DEMINGS. Madam Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

H.R. 5681 is about enhancing equity and career opportunities for Native American officers that currently serve as Shadow Wolves in Sells, Arizona.

These officers are currently limited in pay and opportunity by their classification, despite having the appropriate training for advancement. This legislation addresses that problem.

For this reason, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 5681, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Florida (Mrs. DEMINGS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 5681.

The question was taken.

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

Mrs. GREENE of Georgia. Madam 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.

NATIONAL CYBERSECURITY PREPAREDNESS CONSORTIUM ACT OF 2021

Mrs. DEMINGS. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 658) to authorize the Secretary of Homeland Security to work with cybersecurity consortia for training, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 658

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 ''National Cybersecurity Preparedness Consortium Act of 2021''.

SEC. 2. NATIONAL CYBERSECURITY PREPAREDNESS CONSORTIUM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may work with one or more consortia to support efforts to address cybersecurity risks and incidents.

(b) ASSISTANCE TO DHS.—The Secretary may work with one or more consortia to carry out the Secretary's responsibility pursuant to section 2202(e)(1)(P) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 652(e)(1)(P)) to—

(1) provide training and education to State, Tribal, and local first responders and officials specifically for preparing for and responding to cybersecurity risks and incidents, in accordance with applicable law;

(2) develop and update a curriculum utilizing existing training and educational programs and models in accordance with section 2209 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 659), for State, Tribal, and local first responders and officials, related to cybersecurity risks and incidents;

(3) provide technical assistance services, training, and educational programs to build and sustain capabilities in support of preparedness for and response to cybersecurity risks and incidents, including threats of acts of terrorism, in accordance with such section 2209;

(4) conduct cross-sector cybersecurity training, education, and simulation exercises for entities, including State and local governments and Tribal organizations, critical infrastructure owners and operators, and private industry, to encourage community-wide coordination in defending against and responding to cybersecurity risks and incidents, in accordance with section 2210(c) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 660(c));

(5) help States, Tribal organizations, and communities develop cybersecurity information sharing programs, in accordance with section 2209 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 659), for the dissemination of homeland security information related to cybersecurity risks and incidents;

(6) help incorporate cybersecurity risk and incident prevention and response into existing State, Tribal, and local emergency plans, including continuity of operations plans; and

(7) assist State governments and Tribal organizations in developing cybersecurity plans.

(c) CONSIDERATIONS REGARDING SELECTION OF A CONSORTIUM.—In selecting a consortium with which to work under this Act, the Secretary shall take into consideration the following:

(1) Prior experience conducting cybersecurity training, education, and exercises for State and local entities.

(2) Geographic diversity of the members of any such consortium so as to maximize coverage of the different regions of the United States.

(3) The participation in such consortium of one or more historically Black colleges and universities, Hispanic-serving institutions, Tribal Colleges and Universities, other minority-serving institutions, and community colleges that participate in the National Centers of Excellence in Cybersecurity program, as carried out by the Department of Homeland Security.

(d) METRICS.—If the Secretary works with a consortium under subsection (a), the Secretary shall measure the effectiveness of the activities undertaken by the consortium under this Act.

(e) OUTREACH.—The Secretary shall conduct outreach to universities and colleges, including, in particular, outreach to historically Black colleges and universities, Hispanic-serving institutions, Tribal Colleges and Universities, other minority-serving institutions, and community colleges, regarding opportunities to support efforts to address cybersecurity risks and incidents, by working with the Secretary under subsection (a).

(f) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this section may be construed to authorize a consortium to control or direct any law enforcement agency in the exercise of the duties of the law enforcement agency.

(g) DEFINITIONS.—In this section—

(1) the term ''community college'' has the meaning given the term ''junior or community college'' in section 312 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1058);

(2) the term ''consortium'' means a group primarily composed of nonprofit entities, including academic institutions, that develop, update, and deliver cybersecurity training and education in support of homeland security;

(3) the terms ''cybersecurity risk'' and ''incident'' have the meanings given those terms in section 2209(a) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 659(a));

(4) the term ''Department'' means the Department of Homeland Security;

(5) the term ''Hispanic-serving institution'' has the meaning given the term in section 502 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1101a);

(6) the term ''historically Black college and university'' has the meaning given the term ''part B institution'' in section 322 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1061);

(7) the term ''minority-serving institution'' means an institution of higher education described in section 371(a) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1067q(a));

(8) the term ''Secretary'' means the Secretary of Homeland Security;

(9) The term ''State'' means any State of the United States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the United States Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and any possession of the United States;

(10) the term ''Tribal Colleges and Universities'' has the meaning given the term in section 316 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1059c); and

(11) the term ''Tribal organization'' has the meaning given the term in section 4(e) of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 5304(e)).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Florida (Mrs. DEMINGS) and the gentleman from New York (Mr. KATKO) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Florida.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. DEMINGS. 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 this measure.

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

There was no objection.

Mrs. DEMINGS. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, now more than ever it is critical that State and local governments, along with the private sector, prioritize their cybersecurity preparedness. The threat of cyberattacks continues to grow, and with the ongoing Russian invasion of Ukraine, we are reminded yet again of the importance of stronger cybersecurity.

Since 2004, DHS has partnered with the National Cybersecurity Preparedness Consortium, a group of universities that conduct research and training to help entities better prepare for cyber risks. This legislation will authorize the consortium to help strengthen our Nation's cybersecurity preparedness.

More specifically, S. 658 authorizes DHS to partner with a consortium of nonprofit entities to provide training to first responders, develop curriculums for training programs, conduct cross-sector exercises to defend and respond to cyber threats, and help incorporate cyber risk into State and local emergency plans.

Last year, Congress provided $1 billion in new grants to State and local governments to strengthen their cybersecurity. Ensuring they have access to advice and support to develop their cybersecurity preparedness plans is an additional step we can take to enhance our Nation's cybersecurity.

Additionally, Chairman THOMPSON offered an amendment during the committee markup that strengthened the bill by ensuring that DHS can partner with more than one consortium; adding the inclusion of HBCUs, MSIs, and community colleges as a factor in the selection of a consortium; and promoting greater geographic diversity among participating institutions.

All communities across the Nation need to prioritize cybersecurity preparedness. These changes should ensure that DHS partners with a diverse range of institutions to better assist the many different types of State and local governments that would benefit from enhanced cybersecurity preparedness.

I thank Senators Cornyn and Leahy for their leadership in authorizing this legislation and for working with the Homeland Security Committee to make improvements to this bill.

Madam Speaker, I urge my House colleagues to support this legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

I rise today in support of S. 658, the National Cybersecurity Preparedness Consortium Act. This bill authorizes the Department of Homeland Security to work with the National Cybersecurity Preparedness Consortium to help prepare for and respond to cybersecurity risks at the national, State, and local levels.

I applaud Senator CORNYN for his steadfast dedication to this most important piece of legislation. Now more than ever, our State and local communities must be prepared to prevent, detect, and mitigate cyber threats. Unfortunately, many of us have had constituent businesses, schools, and hospitals, among others, that have been impacted by persistent and evolving cyber threats.

This legislation will help provide training, exercises, technical assistance, and other important resources to State and local governments, critical infrastructure, and industry partners.

I thank Senator CORNYN for his work on this important bill. I urge Members to join me in supporting S. 658, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mrs. DEMINGS. Madam Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Madam Speaker, the best time to prioritize cybersecurity is before you experience a cyber incident. Cybersecurity preparedness is essential, yet most State and local governments do not have the experience, expertise, or resources to do it alone. They need a Federal partner.

Enactment of S. 658 delivers on that partnership through a network of consortiums across the country.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support S. 658, as amended, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Florida (Mrs. DEMINGS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, S. 658, 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.

Mrs. GREENE of Georgia. Madam 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 until approximately 6:30 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 4 o'clock and 29 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1830

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Ms. SCHRIER) at 6 o'clock and 30 minutes p.m.

DHS BASIC TRAINING ACCREDITATION IMPROVEMENT 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 (H.R. 5616) to require reporting regarding accreditation of basic training programs of the Department of Homeland Security, 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 gentlewoman from Florida (Mrs. DEMINGS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 390, nays 33, not voting 9, as follows:

[Roll No. 58]

YEAS—390

Adams
Aderholt
Aguilar
Allen
Allred
Amodei
Armstrong
Arrington
Auchincloss
Axne
Bacon
Baird
Balderson
Banks
Barr
Barragán
Bass
Beatty
Bentz
Bera
Bergman
Beyer
Bice (OK)
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Blumenauer
Blunt Rochester
Bonamici
Bourdeaux
Bowman
Boyle, Brendan F.
Brady
Brooks
Brown (MD)
Brown (OH)
Brownley
Buchanan
Buck
Bucshon
Budd
Burgess
Bush
Bustos
Butterfield
Calvert
Carbajal
Cárdenas
Carey
Carl
Carson
Carter (GA)
Carter (LA)
Carter (TX)
Cartwright
Case
Casten
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Chabot
Cherfilus-McCormick
Chu
Cicilline
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Cleaver
Clyburn
Clyde
Cohen
Cole
Comer
Connolly
Cooper
Correa
Costa
Courtney
Craig
Crawford
Crenshaw
Crist
Crow
Cuellar
Curtis
Davids (KS)
Davis, Danny K.
Davis, Rodney
Dean
DeFazio
DeGette
DeLauro
DelBene
Delgado
Demings
DeSaulnier
DesJarlais
Deutch
Diaz-Balart
Dingell
Doggett
Doyle, Michael F.
Dunn
Ellzey
Emmer
Escobar
Eshoo
Espaillat
Estes
Evans
Feenstra
Ferguson
Fischbach
Fitzgerald
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Fletcher
Fortenberry
Foster
Foxx
Frankel, Lois
Franklin, C. Scott
Fulcher
Gallagher
Gallego
Garamendi
Garbarino
García (CA)
García (IL)
Garcia (TX)
Gibbs
Gimenez
Golden
Gomez
Gonzales, Tony
Gonzalez (OH)
Gonzalez, Vicente
Gottheimer
Granger
Graves (LA)
Graves (MO)
Green (TN)
Green, Al (TX)
Griffith
Grijalva
Guest
Guthrie
Harder (CA)
Harshbarger
Hartzler
Hayes
Herrell
Herrera Beutler
Higgins (NY)
Hill
Himes
Hinson
Hollingsworth
Horsford
Houlahan
Hoyer
Hudson
Huffman
Huizenga
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
Kirkpatrick
Krishnamoorthi
Kuster
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
Loudermilk
Lowenthal
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Luria
Lynch
Mace
Malinowski
Malliotakis
Maloney, Carolyn B.
Maloney, Sean
Mann
Manning
Mast
Matsui
McBath
McCarthy
McCaul
McClain
McCollum
McEachin
McGovern
McHenry
McKinley
McNerney
Meeks
Meijer
Meng
Meuser
Mfume
Miller (WV)
Miller-Meeks
Moolenaar
Mooney
Moore (AL)
Moore (UT)
Moore (WI)
Morelle
Mrvan
Mullin
Murphy (NC)
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Neguse
Newhouse
Newman
Norcross
O'Halleran
Obernolte
Ocasio-Cortez
Omar
Owens
Pallone
Palmer
Panetta
Pappas
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
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
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
Vela
Velázquez
Wagner
Walberg
Walorski
Waltz
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watson Coleman
Webster (FL)
Welch
Wenstrup
Westerman
Wexton
Wild
Williams (GA)
Williams (TX)
Wilson (FL)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Womack
Yarmuth
Young
Zeldin

NAYS—33

Babin
Biggs
Bishop (NC)
Boebert
Burchett
Cammack
Cawthorn
Cline
Cloud

Davidson
Donalds
Fallon
Gaetz
Gohmert
Good (VA)
Gooden (TX)
Greene (GA)
Grothman
Harris
Hern
Hice (GA)
Higgins (LA)
Issa
Jackson
Jordan
Massie
McClintock
Miller (IL)
Nehls
Norman
Perry
Roy
Weber (TX)

NOT VOTING—9

Bost
Cheney
Duncan
Gosar
Kinzinger
Moulton
Murphy (FL)
Palazzo
Taylor

□ 1902

Messrs. GOODEN, CAWTHORN, NEHLS, ISSA, BURCHETT, and BISHOP of North Carolina changed their vote from ''yea'' to ''nay.''

Messrs. RICE of South Carolina and ROGERS of Alabama changed their vote from ''nay'' to ''yea.''

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.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

MEMBERS RECORDED PURSUANT TO HOUSE RESOLUTION 8, 117TH CONGRESS

Barragán (Gomez)
Bonamici (Beyer)
Bowman (Jayapal)
Brooks (Moore (AL))
Bustos (Meng)
Carl (Moore (UT))
Cawthorn (Nehls)
Clarke (NY) (Meng)
Cohen (Beyer)
Crist (Soto)
DelBene (Beyer)
DesJarlais (Fleischmann)
Doyle, Michael F. (Connolly)
Frankel, Lois (Wexton)
Gaetz (Boebert)
García (IL) (Correa)
Gonzales, Tony (Bice (OK))
Gonzalez, Vicente (Gomez)
Grijalva (Stanton)
Harder (Beyer)
Horsford (Connolly)
Johnson (TX) (Jeffries)
Kahele (Takano)
Keating (Connolly)
Kelly (IL) (Jeffries)
Kim (NJ) (Pallone)
Kirkpatrick (Pallone)
Kuster (Meng)
Lawson (FL) (Soto)
Lofgren (Jeffries)
Long (Fleischmann)
McCaul (Reschenthaler)
McEachin (Wexton)
Porter (Wexton)
Raskin (Jayapal)
Reed (Kelly (PA))
Rogers (KY) (Reschenthaler)
Roybal-Allard (Correa)
Rush (Jeffries)
Ryan (Kildee)
Sewell (Beyer)
Sires (Pallone)
Spartz (Walorski)
Suozzi (Beyer)
Thompson (CA) (Takano)
Timmons (Armstrong)
Trone (Connolly)
Underwood (Jeffries)
Vargas (Correa)
Vela (Gomez)
Waltz (Gimenez)
Waters (Takano)
Wilson (SC) (Norman)
Yarmuth (Beyer)

NATIONAL CYBERSECURITY PREPAREDNESS CONSORTIUM 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. 658) to authorize the Secretary of Homeland Security to work with cybersecurity consortia for training, 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 gentlewoman from Florida (Mrs. DEMINGS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 403, nays 19, not voting 10, as follows:

[Roll No. 59]

YEAS—403

Adams
Aderholt
Aguilar
Allen
Allred
Amodei
Armstrong
Arrington
Auchincloss
Axne
Bacon
Baird
Balderson
Banks
Barr
Barragán
Bass
Beatty
Bentz
Bera
Bergman
Beyer
Bice (OK)
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NC)
Blumenauer
Blunt Rochester
Bonamici
Bourdeaux
Bowman
Boyle, Brendan F.
Brady
Brooks
Brown (MD)
Brown (OH)
Brownley
Buchanan
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
Cherfilus-McCormick
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)
Davis, Danny K.
Davis, Rodney
Dean
DeFazio
DeGette
DeLauro
DelBene
Delgado
Demings
DeSaulnier
DesJarlais
Deutch
Diaz-Balart
Dingell
Doggett
Donalds
Doyle, Michael F.
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
García (CA)
García (IL)
García (TX)
Gibbs
Gimenez
Golden
Gomez
Gonzales, Tony
Gonzalez (OH)
Gonzalez, Vicente
Gooden (TX)
Gottheimer
Granger
Graves (LA)
Graves (MO)
Green (TN)
Green, Al (TX)
Griffith
Grijalva
Grothman
Guest
Guthrie
Harder (CA)
Harshbarger
Hartzler
Hayes
Herrell
Herrera Beutler
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
Keating
Keller
Kelly (IL)
Kelly (MS)
Kelly (PA)
Khanna
Kildee
Kilmer
Kim (CA)
Kim (NJ)
Kind
Kirkpatrick
Krishnamoorthi
Kuster
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
Loudermilk
Lowenthal
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Luria
Lynch
Mace
Malinowski
Malliotakis
Maloney, Carolyn B.
Maloney, Sean
Mann
Manning
Mast
Matsui
McBath
McCarthy
McCaul
McClain
McClintock
McCollum
McEachin
McGovern
McHenry
McKinley
McNerney
Meeks
Meijer
Meng
Meuser
Mfume
Miller (WV)
Miller-Meeks
Moolenaar
Mooney
Moore (AL)
Moore (UT)
Moore (WI)
Morelle
Moulton
Mrvan
Mullin
Murphy (NC)
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Neguse
Nehls
Newhouse
Newman
Norcross
O'Halleran
Obernolte
Ocasio-Cortez
Omar
Owens
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
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
Stevens
Stewart
Strickland
Suozzi
Swalwell
Takano
Tenney
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thompson (PA)
Timmons
Titus
Tlaib
Tonko
Torres (CA)
Torres (NY)
Trahan
Trone
Turner
Underwood
Upton
Valadao
Van Drew
Van Duyne
Vargas
Veasey
Vela
Velázquez
Wagner
Walberg
Walorski
Waltz
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watson Coleman
Webster (FL)
Welch
Wenstrup
Westerman
Wexton
Wild
Williams (GA)
Williams (TX)
Wilson (FL)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Womack
Yarmuth
Young
Zeldin

NAYS—19

Babin
Biggs
Boebert
Buck
Davidson
Gohmert
Good (VA)
Greene (GA)
Harris
Hern
Hice (GA)
Massie
Miller (IL)
Norman
Perry
Roy
Steube
Tiffany
Weber (TX)

NOT VOTING—10

Bost
Cheney
Duncan
Gosar
Katko
Kinzinger
Murphy (FL)
Palazzo
Pappas
Taylor

□ 1919

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.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. BOST. Madam Speaker, I was unavailable to vote in the House. Had I been present, I would have voted ''yea'' on rollcall No. 58 and ''yea'' on rollcall No. 59.

Mr. PAPPAS. Madam Speaker, on rollcall number 59, I had intended to vote ''yea''.

MEMBERS RECORDED PURSUANT TO HOUSE RESOLUTION 8, 117TH CONGRESS

Barragán (Gomez)
Bonamici (Beyer)
Bowman (Jayapal)
Brooks (Moore (AL))
Bustos (Meng)
Carl (Moore (UT))
Cawthorn (Nehls)
Clarke (NY) (Meng)
Cohen (Beyer)
Crist (Soto)
DelBene (Beyer)
DesJarlais (Fleischmann)
Doyle, Michael F. (Connolly)
Frankel, Lois (Wexton)
Gaetz (Boebert)
García (IL) (Correa)
Gonzales, Tony (Bice (OK))
Gonzalez, Vicente (Gomez)
Grijalva (Stanton)
Harder (Beyer)
Horsford (Connolly)
Johnson (TX) (Jeffries)
Kahele (Takano)
Keating (Connolly)
Kelly (IL) (Jeffries)
Kim (NJ) (Pallone)
Kirkpatrick (Pallone)
Kuster (Meng)
Lawson (FL) (Soto)
Lofgren (Jeffries)
Long (Fleischmann)
McCaul (Reschenthaler)
McEachin (Wexton)

Moulton (Beyer)
Porter (Wexton)
Raskin (Jayapal)
Reed (Kelly (PA))
Rogers (KY) (Reschenthaler)
Roybal-Allard (Correa)
Rush (Jeffries)
Ryan (Kildee)
Sewell (Beyer)
Sires (Pallone)
Spartz (Walorski)
Suozzi (Beyer)
Thompson (CA) (Takano)
Timmons (Armstrong)
Trone (Connolly)
Underwood (Jeffries)
Vargas (Correa)
Vela (Gomez)
Waltz (Gimenez)
Waters (Takano)
Yarmuth (Beyer)

REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER AS COSPONSOR OF H.R. 6181

Ms. STRICKLAND. Madam Speaker, I hereby remove my name as cosponsor of H.R. 6181.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. MANNING). The gentlewoman's request is accepted.

ENHANCING SOCIAL SECURITY

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

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Madam Speaker, I am here to commend Chairman NEAL and the Racial Equity Initiative headed by TERRI SEWELL, STEVE HORSFORD, and JIMMY GOMEZ, and also to recognize JOYCE BEATTY, for the work that they have done in bringing forward the inequity that has existed in this country for far too long.

More than 5 million of our fellow Americans get below poverty-level checks from Social Security because the Congress of the United States has not done anything to enhance Social Security in more than 50 years.

Whom does that affect the most? It affects women of color and women specifically—people who held jobs who weren't earning the same kind of salary or wages and people who were caregivers at home for their children.

Help is on the way. Social Security 2100 is coming to the floor, and finally, millions of Americans who get below poverty-level checks after having worked all their lives and paid into a system are going to get what they richly deserve.

AMERICA DESERVES ENERGY FREEDOM

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

Ms. FOXX. Madam Speaker, the American people are asking one simple question: Why does the Biden administration hate energy freedom in America?

They have asked that question every time they have gone to the gas station and seen prices skyrocketing. Now, they are asking that question as this administration is falling to its knees and begging Iran for a nuclear deal. Sacrificing our geopolitical leverage by appealing to our enemies is appalling, and it is the last thing that should ever be considered.

Madam Speaker, this administration would rather be awarded a participation trophy than dig in and fight to put American interests first.

That mentality is bankrupting our great country, and we have been led into a political minefield. It is a display of pure weakness and an absolute disgrace.

HONORING THE LIFE OF INGEBORG HEUSER

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

Ms. ESCOBAR. Madam Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I rise today to honor the life of Ingeborg Heuser, who passed away after a lifetime in the arts.

Ingeborg immigrated to the United States from Germany after World War II, arriving to El Paso in 1953 as the wife of a servicemember.

As a classical ballet dancer, she opened her first studio that year and became ballet director of the Texas Western Civic Ballet. Over the next 47 years, she would establish and direct Ballet El Paso, Ballet of the Americas, and the University of Texas El Paso ballet. Thousands of students passed through her studio doors, and countless audience members were exposed to a wide range of classical ballet through her service.

Her cross-border collaborations with companies in Europe, Mexico, and Latin America contributed to the exchange of international artistic endeavors, including the first U.S.-Mexico repertory exchange in 1977.

Madam Speaker, we have lost one of El Paso's shining stars, a trailblazer of the arts for our region. I ask you to join me in paying tribute to the life of Ingeborg Heuser. May her legacy and commitment to the arts continue to be an inspiration to us all.

HONORING THE LIFE OF JOEL WILLIAMS

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

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the life of Joel Williams.

Joel was born December 19, 1942, in the family farm kitchen in Dacula, Georgia. Unlike many children nowadays, Joel grew up without electricity and indoor plumbing, learning to read by kerosene lamps.

His drive and determination revealed themselves early as he earned valedictorian honors at Dacula High School and graduated magna cum laude from Shorter College. He then went on to attend Walter F. George School of Law at Mercer University where he was the first honor graduate of the class of 1967.

Joel began his legal career as an assistant attorney general of the State of Georgia under Arthur K. Bolton. He then left Washington for Savannah in 1971 to become vice president and chief compliance officer for Savannah Foods and Industries. During this time, he met his wife of 25 years, M'Liss Gurney Williams, and had two beautiful daughters.

Joel committed his life to political and community service. Through all of his achievements, Joel was most proud of his daughters and grandchildren. Joel was a loving and devoted father. The children he raised and grandchildren he loved will forever remember the man Joel was throughout his life.

□ 1930

UKRAINE NEEDS OUR HELP

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

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Speaker, I rise tonight to call attention to the continuing horror being unleashed in Ukraine by the treacherous tyrant Vladimir Putin, a pitiful creature of darkness.

Forty-four million freedom-loving Ukrainians deserve to live in peace and freedom. They voted for liberty, 90 percent of them. They have done nothing to Putin. They pose no threat to Russia.

Putin invaded a sovereign nation and is committing war crimes against civilians. He is creating a humanitarian crisis flooding across Europe. The trains aren't big enough to haul all of the people seeking peace.

In the 11 days since he invaded, and since 2014, he has murdered hundreds of Ukrainians, in addition to the 14,000 Russians killed in Ukraine, and over 1.5 million have fled across the border into neighboring countries.

The American people are opening their hearts with humanitarian aid, but the free world must help provide more fighter jets, Javelins, Stingers, small arms, ammunition, body armor, and air defense.

Ukraine is the scrimmage line for liberty in Europe. Here, at the beginning of the 21st century, liberty requires vigilance for Ukraine.

CONGRATULATING KENNETH BURKETT

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Kenneth Burkett, a Jefferson County resident, for receiving the Crabtree Award from the Society for American Archaeology.

This award is given annually to an outstanding avocational archaeologist in remembrance of Don Crabtree. Mr. Crabtree brought experimental archaeology to prominence.

Recipients of the Crabtree Award are archaeologists who have contributed to advance the understanding of local, regional, and national archaeology

through excavation, research, publication, site preservation, or collections preservation, all in collaboration with the professional community or public outreach.

This award is well deserved for Kenneth, as he has spent his career conducting archaeological research and excavations in western Pennsylvania, focusing on the lifeways of prehistoric Native Americans who once lived in the Redbank Creek watershed.

Kenneth is currently the executive director of the Jefferson County History Center as well as a field associate with the Carnegie Museum of Natural History. He spends time working closely with the Society for Pennsylvania Archaeology 29th Chapter, located in North Fork.

Kenneth has a true passion for bringing our history to life and sharing the artifacts of the people who walked this Earth before us.

Once again, I want to congratulate Kenneth on this well-deserved accomplishment.

RECOGNIZING WGY RADIO STATION ON ITS 100TH ANNIVERSARY

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

Mr. TONKO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize New York's Capital Region radio station, WGY, on the occasion of its 100th anniversary.

Through decades of informing and entertaining Capital Region listeners, WGY has long stood as a pillar of the Schenectady community.

This pioneering station, established by engineers at General Electric in 1922, has spent a century at the forefront of innovations in radio technology.

From conducting the first two-way radio transmission to England to being one of the first two radio stations to broadcast baseball's World Series, WGY has played a key role in establishing New York's Capital District as a global and national hub for technological advancement.

I extend my warm congratulations to everyone at WGY for reaching this historic milestone. Throughout its first 100 years, the station has connected with listeners through its talented and revered hosts.

Here is to many more successful years delivering powerful stories and quality news to our communities. Congratulations to WGY.

PUTIN'S WAR ATROCITIES

(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. Madam Speaker, the murderous Putin's war on Ukraine is criminal.

I am grateful that America and our NATO allies are unified to support Ukraine President Volodymyr Zelensky and the Ukrainian people.

I have faith in the Russian people, who I have met on numerous visits across Russia, that they will reject Putin's war atrocities. A nation of world-significant art, music, and literature can change, and that is why I am introducing a bill to encourage Russian military defectors with immediate refugee status in America, with up to $100,000 for any Russian military equipment transferred to Ukraine. Putin betrays the troops to death.

Additionally, I will introduce a bill for a bust of President Volodymyr Zelensky to be placed in the U.S. Capitol, as is the bust of Prime Minister Winston Churchill. Churchill was the wartime leader of World War II, and Zelensky is the wartime leader in Putin's war.

God bless Ukraine. God save Ukraine. Long live Volodymyr Zelensky.

RECOGNIZING SANDRA NOE

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

Mr. MRVAN. Madam Speaker, it is with great respect and admiration that I rise to celebrate Women's History Month and recognize Sandra Noe, Executive Director of Meals on Wheels in northwest Indiana.

Sandra has worked with Meals on Wheels for 36 years to combat senior isolation and hunger.

As the demand for services increased over the past year during the COVID–19 pandemic, Meals on Wheels rose to the challenge and delivered over 1,700 meals daily, provided over 750,000 wellness checks, and celebrated its nine-millionth delivery.

Madam Speaker, as we recognize Women's History Month, please join me in thanking Sandra and everyone at Meals on Wheels for the extraordinary services they provide to northwest Indiana.

Let us recommit to continuing to support their invaluable work and recognize this month and every day the invaluable ways that women continue to provide healing and promote hope, not just in caregiving, but in all aspects of our society.

BIDEN'S ENERGY CRISIS

(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, this past weekend, on my way to a military medal presentation in Crossville, Tennessee, I stopped to fill my SUV with gas. Like many Americans, I was shocked to have to pay nearly $4 a gallon for gasoline.

Putin's invasion of Ukraine has no doubt made this situation worse, but our skyrocketing gas prices are primarily due to President Biden's reversal of President Trump's highly successful energy policies that had oil and gas production high, gas pump prices low, had created hundreds of thousands of new energy jobs, and had created an energy-independent United States for the first time in decades.

Instead of admitting this mistake, ending the freeze on new oil and gas projects, and stopping the regulatory assault on new energy projects in the United States, the Biden administration has reportedly been secretly meeting with Venezuela and its corrupt authoritarian regime to discuss the possible lifting of sanctions against importing Venezuelan oil.

We currently purchase more than half a million barrels of oil a day from Russia, which needs to stop immediately. Instead of replacing Russian oil with equally nefarious Venezuelan oil, why not re-create those jobs here in America.

HONORING CANDICE EBERHARDT

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

Ms. BROWN of Ohio. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Candice Eberhardt, who recently made history by becoming the first Black woman to lead the Akron-Cleveland Association of Realtors, also known as ACAR, across its 100-year existence.

Throughout her 20 years in realty, Ms. Eberhardt has held many titles: youngest minority real estate broker in Akron, emerging leader, and entrepreneur. Now, she adds one more: glass ceiling breaker.

I am most grateful for the ways Ms. Eberhardt gives back to our community. She helps to develop young agents. She speaks to community groups about homeownership. She has held key roles in local government. She serves as the Akron NAACP housing chair, and she mentors high school students.

Through her impressive career and considerable contributions, Ms. Eberhardt has paved a path that more Black women in northeast Ohio will follow. I would like to congratulate Ms. Eberhardt on her new role and thank her for serving as a trailblazer, a change-maker, and a role model in northeast Ohio.

CALIFORNIA'S HIGH GAS PRICES

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

Mr. LAMALFA. Madam Speaker, today, the national average for a gallon of gas is a little over $4—$4.06 to be exact. Meanwhile, in my home State of California, the average gas price per gallon all across our State is $5.34. For the first time ever, the average gas price per gallon is over $5 in every single California county.

Now, I know California brings a lot of pain upon itself, self-inflicted, but I

have seen a lot of the mainstream media try to claim that these price increases are due to Russia's attack on Ukraine, not the Biden administration's anti-energy agenda. If that were true, how has the gas price per gallon increased by $1.60 over the last year, not just the last two weeks of the Ukraine conflict.

Since taking office, the Biden administration has frozen all new oil and gas projects on Federal lands and implemented extreme financial barriers on domestic oil and gas production. On day one, of course, we all know he killed the Keystone pipeline, which could be supplying 830,000 barrels of oil from Canada to U.S. refineries, more than what Russia imports to us.

In his first week, we had an executive order stopping new leases on Federal lands, so we need to replace Russian energy with our own production.

STANDING AGAINST ANTI-SEMITISM

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

Mr. VEASEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to stand in solidarity with Congregation Beth Israel in Colleyville, Texas, and stand against anti-Semitism and other forms of religious bigotry.

On January 15 of this year, Congregation Beth Israel, in our North Texas area, endured a preplanned terrorist attack with the explicit purpose of targeting Jews.

This attack was personal to me, because I know the rabbi of that congregation, Charlie Cytron-Walker, and his wife, Adena, very well. I met them when they first moved to the North Texas area.

That is why I am here today, because no community should have to endure that type of attack while they are trying to worship. It doesn't matter what religion they happen to be. It has absolutely no place in our houses of worship.

Tomorrow, in the House, we will vote on a bipartisan resolution that my fellow colleague from North Texas, BETH VAN DUYNE, and I are leading. This resolution condemns the actions taken in Colleyville in January and underscores our commitment to fighting anti-Semitism. I ask everybody to support it, because we must root out hate.

RACIAL DISPARITIES IN HEALTHCARE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 4, 2021, the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, it is my pleasure to co-anchor this Congressional Black Caucus Special Order and to be joined by my co-anchor, the distinguished gentleman from New York, Congressman TORRES. I thank him so very much for his presence here today.

Let me acknowledge the chair of the Congressional Black Caucus as well and thank her for helping to organize this Special Order as well as to be able to discuss health equity and the Black family and the reasons why the CBC strongly urges and supports substantial investments for healthcare in the budget for fiscal year 2023. I also want to especially acknowledge my friend and colleague, the Honorable DONALD PAYNE, whose office initiative has always focused us on the enormity of health disparities in the African-American community.

Let me start with a few comments to be made regarding the work of the Congressional Black Caucus. Let me acknowledge and express my appreciation to the President of the United States for hosting the members of the Congressional Black Caucus this afternoon who serve on the executive committee and for the concern and interest that the President has expressed on a number of issues that I think are important to where we are today in America.

Let me borrow this picture from Congresswoman KAPTUR, who heads the Congressional Ukrainian Caucus, and just remind everyone, because the Congressional Black Caucus has been at the forefront of persons fleeing persecution.

□ 1945

We have been a leader. Whether it is Haiti or whether it is places in Africa or the Caribbean or Europe, African Americans have been at the forefront.

This happens to be the mass of people that are trying to escape Ukraine because of the bloody and immoral and purposeless and vicious and vile actions of Vladimir Putin.

We stand here today as well, recognizing the humanitarian crisis and recognizing as well that we, as Americans, are going to be supporting any people who are fighting for democracy. As we fight for those people, we will also recognize that we will ensure that we are protecting democracy and the freedom of all people.

With that in mind, we had a number of issues that we discussed, and I think it is important that healthcare was certainly a part of it. And the disparities, disparities dealing with African-American boys and African-American men and recognize that we need to focus on eliminating those stark disparities that would result in less of a future for these young boys, for their lives turning around even before they enter school, that there is an intervention to ensure that they become the best of what they can be. That is a crucial element of what we talked about as well.

I am very grateful that we were also in discussions on H.R. 40, the Commission to Study and Develop Reparation Proposals for African Americans Act; and, of course, the very positive discussion that we had, breaking news is that progress will be made on the idea of healing and repairing and reparations, and we are certainly grateful for that discussion.

I would also like to mention as I begin, in the immediacy of the news of the day, we are well aware of my constituent that is now being held in Russia, that is Brittney Griner, an Olympian, a double-honors WNBA player. Unfortunately, we don't have the proof of the allegations. We are disturbed, but we know that she has the possibility of being held for 10 years because of the alleged charges that they are making against her. We are grateful to have had the opportunity to bring this to the attention of the President of the United States, and we expect that hopefully this situation will be looked at as closely as possible and that help will be coming.

I mention this because our Chairwoman has always said, Our Power, Our Message. We speak of a multitude of messages that we will have tonight, focused in particular on the issue of healthcare.

As a member of the United States Congress and the Congressional Black Caucus, we can't start this without talking about the COVID–19 pandemic that has laid bare for the Nation to see the stark racial and ethnic inequalities exacerbated by the virus.

In my home State of Texas as of the end of September 2020, there had been more than 760,000 cases of COVID–19 and 16,000 deaths. According to the Texas State Department of State healthcare services, 70 percent of the confirmed fatalities are people of color.

In Texas, COVID–19 mortality rates are 30 percent higher for African Americans and 80 percent higher for Hispanics. One factor in the Hispanic and African-American populations being more likely to contract COVID–19 is employment in occupations associated with public contact that cannot be done remotely.

We saw that in the early stages of COVID–19, when testing was not at its peak, that the numbers were so high in New York, New Orleans, Detroit, and, yes, in Houston, Texas, because African Americans, in particular, were in jobs that they had hands on, that they were encountering people, whether they were metro bus drivers or TSA workers in the Federal system, whether they were retailers in the grocery store, whether they were firefighters and first responders or police officers, we were finding out that they were being confronted by these particular issues.

The idea of health disparities in the African-American community lends itself to the very reason why this Special Order is crucial. Health coverage as it relates to African Americans in 2017:

10.6 percent of African Americans were uninsured compared with 5.9 percent of non-Hispanic Whites;

89.4 percent of African Americans had healthcare coverage in 2017 compared with 93 percent of White Americans;

44.1 percent of African Americans had government health insurance coverage in 2017; and

12.1 percent of African Americans under the age of 65 reported having no health insurance coverage.

Chronic health conditions are prevalent in our community. 13.8 percent of African Americans reported having fair or poor health. We are prone to diabetes; cancer, particularly breast cancer, prostate cancer, lung cancer, brain cancer; and the leading causes of death among African Americans are heart disease, cancer, and accidents.

There are 11 infant deaths per 1,000 births among Black Americans. This is almost twice the national average of 5.8. Of course, we have a serious problem with Black maternal mortality, which I am very glad the Congressional Black Caucus has taken on as an important issue.

I know that there are also the different kinds of cancer that impact African-American males, and I know my colleagues will spend their time discussing that.

I think the point that is most important is that we realize that all of the indicia indicating disparities in healthcare unfortunately fall on African Americans.

One I forgot to mention is obesity. African-American women have the highest rates of obesity or being overweight compared to other groups in the United States, about four out of five African-American women are overweight or obese.

As we have this discussion tonight, there are several things that I think we should be reminded of. Twelve States refused to take the expanded Medicaid when the Affordable Care Act was finalized and signed by the President of the United States. I was here; we were fighting. In fact, we had included expanded Medicaid as a response to the public option, that we were fighting for. I was in support of the public option, but we compromised, and lo and behold, if I may use that terminology, didn't it get taken out. Didn't we have States refusing to accept expanded Medicaid, and they are in the worst dire straits which includes the State that is a poster child for uninsured, and that is the State of Texas.

But in this Build Back Better Act, we created, with the work of the Congressional Black Caucus, a Federal Medicaid process that we could opt into so that whatever State you lived in—the 12 horrific States that did not accept it who suffer every single day, not the States, not the State government, but the people suffer every day, the children suffer every day—we provided this in Build Back Better.

I was so excited because we were pushing and working and sending letters saying you had to fix this issue of not having the expanded Medicaid. We were able to secure that, and here we are with Build Back Better stalled in the United States Senate, after we worked so hard to get a bill that has so many elements to it that deals with the disparities in healthcare.

As I conclude, let me indicate that the idea of these disparities fall right into the umbrella of H.R. 40, the Commission to Study Slavery and Develop Reparation Proposals for African Americans Act, but the idea is to track slavery and its trajectory to 2021, why these stark disparities in healthcare and education and science and housing and the criminal justice system. But healthcare is life or death, and we can see it in a glaring panorama of any community you go into, of hospitals that you go into, hospice that you are in, that you see this disproportionate proportion of African Americans who either did not have access to healthcare in the early stages of their disease or either suffered from diseases that were, in fact, inherited from families down through the generations because of diet, living conditions, or lack thereof.

We stand here today on the floor of the House to say it is imperative that we work together as Americans to find a way to provide an even playing field for all of our children, if it takes legislation that focuses specifically on diseases that we have, that falls on our shoulders.

I am a breast cancer survivor, and I have introduced over the years triple-negative breast cancer legislation that I hope I will see in the next few months passing, for triple-negative breast cancer is more deadly in our African-American populations and Hispanic populations. I know the cancer clusters that are in the Fifth Ward, Texas, in my district, or Kashmere Gardens, because living in conditions where there are toxic chemicals that these people are breathing or they are eating them because they are in the soil that they plant their gardens in.

Can you imagine, Madam Speaker? This is what we are confronting. That is why the Congressional Black Caucus rises on the floor today to be able to address these serious questions of health disparities, which I believe is at this time a crucial moment in history for us to speak about.

Madam Speaker, as a senior member of the Committees on the Judiciary, on Homeland Security, and on the Budget, and the Congressional Black Caucus, I am pleased to co-anchor this Congressional Black Caucus Special Order with my colleague, the distinguished gentleman from New York, Congressman RITCHIE TORRES.

I thank the Chair of the CBC, Congresswoman BEATTY of Ohio, for organizing this Special Order to discuss the health equity and the Black Family and the reasons why the CBC strongly urges and supports substantial investments for healthcare in the budget for FY 2023.

Before I do, however, let me note for the record that today is March 7, the 57th anniversary of ''Bloody Sunday,'' when hundreds of heroic souls risked their lives in Selma, Alabama, for freedom and to secure the right to vote for all Americans.

Those ''foot soldiers'' of Selma, who were led by our beloved colleague, the late Congressman John Lewis of Georgia, were brave and determined men and women, boys and girls, persons of all races and creeds, who loved their country so much that they were willing to risk their lives to make it better, and to bring it even closer to its founding ideals.

The foot soldiers marched because they believed that all persons have dignity and the right to equal treatment under the law, and in the making of the laws, which is the fundamental essence of the right to vote.

I am Congresswoman SHEILA JACKSON LEE of Texas, and I proudly hail from the great city of Houston, which has been on the front lines since the beginning of the COVID–19 pandemic and paid more than its share in death, heartbreak, and suffering, especially among communities and healthcare workers of color, but has also seen the best our nation has to give in the selfless and courageous service of black nurses who were among the very first to answer the call and have never left or retreated from the field of battle.

The COVID–19 pandemic has laid bare for the nation to see the stark racial and ethnic inequalities exacerbated by the virus.

In my home state of Texas, as of the end of September 2020, there have been more than 760,000 cases of COVID–19 and 16,000 deaths.

According to the Texas Department of State Health Care Services, 70 percent of the confirmed fatalities were people of color.

In Texas, COVID–19 mortality rates are 30 percent higher for African Americans and 80 percent higher for Hispanics overall.

The differences become much larger when accounting for age; for example, in the 25 to 44-year-old age group, African American mortality rates are more than four times higher than White rates, and the Hispanic rates are more than seven times higher.

One factor in Hispanic and African American populations being more likely to contract COVID–19 is employment in occupations associated with public contact and that cannot be done remotely.

The sad fact is that most workers in these occupations are less able to be absent from their job or to have paid time off.

In Texas, people of color are more than 40 percent of cashiers, retail salespersons, child care workers, licensed practical nurses, more than 50 percent of bus drivers and transit workers, medical and nursing assistants, personal care aides, and home health aides, and more than 60 percent of building cleaners and housekeepers.

In addition, Hispanic and African American populations in Texas are less likely to have health insurance and to have a regular health care provider, so less likely to seek or receive early care for symptoms, especially in the first months of the epidemic.

And African American and Hispanic populations are also more likely to have an underlying health condition that makes them more vulnerable to the effects of COVID–19.

To respond and mitigate the devastation wrought by COVID–19 on Americans, and especially marginal and vulnerable communities of color, I have introduced H.R. 330, the ''Delivering Covid–19 Vaccinations to All Regions and Vulnerable Communities Act'' or ''COVID–19 Delivery Act,'' which I invite all Members to join as sponsors.

Under the COVID–19 Delivery Act, FEMA will be authorized and directed to lead the effort for vaccine delivery from the receipt from

manufacturing facilities to delivery to designated inoculation sites (hospital, clinic, doctors' offices, school, places of worship, community centers, parks, or neighborhood gathering locations.

The legislation directs FEMA to develop and deploy a fully staffed and resourced 24-7 advanced real-time tracking system that allows FEMA to monitor shipments of vaccine units that can provide end-to-end transparency on the temperature, real-time location, origin, and destination data, anticipated time of arrival, and report on changes and update recipients on the progress of their delivery and report on changes that may impact expected delivery or the viability of the vaccine while in transit.

I see the disparities in the lives of so many of my constituents who suffer disproportionately from medical conditions that make COVID–19 deadly.

They work low wage or no wage jobs to make ends meet, and they have no health insurance and rely on community health centers or public health services for routine care.

I call them friends and neighbors because they are that to me.

That is why I strongly support CBC's legislative agenda for the 117th Congress to address the many social justice and health equity issues that are related to how the COVID–19 pandemic has manifested and amplified healthcare racial disparities in our communities.

Specifically, I support:

1. Expanded access to testing for all essential workers.
2. Setup a comprehensive vaccination campaign targeting communities of color and ensuring free vaccination for all.
3. Expanded SNAP food benefits.
4. Direct relief payments of $2,000 a month until the end of the pandemic.
5. Continue rent and mortgage payment suspension.
6. Cancellation of student loan debt as students of color have the highest debt loads.

I support legislation that will ensure that all essential workers have access to free PPE for the duration of the pandemic.

I also support legislation to raise the minimum wage to $15 dollars an hour and to develop and support legislation that promotes the ethnic, racial and gender diversification of the health care workforce aimed at increasing overall cultural competence.

Most importantly, I support legislation like H.R. 40 that directly augments the underlying social determinants of health (e.g., socioeconomic factors, education, employment, housing) that historically have disproportionately impacted black and other communities of color that have made them more vulnerable to the COVID–19 pandemic.

Madam Speaker, the CBC strongly supports comprehensive efforts to reduce maternal and infant mortality and its devastating effects.

Maternal and infant mortality disproportionately impacts the Black community in comparison to other communities and this is unacceptable.

700 women die each year in the United States as a result of pregnancy or delivery complications.

Black women are shown to have a disproportionate fatality rate during pregnancy or within 42 days after giving birth.

In 2018, the national maternal mortality rate was 17.4 deaths per 100,000 births in 2018, 37.1 black women died per 100,000 births.

Black infants have 2.3 times the infant mortality rate as white infants.

African American infants are 3.8 times as likely to die from complications related to low birthweight as compared to non-Hispanic white infants.

Black infants are at three times greater risk of accidental death than are white babies, and at more than four times the risk of developing SIDS.

For these reasons, I strongly support and am working for:

1. President Biden's Budget that proposes $31.9 million for the Program for Treatment for Pregnant and Postpartum women;
2. legislation that will increase the diversity of the perinatal health care workforce;
3. investment in digital tools like telehealth to improve maternal health outcomes, especially in underserved areas; and
4. Establishment of an Office of Sexual and Reproductive Health & Wellbeing in the White House to align federal policies and programs so they promote sexual and reproductive health and wellbeing through a human rights, reproductive justice, and racial equity lens.

The CBC supports comprehensive efforts to endorse actions to address the health effects of systemic racism, such as H.R. 379, Improving Social Determinants of Health Act of 2021, which will authorize the CDC to set up a program to improve health outcomes and reduce health inequities by coordinating CDC social determinants of health (SDOH) activities and improve capacity of public health agencies and community organizations to address SDOHs.

We also support the passage of legislation focused on ways to increase the diversity of the U.S. health care workforce (especially nurses, physicians, dentists, and mental health workers) to include enhanced tuition and student loan repayment programs for those from Black communities and other communities of color.

CBC supports as well the passage of legislation to combat institutional racism in all governmental health related agencies and programs.

I am also the lead sponsor of legislation, H.R. 40, which will establish a commission on restorative justice to investigate the ramifications of reparations that includes the acknowledgment of historic health related atrocities.

I support comprehensive efforts to ensure action to improve urban green spaces, public health, environmental health justice and global warming and support clean air/water protections and initiatives that ensure healthy environments for all people because the most recent data reveal that people of color compared to their white counterparts are disproportionately affected by poor socio-ecosystems that affect their physical, mental and social wellbeing.

Poor socio-ecosystem services translate to disparities in health risks so innovative and multifaceted strategies aimed at reversing the following issues are critical to improve the health and well-being of all Americans and specifically people of color.

The CBC supports comprehensive efforts to reduce cancer inequities and its devastating effects.

According to the American Cancer Society, Blacks have the highest mortality and poorest survival rate of any racial—ethnic group in the U.S.

Experts are concerned that the COVID–19 pandemic will exacerbate disparities in cancer care among Blacks, Hispanics, and other people of color.

Accordingly, I agree with NBNA's call for the 117th Congress to:

1. Support (H.R. 8845), the Multi-Cancer Early Detection Screening Coverage Act which would ensure prompt access to FDA-approved multi-cancer screening tests and fuel innovation in cancer screening.
2. Support legislation that would provide ongoing research and education for minorities impacted by cancer.
3. Support legislation that limits and reduces the cost of cancer medications and medical treatment for all populations with an emphasis on disproportionately impacted Black and other communities of color.
4. Support legislation (H.R. 1570) to Remove Barriers to Colorectal Cancer Screening and to modify cost-sharing requirements for colorectal cancer screening tests, and drug manufacturer reporting requirements under Medicare medical services.
5. Support legislation (H.R. 113) to provide for research and education with respect to triple negative breast cancer and for other purposes.

More than 600,000 uninsured African Americans with incomes below the poverty line are among the 2.2 million adults who have no access to affordable health coverage simply because they live in one of 12 states that have refused to take up the Affordable Care Act's Medicaid expansion.

Permanently closing the Medicaid coverage gap is essential to remedy this racial health inequity.

It has been over a decade since the passage of the Affordable Care Act. Of the 12 remaining states that have stubbornly declined to expand coverage to adults with low incomes, eight are in the South: Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, and Texas.

Fully 60 percent of those in the coverage gap in 2019 were people of color, even though people of color represent just 41 percent of the adult population of the 12 states.

Most live in Florida, Georgia, or Texas; more than 100,000 African Americans in each state fall into the coverage gap.

In Alabama, Mississippi, North Carolina, and South Carolina, a majority of those without a pathway to coverage are African American.

In Texas, more than half of those in the coverage gap—422,000 people—are Latinos.

Who are the people in the coverage gap?

They are parents, often with young children.

They are working people.

Many are essential workers who have kept our nation going during the pandemic by working in grocery stores and health care jobs.

Yet they have no health coverage and no way to get it.

By permanently closing the Medicaid coverage gap, Congress can improve the financial security of African Americans and Latinos as well as their health.

Medicaid expansion is a powerful tool against financial hardship and bankruptcy because it prevents catastrophic out-of-pocket medical costs.

Providing this safeguard is particularly critical for African Americans, given the substantial racial wealth gap.

Closing the Medicaid gap will also help address the Black maternal health crisis.

States that expanded Medicaid have seen improved access to preconception and prenatal services that make pregnancy and birth safer for parents and babies.

Medicaid expansion is associated with reduced rates of maternal death, particularly for Black women.

Yet 235,000 Black women of reproductive age with incomes below the poverty line remained uninsured in 2019 without any pathway to affordable health coverage.

Almost all of them live in the Southern states that have refused to expand Medicaid.

Consider these stark and persistent racial disparities in health coverage, chronic health conditions, mental health, and mortality between black and white Americans.

An African American or Black person is any individual with total or partial ancestry from any of the Black racial groups of Africa.

In 2017, 10.6 percent of African Americans were uninsured compared with 5.9 percent of non-Hispanic whites.

89.4 percent of African Americans had health care coverage in 2017 compared with 93.7 percent of white Americans.

44.1 percent of African Americans had government health insurance coverage in 2017.

12.1 percent of Africans Americans under the age of 65 reported having no health insurance coverage.

13.8 percent of African Americans reported having fair or poor health compared with 8.3 percent of non-Hispanic whites.

Eighty percent of African American women are overweight or obese compared to 64.8 percent of non-Hispanic white women.

In 2017, 12.6 percent of African American children had asthma compared with 7.7 percent of non-Hispanic white children. Forty-two percent of African American adults over age 20 suffer from hypertension compared with 28.7 percent of non-Hispanic white adults.

In 2018, 8.7 percent of African American adults received mental health services compared with 18.6 percent of non-Hispanic white adults.

6.2 percent of African American adults received prescription medication for mental health services compared with 15.3 percent of non-Hispanic white adults.

In 2018, 3.8 percent of African American adults reported serious psychological distress.

These disparities are not a result of individual or group behavior but decades of systematic inequality in American economic, housing, and health care systems.

Alleviating health disparities will require a deliberate and sustained effort to address social determinants of health, such as poverty, segregation, environmental degradation, and racial discrimination.

Madam Speaker, in 2019, I introduced a Jackson Lee Amendment to the National Defense Authorization Act, which was adopted to address the issue of Maternity Mortality.

I am pleased to report that the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2020 did include the adoption of a maternity mortality amendment that I offered.

This Jackson Lee Amendment directs the Secretary of Defense to produce a report on maternity mortality rates among members of the Armed Forces and their dependents, which will include the Coast Guard to draw attention to the incident maternal mortality.

Between 1990 and 2015 it is reported that maternal mortality rates around the world fell by 30 percent, while at the same time in the US, the ratio went up nearly 60 percent.

A 2012, Pentagon report states that mothers delivering at military hospitals are more likely to hemorrhage after childbirth than mothers at civilian hospitals.

More than 50,000 babies are born at military hospitals each year, and they are twice as likely to be injured during delivery as newborns nationwide.

In the United States, black women are 2 to 6 times more likely to die from complications of pregnancy than white women, depending on where they live.

Dating back from 1979 to 1992 maternity mortality was analyzed, the overall pregnancy-related mortality ratio was 25.1 deaths per 100,000 for black women, 10.3 for Hispanic women, and 6.0 for non-Hispanic white women.

These numbers did not improve between 1987 and 1996.

During 2011–2015, the pregnancy-related mortality ratios were—

42.8 deaths per 100,000 live births for black non-Hispanic women;

32.5 deaths per 100,000 live births for American Indian/Alaskan Native non-Hispanic women;

14.2 deaths per 100,000 live births for Asian/Pacific Islander non-Hispanic women;

13.0 deaths per 100,000 live births for white non-Hispanic women; and

11.4 deaths per 100,000 live births for Hispanic women.

Black women in the United States experience unacceptably poor maternal health outcomes, including disproportionately high rates of death related to pregnancy or childbirth.

African American women have the highest rates of obesity or being overweight compared to other groups in the United States.

About 4 out of 5 African American women are overweight or obese.

Obesity in the African American community has been a growing concern in recent decades and can be attributed to a multitude of societal elements.

Contributing factors include but are not limited to inequities in stable and affordable housing, risks of living in food deserts, income, and access to quality education.

Each one of these factors has the potential to directly or indirectly influence an individual's chance to live a longer and healthier life.

In addition, if one combines those circumstances with disparities in access to affordable and healthy food or safe places to be physically active, the picture of obesity in the African American community begins to take shape.

Among African American adults, nearly 48 percent are clinically obese (including 37.1 percent of men and 56.6 percent of women, compared to 32.6 percent of whites (including 32.4 percent of men and 32.8 percent of women).

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention found that among 148,494 U.S. adults with COVID–19, a nonlinear relationship was found between body mass index (BMI) and COVID–19 severity, with lowest risks at BMIs near the threshold between healthy weight and overweight in most instances, then increasing with higher BMI.

Overweight and obesity were risk factors for invasive mechanical ventilation.

Obesity was a risk factor for hospitalization and death, particularly among adults aged <65 years.

Using data from the Premier Healthcare Database Special COVID–19 Release the CDC assessed the association between body mass index (BMI) and risk for severe COVID–19 outcomes as defined by hospitalization, stays in intensive care units and the use of invasive mechanical ventilation, and death.

Among 148,494 adults who received a COVID–19 diagnosis during an emergency department (ED) or inpatient visit at 238 U.S. hospitals during March–December 2020, 28.3 percent had overweight and 50.8 percent had obesity.

Overweight and obesity were risk factors for invasive mechanical ventilation, and obesity was a risk factor for hospitalization and death, particularly among adults aged <65 years.

Risks for hospitalization, ICU admission, and death were lowest among patients with BMIs of 24.2 kg/m2, 25.9 kg/m2, and 23.7 kg/m2, respectively, and then increased sharply with higher BMIs.

Risk for invasive mechanical ventilation increased over the full range of BMIs, from 15 kg/m2 to 60 kg/m.

Madam Speaker, I include in the RECORD three publications relating to racial health disparities.

[From USA Today]

FAMILY RAVAGED BY CORONAVIRUS BEGGED FOR TESTS, HOSPITAL CARE BUT WAS REPEATEDLY DENIED

(By Kristen Jordan Shamus)

DETROIT—The man who raised Keith Gambrell, who loved him like a son and married his mother, died in a blue recliner of novel coronavirus in his Michigan home.

Gary Fowler, 56, went to the emergency rooms of three metro Detroit hospitals in the weeks leading up to his death, begging for a coronavirus test, begging for help because he was having difficulty breathing, but he was repeatedly turned away, Gambrell said.

''My dad passed at home, and no one tried to help him,'' Gambrell, 33, said through tears. ''He asked for help, and they sent him away. They turned him away.''

In the hours before his death, breathing was so difficult, Fowler slept sitting up in the bedroom chair, while his wife, Cheryl, dozed in the bed by his side. When she woke, her husband of nearly 24 years was gone.

Before he took his last breaths, Fowler scrawled on a piece of paper, ''Heart beat irregular . . . oxygen level low.''

''My little brother called me, screaming, 'Daddy won't wake up!' '' Gambrell said.

By the time Gambrell got across town to their house on the morning of April 7, police and emergency medical workers had arrived.

His dad was still in the recliner. A bluish tinge had settled on his lips and fingers.

''I went up and talked to him,'' Gambrell said, his voice breaking. ''I told him I love him and that I'll see him again one day and that I'm sorry we couldn't even have a funeral for him.

''I just felt so bad because he was begging for his life, and medical professionals did nothing for him.''

The virus has brought renewed attention to health disparities for people of color.

''About 33 percent of the cases of COVID–19 in this entire state of Michigan are in African Americans, and about 40 percent . . . of the deaths,'' Dr. Joneigh Khaldun, the chief medical executive for the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, said during a Facebook Live interview Thursday with Detroit's Civil Rights, Inclusion and Equal Opportunity Department. ''And that's incredibly concerning. We know that African

Americans are only about 14 percent of the entire population.''

Gambrell lives in Detroit's 48235 ZIP code, a coronavirus hot zone with the highest infection rate per capita—162 cases per 10,000 residents—and the highest number of confirmed cases of the virus at 724, according to data released Friday by the city.

Denise Fair, Detroit's chief public health officer, said coronavirus testing remains a barrier for many in the community, as does access to care.

''It's estimated that there are upwards of 10 people with undetected infections for every confirmed case, and in some communities, the estimates are even higher,'' she said.

Dozens of factors feed the health disparities for people of color, said Khaldun, who formerly worked as the director and health officer for the Detroit Department of Health.

[From the American Cancer Society]

CANCER DISPARITIES IN THE BLACK COMMUNITY

African Americans have a higher cancer burden and face greater obstacles to cancer prevention, detection, treatment, and survival. In fact, Black people have the highest death rate and shortest survival of any racial/ethnic group for most cancers in the U.S. Research has shown that:

African Americans experience more illness, worse outcomes, and premature death compared to whites.

African Americans have the highest death rate and shortest survival of any racial/ethnic group for most cancers. African American men also have the highest cancer incidence.

Cancer death rates in black men is twice as high as in Asians and Pacific Islanders, who have the lowest rates.

Prostate cancer death rates in black men are more than double those of every other racial/ethnic group.

Black women are 40 percent more likely to die of breast cancer than white women and are twice as likely to die if they are over 50.

About a third of Africa American women reported experiencing racial discrimination at a health provider visit.

Living in segregated communities and areas highly populated with African Americans has been associated with increased chances of getting diagnosed with cancer after it has spread, along with having higher death rates and lower rates of survival from breast and lung cancers.

HEALTH DISPARITIES IN THE UNITED STATES

AFRICAN AMERICANS OR BLACK AMERICANS

An African American or Black person is any individual with total or partial ancestry from any of the Black racial groups of Africa.

HEALTH COVERAGE

In 2017, 10.6 percent of African Americans were uninsured compared with 5.9 percent of non-Hispanic whites.

89.4 percent of African Americans had health care coverage in 2017 compared with 93.7 percent of white Americans.

44.1 percent of African Americans had government health insurance coverage in 2017.

12.1 percent of Africans Americans under the age of 65 reported having no health insurance coverage.

CHRONIC HEALTH CONDITIONS

13.8 percent of African Americans reported having fair or poor health compared with 8.3 percent of non-Hispanic whites.

Eighty percent of African American women are overweight or obese compared to 64.8 percent of non-Hispanic white women.

In 2017, 12.6 percent of African American children had asthma compared with 7.7 percent of non-Hispanic white children. Fortytwo percent of African American adults over age 20 suffer from hypertension compared with 28.7 percent of non-Hispanic white adults.

MENTAL HEALTH

In 2018, 8.7 percent of African American adults received mental health services compared with 18.6 percent of non-Hispanic white adults.

6.2 percent of African American adults received prescription medication for mental health services compared with 15.3 percent of non-Hispanic white adults.

In 2018, 3.8 percent of African American adults reported serious psychological distress.

LEADING CAUSES OF DEATH

The leading causes of death among African Americans are heart disease, cancer. and accidents.

African Americans have the highest mortality rate for all cancers combined compared with any other racial and ethnic group.

There are 11 infant deaths per 1,000 live births among Black Americans. This is almost twice the national average of 5.8 infant deaths per 1,000 live births.

11.4 per 100,000 African American men and 2.8 per 100,000 of African American women die by suicide.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, I would like to express my appreciation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

RACIAL HEALTH DISPARITIES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 4, 2021, the gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. BROWN) is recognized for the remainder of the hour as the designee of the majority leader.

Ms. BROWN of Ohio. Madam Speaker, I want to thank the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE) and also the gentleman from New York (Mr. TORRES) for hosting this Special Order hour. I would like to thank my sister Chair BEATTY and all my Congressional Black Caucus colleagues for their continued work to shine a spotlight on racial health disparities.

Dr. Martin Luther King once said, ''Of all the forms of inequality, injustice in healthcare is the most shocking and inhumane.'' Madam Speaker, what was true in Dr. King's time continues to be true in our own. Communities of color have long experienced inadequate access to healthcare, housing, healthy food, and economic opportunity.

These inequalities independently, and working together, increase the prevalence of a host of dangerous health conditions, including diabetes, asthma, obesity, heart disease, and high blood pressure.

One of the most shocking examples of health inequity is our Nation's maternal and infant mortality crisis. Infants born to Black mothers are nearly twice as likely to die compared to those born to White mothers. Continuing after birth, minority Americans face far higher rates of illness and death from an array of conditions.

And what does this lead to, you might ask? Well, I am glad you did. Black Americans have a life expectancy that is 4 years—I repeat, 4 years—shorter than White Americans.

The COVID pandemic's disproportionate impact on minority Americans exacerbated and exposed these disparities and the underlying inequalities driving them. Black and Brown Americans have faced far higher rates of hospitalization and death during the pandemic, and a growing body of research confirms what we have suspected—no, what we have known, what we have known for years—and that is there is an undeniable link between historical racism and the present-day medical health problems Black Americans face.

Health disparities that disproportionately impact Black Americans, from heart disease to maternal and infant mortality, are not merely an aberration. No, they are a direct result of structural, systemic, and institutional racism that has been passed down from generation to generation.

To build a healthier America for all, we must address the generational injustices that drive the racial inequities we continue to see today. That is why I was proud to declare racism as a public health crisis as a county council member, and that is why I am proud to work today with my Congressional Black Caucus colleagues to improve health outcomes for minority Americans and to address injustice in healthcare and throughout our society.

As Dr. King said, injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere. That is our power and our message.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PAYNE), my friend.

□ 2000

Mr. PAYNE. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from Ohio for those wonderful remarks and her continued leadership here in the House of Representatives.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to discuss health equity disparities in America. Today, American minorities do not get the same quality of healthcare as our White counterparts, and it causes too many of them to die needlessly every single day. It is a problem that we must solve immediately.

The numbers tell the story. African Americans are 24 percent more likely to die in this country than White Americans.

The average life expectancy for a White American male is 75. For Black American males, it is about 71.

African Americans between 18 and 49 years old are twice as likely to die from heart disease than our White counterparts.

African Americans between 35 and 64 years old are 50 percent more likely to have high blood pressure than our counterparts.

One out of every five African-American deaths could have been prevented if they received the same level of healthcare as White Americans.

This should not be a surprise to anyone. Research shows that Black Americans receive less and lower quality care

than White Americans for a variety of ailments.

One study of 400 U.S. hospitals found that African Americans with heart disease received cheaper and older treatments than White Americans, not the newest technology available. They were less likely to receive coronary bypass operations. If they were lucky enough to receive surgery, they were discharged earlier regardless of post-surgery health conditions.

More than that, African-American women are less likely to receive a mastectomy or radiation therapy if they are diagnosed with breast cancer.

These disturbing facts are just part of the reason we need the Health Equity and Accountability Act. It would invest in solutions to make sure that all Americans had access to quality healthcare. It would help diversify our country's medical workforce to improve the care in marginalized communities. And it would eliminate the gaps in medical insurance coverage, particularly for Medicare and Medicaid recipients.

This is not all we must do. I am working diligently to improve the health disparities in how we treat colorectal cancer and limb amputations in this country. Colorectal cancer is the second-highest cause of cancer deaths and the fourth-highest cause of new cancers nationwide. This year, an estimated 150,000 Americans will be diagnosed with colorectal cancer. More than 52,000 people will die from it.

It is an even greater problem in minority communities. African Americans are 20 percent more likely to be diagnosed with colorectal cancer than White Americans. They are more likely to die from this deadly disease.

Yet, colorectal cancer is one of the most preventable types of cancer if detected early. That is why I am taking action to save lives from this dreaded disease.

In the 116th Congress, my Removing Barriers to Colorectal Cancer Screening Act was signed into law. It allows Medicare to cover procedures to remove cancerous growths, or polyps, during routine colorectal cancer screenings, called colonoscopies.

In addition, I introduced the Colorectal Cancer Payment Fairness Act to provide this new coverage by the end of 2023.

We must introduce more legislation and take more actions to encourage more colorectal and other cancer screenings and save lives.

Another area of health disparity is limb amputations, specifically limb amputations related to peripheral artery disease, or PAD. It is a disease of the arteries that is related to conditions that cause heart attacks. It can cause blockages in the arms and legs that could lead to amputations.

There are more than 200,000 PAD patients who lose limbs to this disease every single year. It is even worse in minority communities, as usual.

African Americans are three times more likely to have a limb amputated than other Americans. These patients are less likely to receive the proper screenings and treatment for PAD compared to White patients.

Too few doctors who serve minority communities even know about PAD, so they miss the warning signs in patients that could have prevented amputations. But when they understand PAD, doctors can order a vascular screening and target it specifically.

I cofounded the bipartisan Congressional Colorectal Cancer Caucus and also the bipartisan Congressional PAD Caucus to create more awareness of these diseases.

Awareness is key, but we must do more to close the gap in healthcare coverage and treatment. We must give all Americans access to the best medical care. It will save thousands of lives every year in America, and it is simply the right thing to do.

Ms. BROWN of Ohio. Madam Speaker, I thank Mr. PAYNE for those remarks.

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

IMPROVING HEALTH OUTCOMES FOR BLACK COMMUNITIES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 4, 2021, the gentleman from New York (Mr. TORRES) is recognized for the remainder of the hour as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. TORRES of New York. Madam Speaker, I thank my colleague from Ohio (Ms. BROWN) for allowing me the opportunity to speak.

Madam Speaker, no human need is more important than health. Yet, no need is more neglected by America than Black health.

There are two areas on which I am going to offer brief comments. The first is maternal mortality. Among industrialized nations, the United States has among the highest rates of maternal mortality.

The crisis of maternal health represents American exceptionalism in the worst sense of the word. America is exceptionally cruel to Black mothers, who, far too often, face fatal barriers to accessing maternal care before, during, and after pregnancy. Although representing only 13 percent of the population, Black women account for nearly 40 percent of maternal deaths.

There are racial disparities not only in maternal but also infant mortality. The Black community has a maternal mortality rate and an infant mortality rate that are more than double the mortality rates in the White community.

No healthcare program is more critical to maternal health than Medicaid, which pays 40 percent of births nationwide. Attempts by Republican Governors to prevent Medicaid expansion has a disproportionately destructive impact on Black maternal health.

What is most tragic is that most maternal deaths in America are preventable and can be prevented with public investments like the Build Back Better Act. The Build Back Better Act is so urgently needed because it would bring a long-overdue expansion of Medicaid to every corner of Black America.

The second topic is cancer. In 2022, more than 73,000 Black Americans are expected to die from cancer. When it comes to most cancers, Black Americans have the highest death rate as well as the shortest rate of survival.

In the long run, we must develop a cure for cancer in keeping with President Biden's unity agenda. But in the short run, we must double down on early detection. We must invest in the development and distribution of multi-cancer early detection tests.

Black Americans have a far lower likelihood of receiving early detection cancer screening than White Americans. Early detection can mean the difference between life and death. It can mean early treatment, which can prevent cancer from metastasizing beyond the point of no return.

Early cancer screenings and diagnoses are tragically less common in the Black community than elsewhere in America. Even in cases where the White community has a higher cancer incidence, the Black community will nonetheless have higher cancer mortality because of racial disparities in early cancer detection and diagnosis.

Expanding access to multi-cancer early detection tests would bring us closer to closing the racial gap in early detection and in early diagnosis, and in doing so, it would save lives.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. TORRES of New York. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include any extraneous material on the subject of this special order.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. TORRES of New York. Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

ISSUES OF THE DAY

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

Mr. HILL. Madam Speaker, I am delighted to be able to speak on the House floor today and talk about what we are witnessing, all Americans, as we turn on our televisions and see the horrors in Europe.

For the first time in eight decades, we are witnessing a mass, unprovoked ground and air invasion in continental Europe. Not since World War II have we seen this sort of aggressive, evil action by one European nation against another, let alone such action by a global power and member of the United Nations Security Council.

The tragedy unfolding today has no precedent in recent history, not even the terrible civil war and ethnic cleansing in the former Yugoslavia.

□ 2015

Let's be clear, Madam Speaker, Putin feels emboldened and believes that he can wield his power anywhere in the world, including in his own backyard in a pitiful but ruthless attempt to restore his idea of some 18th century Russian kingdom with himself as czar.

Putin is emboldened by the fact that he has personally, and Russia as a nation, not paid any significant economic or diplomatic price for his previous violations of international law, the U.N. Charter, or common decency and norms.

One only has to recall the poisoning in a London park of an opposition voice in 2006, forging a partnership in 2015 with the butcher Assad in mass destruction, murder, and mayhem in Syria, waltzing into Crimea without firing a shot in 2014, and his border incursions into Georgia in 2008.

Putin has simply marched on, trampling international law and sovereign borders, all the while thumbing his nose, Madam Speaker, at international norms and the negligible reaction of his neighbors.

In fact, his neighbors, dependent on the European drug of choice—Russian natural gas—for so long they just stared glassy-eyed at their enabler, unable to stand up for themselves and fight back. Now, these neighbors have rejected the dominance of Putin's pushing and are fighting back.

That is why America once more steps into the breach as the essential, indispensable nation. Our resolve encourages a stronger European Union and a stronger NATO.

During the 20th century, our freedom-loving people consistently stepped up to push back against the disposition and destruction of individual rights, international norms, and sovereign nations.

Europe doesn't want to go back to their ancient, feudal fights, and Ukrainians don't want to return to vassal state status under the boot of Russia.

Ukrainians want to go forward. They don't want to go backward. They don't want to go back to the Berlin Airlift, Checkpoint Charlie, the Fulda Gap, and Churchill's Iron Curtain.

At the height of the Cold War, Madam Speaker, I traveled through Checkpoint Charlie to the other side of the Iron Curtain. I have witnessed what life is like in communism, socialism. I have laid a wreath at Auschwitz. I have laid a wreath on Decoration Day at the American Cemetery in Normandy. And, Madam Speaker, Americans don't want to go back to those days either.

Our boys sacrificed their lives in the forests of Germany, the beaches of France, the hills of Italy, and the sands of North Africa to prevent this very thing from happening again.

That is why American leadership is critical. Partnering with our transatlantic allies, we must muster the military, economic, and diplomatic clout and might to hit this bully in the nose. Bullies only respect clout and might.

While Europe and the United States were timid in the Obama-Merkel days, our collective leadership must fill the void now and push back once and for all against the assault on sovereignty and freedom we are witnessing in Europe.

If not now, when? If not in Ukraine, on the borders of Ukraine, where, Madam Speaker?

If we fail here, despots will race to trample borders around the world, and democracy and freedom everywhere will be in peril.

RUSSIA'S SPECIAL DRAWING RIGHTS

Mr. HILL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to bring attention to how the International Monetary Fund fuels Russia's war on Ukraine by providing them a blank check in the form of special drawing rights, or SDRs.

Last week, I with 40 of my Republican colleagues in the House and the Senate, we wrote Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen urging that all IMF member countries not bail out Russia by facilitating the exchange of Russian SDRs with their own hard currency.

Russia was handed a blank check of nearly $17 billion equivalent in SDRs by the IMF just last year and has an estimated total of $24 billion in SDR reserves. This should have never happened, Madam Speaker, and that is why I have been so adamant for years about limiting the issue of IMF special drawing rights.

Earlier last week, the United States and other countries expanded economic sanctions against the Russian Central Bank, and while this is a late but welcome development, we must do more.

For decades, Russia has been accumulating a war chest that includes gold, international reserves, and importantly, special drawing rights. And with the ruble tanking in open markets, the Kremlin's access to foreign currency reserves being cut off, these SDRs are one of the only remaining ways that Russia can access financial resources for its warmongering in the Ukraine.

That is why now is the time for the U.S. to lead at the IMF for calling on all member countries, including China, Madam Speaker, to formally agree not to facilitate any exchange of their currencies with Russia's SDRs.

We are already seeing China and Russia deepening their ties, forming the latest and newest axis of evil. We cannot allow Moscow to turn to Beijing for an SDR bailout. As the largest shareholder of the IMF, the United States has a responsibility to ensure that these resources are not hijacked to fuel Russian bombs and tanks.

SMALL LENDER ACT

Mr. HILL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to bring attention to the latest Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, the CFBP, proposed small business data collection regulation. It is called section 1071.

Access to capital for small businesses is the lifeblood of each of our local economies, and for many, the community bank lender is often leading the way in supporting our entrepreneurs in small businesses across our districts.

And yet, the CFPB's new regulation, if finalized, would actually hurt small business by making the cost of credit more expensive and imposing significant compliance costs that would fall the hardest on the smallest lenders across our Nation.

That is why I, along with Congressmen WILLIAMS of Texas and LUETKEMEYER of Missouri have introduced the Small LENDER Act, a new bill that would provide regulatory relief to small business lenders by exempting them from this proposed CFPB 1071 rule and providing an additional year to comply, plus a 2-year safe harbor.

Specifically, my bill would expand the definition of a small lender as one that originates at least 500 small business loans per year, instead of the 25-loan limit proposed by the CFPB.

It would also codify a ''small business'' as one with gross revenues of $1 million or less instead of the $5 million threshold that the rule proposed.

Finally, the bill extends the effective compliance date with the final rule to be 3 years plus that 2-year grace period instead of only 18 months as proposed by the CFPB.

In the absence of Congress repealing section 1071 of the Dodd-Frank Act, this bill would prevent some of the most harmful aspects of the rule from going into effect. I urge my colleagues to support the Small LENDER Act.

ECONOMIC CRISIS OF INFLATION

Mr. HILL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to bring attention to the economic crisis that has been fueled by the Biden administration's out-of-control spending and the very accommodative monetary policies of our Federal Reserve.

2021 was the worst year, Madam Speaker for consumer inflation since 1981.

Last year, inflation cost the average worker roughly two paychecks and the average family $3,500.

And inflation doesn't just impact major corporations, but also our small businesses, 61 percent of which have had to raise prices in the last month in order just to try to keep up with inflation.

Of course, getting people back to work will greatly aid supply chains, thus we need to encourage work. But President Biden's policies of vaccine mandates, higher regulations on employers and policies to cut the supply of energy hurt the cause of getting our citizens back to work.

The President has called this inflation ''transitory'' and caused only by ''supply chain'' disruptions and greedy corporations. Madam Speaker, in my view, this is just pure political theater.

Yet, instead of addressing these concerns, working to get spending under control and our Nation's economy fully back on track, President Biden spent the bulk of his State of the Union speech doubling down on those policies that got us into this inflationary situation in the first place.

Central Arkansans' pockets are hurting.

The President should stop proposing to spend trillions more. The President should cut regulatory burdens hindering hiring employers like truck drivers, general contractors, and health service employees.

The President should unleash American energy to help bring down prices for U.S. consumers and help our struggling allies in Europe.

I urge the Biden administration and my colleagues on the other side of the aisle to reach across the aisle to help bring relief to the American people and get back to our prepandemic spending priorities and alleviate the burdens that many face across our country, particularly the burden of inflation.

CRISIS AT THE SOUTHERN BORDER

Mr. HILL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to bring attention to the crisis at our southwest border.

In January, U.S. Customs and Border Patrol reported over 153,941 migrant encounters at our southwest border, which represented a 320 percent increase over January of 2020.

Of the over 150,000 migrants who were encountered, the Biden administration opened the door and said come in, releasing about 60,000 migrants into the United States.

Deportations are down 70 percent when compared to 2020, averaging about 100 a day, and that was in the face of 7,000 migrants appearing at our border each day.

Officials at our southern border have estimated that nearly 400,000 illegal immigrants have successfully crossed the border without being caught. So not being interdicted, not being processed, not being turned back.

Those numbers, like the inflation that we are experiencing, are out of control.

These numbers are unacceptable, and we need to get back on track. I have encouraged the Biden administration for over a year now, return to those Trump-era policies that were controlling the flow across the border, resume construction on the wall, resume support of our personnel on the border, resume the efforts to control and secure our southwest border.

AMERICA'S ENERGY INDEPENDENCE

Mr. HILL. Madam Speaker, today I rise to bring awareness to an issue that concerns all Americans, and that is America's energy independence.

Every day the U.S. is importing nearly 600,000 barrels of oil from Russia. As we continue to increase sanctions against Russia, we must also keep the American people in mind, who are already feeling the effects of inflation each day when they visit the pump.

We need to boost domestic production now. That should be our priority, boosting American production. Prior to the pandemic we were producing 13 million barrels a day. Today, we are producing about 11 million barrels per day. That would more than make up for this Russian oil that for some reason we are still importing.

This week, I received a call from a constituent. This constituent is on a fixed income, and she shared with me her concerns about filling up at the gas station. She shared with me her concerns about Ukraine and asked if she should expect her gas bill to increase even more as tensions rise. And the answer to that question, Madam Speaker is I believe that is right, that is what is going to happen.

And that is why we can benefit Europe and benefit American consumers by unleashing American energy production and get back to those 13 million barrels a day. That way we can offset what we have been importing from Russia and benefit our American consumers.

□ 2030

GREAT AMERICAN OUTDOORS ACT

Mr. HILL. Madam Speaker, I rise to highlight the important work being accomplished through the success of the Great American Outdoors Act, the bipartisan conservation legislation signed into law by President Trump.

In Arkansas, I recently had the opportunity to visit one of those sites and visit with leaders at the National Forest System spearheading this effort at Blanchard Springs Caverns in the Ozark National Forest.

These incredible caverns not only attract thousands each year to Arkansas, but they have a robust economic impact on the surrounding areas as they are enjoyed by all Americans each year.

Thanks to funding by the Great American Outdoors Act, the cabins are able to undergo much-needed renovations to improve the existing trail system and lighting system throughout the caverns and invest in preventative measures to enhance the safety and resiliency of the underground system. This allows the caverns to be enjoyed by American families for years to come.

Madam Speaker, these improvements that are underway as a result of this bipartisan achievement are the first major capital expenditures spent on this beautiful cavern since it was opened during the Nixon administration. So, I look forward to these funds continuing to support various projects in the Natural State and look forward to their enhancement in the years to come.

OPIOID CRISIS

Mr. HILL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to draw attention to the opioid crisis in Arkansas and across our Nation.

Each day, over 250 individuals lose their lives to an opioid-related overdose. According to the CDC, we lost a record number of 99,106 people between March 2020 and March 2021. What a milestone. What a grim milestone.

My home State of Arkansas has one of the highest opioid-prescribing rates in our Nation. In Arkansas alone, we lost at least 225 of our neighbors in this crisis.

Opioid misuse and addiction begin at home, coming from a familiar medicine cabinet. More Americans lose their lives to addiction than from car accidents, guns, or HIV.

This is a crisis, a growing crisis, and one that is reaching new highs. These deaths are preventable, and it is up to each of us to do our part to save lives and combat the disease that is addiction.

That is why, last September, I introduced the bipartisan Preventing Overdoses and Saving Lives Act with my colleague from Michigan, Representative DEBBIE DINGELL. My bipartisan bill will create a grant program allowing States and localities to conduct research on the opioid crisis, create a strategic plan on how to respond to the crisis, and implement co-prescribing under certain circumstances. Increasing access to naloxone reduces opioid fatalities. If this bill passes, it will save lives.

Madam Speaker, we have seen that in Arkansas, one of 14 States that offers co-prescriptions for opioid prescription recipients. I would like to see that broader across our Nation. Lives will be saved.

In this bill, I urge all of my colleagues to join Congresswoman DINGELL and I in this fight.

BE PRO BE PROUD

Mr. HILL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to speak about Be Pro Be Proud, an initiative launched in 2016 as a response to the workforce shortage experienced in my home State of Arkansas.

Be Pro Be Proud is a technical program that introduces students and young adults to skilled trade jobs and the well-paid opportunities that these jobs unlock.

In the past 5 years, Be Pro Be Proud's mobile workshop has completed over 500 stops in the State of Arkansas and recruited over 20,000 individuals who have joined the movement to learn more about key trades, new opportunities, and finding that career that is right for them.

After seeing the tremendous success in Arkansas, the initiative has expanded to surrounding States. We have traveled around the country exposing young adults to this kind of opportunity—in middle school and high school—a career that starts immediately after high school graduation.

In January, I had the pleasure of joining Governor Asa Hutchinson and State and local leaders to announce that Be Pro Be Proud was awarded $1.45 million in a grant to support the launch of a second mobile workshop to bring this story to schools all over Arkansas.

This expansion will see additional communities visited by Be Pro Be Proud sooner and better, and that means faster opportunities to be witnessed by our young people when they graduate from high school.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF SAM CHAFFIN

Mr. HILL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life and legacy of a dear friend and a great Rotary International colleague, my friend Sam Chaffin. I was sad to share the news with my friends that Sam passed away in November.

Born in 1936, in Magnolia, Arkansas, he was a proud graduate of the University of Arkansas, where he earned a master's degree in industrial engineering. Shortly after graduation, Sam opened his own business, Eagle Material Handling of Arkansas, which specialized in material and manufacturing management.

In 1975, Sam joined the Rotary Club of Little Rock, Club 99. During his time in Rotary, Sam served in many leadership positions, including foundation chair, president of our club, and district governor. Through our work together in Rotary, we had the opportunity to go to Lacombe, Louisiana, following Katrina and help many, many families rebuild their homes.

Madam Speaker, we couldn't have done that at our club, the Rotary Club of Little Rock, without Sam's instrumental leadership. He was a friend to all who were blessed to know him. My thoughts are with his wife, Charlie; children, Cole and Marty; and his grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Sam, thank you for your impact on our community, our Rotary Club, Rotary International, and our State.

RECOGNIZING SCIPIO AFRICANUS JONES

Mr. HILL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize an exemplary Arkansan, Scipio Africanus Jones.

Scipio Jones was born into slavery in Arkansas in 1863. Throughout his life, he attended Black schools near his hometown, eventually earning his bachelor's degree from Arkansas' own Shorter College.

Although there were no schools for African Americans to study law in Arkansas, Scipio took on the challenge himself and began studying independently and, in 1889, passed the Arkansas Bar. He began his career in Pulaski County and, in 1900, was admitted to the Arkansas Supreme Court.

In 1919, 12 Black sharecroppers had been sentenced to death for their alleged role in the Elaine Massacre, while 87 other defendants also awaited trial. Scipio Jones' primary goal was to secure a fair trial for the 87 defendants. After his partner's unexpected passing, he became the lead attorney in the appeals process for the 12 defendants who had been sentenced to death.

Of the 12 original sharecroppers who had been sentenced to death, charges were dismissed against six, while the other six had their sentences commuted. The remaining 87 defendants received pardons from the Governor of Arkansas.

Following these immense legal victories, Scipio Jones remained an advocate for the Black community across Arkansas. In recognition of his advocacy, the United States Post Office in downtown Little Rock was named in his honor in 2007.

In 2020, President Trump signed into law my bill, which facilitated a large, full-sized portrait of Scipio Jones to be displayed in that post office. Last week, I had the honor, with all of our citizens, to gather and unveil this beautiful portrait of Scipio Jones at the post office named for him.

Special thanks are owed to John Gill, Garbo Hearne, artist Wade Hampton, and the Central Arkansas Library System for all of their collaboration in making this wonderful portrait a reality. It will serve as a reminder of the legal skill, persistence, bravery, and diplomacy of Scipio Jones, permanently honoring him as the amazing legal leader and citizen that he was.

HONORING DAISY BATES

Mr. HILL. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of Daisy Bates and her brave actions that shaped American history and Arkansas history.

When Daisy Bates moved to Little Rock in the early 1940s, she immediately joined the NAACP and became a leader in our African-American community. As a civil rights activist in Little Rock, Daisy Bates played a leading role in the integration of Little Rock's schools and served as a mentor to the Little Rock Nine.

Her bravery and leadership led her to achieve the unimaginable—sparking change across our whole Nation. Just last month, I had the opportunity to visit with students and speak about her impact and her legacy at the Daisy Bates Elementary School in Little Rock.

Daisy's accomplishments deserve to be recognized, and I am proud that Daisy Bates and her legacy will be memorialized here in the United States Capitol. Soon, her statue will become part of the collection in the National Statuary Hall, commemorating her bravery, strength, and leadership.

Madam Speaker, I look forward to honoring that memory and continuing her fight for equality every time I pass that statue in our Capitol.

RECOGNIZING ARMY COLONEL MIKE ROSS

Mr. HILL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Retired Army Colonel Mike Ross and his selfless leadership with Veterans Villages of America.

Colonel Ross is a combat veteran with 37 years of military service. He has received numerous awards, including the Legion of Merit, the Bronze Star, and the Meritorious Service Medal.

Currently, Colonel Ross serves on the board of directors for Veterans Villages of America, where he operates a food pantry for veterans, military personnel, and their immediate family members. They also network in our communities to meet the needs of our veterans—and I mean all the needs of our veterans. Colonel Ross is indeed tireless.

Although he is retired, he continues to give back to others, serve others, and work tirelessly for American military families and our veterans to ensure they are well cared for.

Madam Speaker, I thank Colonel Ross for his outstanding service and dedication to our community and central Arkansas veterans.

RECOGNIZING MONTINE MCNULTY

Mr. HILL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the career of Montine McNulty.

After serving 25 years as the head of the Arkansas Hospitality Association, Montine has announced her well-deserved retirement. Early in 2020, Montine thought about retirement, but when COVID–19 hit, she made a decision to stay and guide her organization through the pandemic in the midst of such great uncertainty.

Montine, I commend your embodying of the motto, ''Service Above Self,'' and I hope you enjoy every moment of your retirement.

Madam Speaker, it is also important that we take a moment and recognize Katie Beck, the new head of the Arkansas Hospitality Association. Katie has had a distinguished career in serving Governor Hutchinson's communication department, and I know she will bring that drive, that spirit, as the new head of the AHA.

The Arkansas Hospitality Association is very valuable for our State, and I look forward to seeing where Katie takes the organization while continuing Montine's legacy.

Madam Speaker, may I inquire how much time remains.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman has 31 minutes remaining.

SHIFT BACK TO SOCIETY

Mr. HILL. Madam Speaker, the United States currently has one of the highest prison populations in the world. Every year, we spend about $34,000 per inmate in our State. In Arkansas, the current rate of reentry after re-offending is about 57 percent, one of the highest in the Nation.

We can do better, which is why I introduced the bipartisan Shift Back to Society Act. This bill would enact policies that avert individuals from re-offending, keeping people out of prison. This is accomplished by providing funding for our historically Black colleges and universities for educational programming that they design for offenders who have or who have almost completed serving their time, so engaging to better prepare people we know that are going to be released.

By developing this pathway to education, we directly decrease the rate of recidivism. The more education an individual has, the less likely they are to re-offend. This legislation will save millions in current spending while creating an opportunity that will keep individuals out of prison and transition

them back into being productive members of society.

As we currently face an uptick in crime, both in Arkansas and across our Nation, I am proud to bring forward a bill that will save taxpayer dollars as well as improve paths for successful reentry shifting back to society.

CONGRATULATING MIKE POORE ON HIS RETIREMENT

Mr. HILL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate my good friend, our superintendent of Little Rock Public Schools, Mike Poore.

Mike has decided to retire, and I wish him a happy and healthy retirement. In 2016, Mike made the move from northwest Arkansas to Little Rock with the goal of transforming the district, which at the time was under the control of the State.

□ 2045

In March 2020, when the world turned upside down because of the COVID–19 pandemic, Mike did not skip a beat. He worked to make sure every teacher and every student had the technology needed to continue learning with as little disruption as possible.

He worked mightily with the district teachers and staff to make sure students were back in the classroom. Madam Speaker, that was a great accomplishments of our State to have over 80 percent of our kids in the classroom during the midst of the pandemic. Mike led that way.

His other accomplishment included raising money for students in the community, increasing teachers' salaries, and being named Arkansas' Superintendent of the Year.

Madam Speaker, I thank Mike for his service and dedication to the Little Rock School District, his long-lasting impact in our community is appreciated.

Congratulations and our best wishes for his retirement.

RECOGNIZING EAGLE SCOUT MARCAL YOUNG

Mr. HILL. Madam Speaker, today I rise to recognize fellow Eagle Scout Marcal Young of Little Rock. I am congratulating him on his career with the Boy Scouts of America having been active with that organization for over 40 years.

Since its founding, the Boy Scouts of America have remained committed to the idea that educating our youth in citizenship, service, and leadership is best for their development, and an amazing opportunity of service for our Nation.

Marcal has embraced these principles, and in 2018 was named Scout Executive of the Qupaw Area Council. Throughout his career, he has had a positive impact on thousands of young people and their families, and as a result, their communities.

With their character development and value-based leadership programs, over 2.5 million young men have achieved the rank of Eagle Scout.

In 1972, I earned the rank of Eagle Scout at Troop 27 at Holy Souls Catholic Church in Little Rock. To this day, it is one of my proudest accomplishments.

I am grateful for Marcal and his commitment to Scouting and making those achievements possible for youth across the communities of our State. His leadership and influence will be remembered, and I wish him the very best in his well-earned retirement.

RECOGNIZING THE RETIREMENT OF MARGARET ELLIBEE

Mr. HILL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the retirement of Margaret Ellibee and commemorate her service of 11 years as chancellor at the University of Arkansas Pulaski Technical College.

UA Pulaski Tech, a 2-year community college in the heart of my district, has moved mountains for its students and faculty under her leadership.

Margaret Ellibee's critical decision to raise admission standards not only led to increased graduation rates but also reduced student loan default rates, positively impacting the school's performance and trustworthiness.

Madam Speaker, I thank Margaret for making these achievements possible for our students and faculty, and I am grateful for her bold and robust leadership. Her legacy will be remembered for years, and I wish her the very best of a well-earned retirement.

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

ADJOURNMENT

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

Thereupon (at 8 o'clock and 48 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Tuesday, March 8, 2022, at 10 a.m. for morning-hour debate.

EXPENDITURE REPORTS CONCERNING OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL

Reports concerning the foreign currencies and U.S. dollars utilized for Official Foreign Travel during the first, second, third, and fourth quarters of 2021, pursuant to Public Law 95–384, are as follows:

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, JOINT COMMITTEE ON TAXATION, EXPENDED BETWEEN JAN. 1 AND MAR. 31, 2021

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem [1]		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]
HOUSE COMMITTEES											
Please Note: If there were no expenditures during the calendar quarter noted above, please check the box at right to so indicate and return. ☒											

[1] Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
[2] If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

HON. RICHARD E. NEAL, Chairman, Jan. 14, 2022.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, JOINT COMMITTEE ON TAXATION, EXPENDED BETWEEN APR. 1 AND JUNE 30, 2021

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem [1]		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]
HOUSE COMMITTEES											
Please Note: If there were no expenditures during the calendar quarter noted above, please check the box at right to so indicate and return. ☒											

[1] Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
[2] If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

HON. RICHARD E. NEAL, Chairman, Jan. 14, 2022.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, JOINT COMMITTEE ON TAXATION, EXPENDED BETWEEN JULY 1 AND SEPT. 30, 2021

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem [1]		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]
HOUSE COMMITTEES											
Please Note: If there were no expenditures during the calendar quarter noted above, please check the box at right to so indicate and return. ☒											

[1] Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
[2] If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

HON. RICHARD E. NEAL, Chairman, Jan. 14, 2022.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, JOINT COMMITTEE ON TAXATION, EXPENDED BETWEEN OCT. 1 AND DEC. 31, 2021

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem [1]		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]
HOUSE COMMITTEES											
Please Note: If there were no expenditures during the calendar quarter noted above, please check the box at right to so indicate and return. ☒											

[1] Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
[2] If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

HON. RICHARD E. NEAL, Chairman, Jan. 14, 2022.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

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

EC–3554. A letter from the Chief Innovation Officer, Rural Development Innovation Center, Rural Business-Cooperative Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Departments' Major rule — Meat and Poultry Processing Expansion Program, Fiscal Year 2022 Request for Applications — Phase I received February 28, 2022, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Agriculture.

EC–3555. A letter from the Acting Assistant Secretary of the Army, Manpower and Reserve Affairs, Department of the Army, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's Congressional Report, 116-333, pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 2015 note; Public Law 116-92, Sec. 560B(d)(1); (133 Stat. 1394); to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–3556. A letter from the Acting, Assistant Secretary of the Army, Manpower and Reserve Affairs, Department of the Army, Department of Defense, transmitting the Army's interim response to a requirement contained in Conference Report 116-617, regarding Military Child Care and Child Development Centers Matters; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–3557. A letter from the Acting Chairman, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, transmitting the Corporation's 2021 Merger Decisions Report, pursuant to Sec. 18(c)(9) of the Federal Deposit Insurance Act; to the Committee on Financial Services.

EC–3558. A letter from the Director, Office of Congressional Affairs, Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting the Commission's final regulation — Reassessment of NRC's Dollar per Person-Rem Conversion Factor Policy [NUREG-1530] (Revision 1) received February 25, 2022, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC–3559. A letter from the Director, Planning, Programming, and Analysis International Cooperation, Acquisition and Sustainment, Depart of Defense, transmitting Transmittal No. 04-22, pursuant to Section 27(f) of the Arms Export Control Act and Executive Order 13637; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC–3560. A letter from the Senior Bureau Official, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a determination under Sections 506(a)(1) and 614(a)(1) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC–3561. A letter from the Senior Bureau Official, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a memorandum of justification for the drawdown of defense articles and services and military education and training and for the exercise of the authority under Sec. 506(A)(1) and Sec. 614(a)(1) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC–3562. A letter from the Senior Bureau Official, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a determination under Sec. 3(d)(2) of the Arms Export Control Act, 22 U.S.C. 2753(d)(2); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC–3563. A letter from the Embassy of Pakistan, transmitting a letter from the Honorable Speaker of the National Assembly of Pakistan to his U.S. counterpart, The Honorable Nancy Pelosi, Speaker of the House of Representatives; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC–3564. A letter from the Sanctions Regulations Advisor, Office of Foreign Assets Control, Department of the Treasury, transmitting the Department's final rule — Russian Harmful Foreign Activities Sanctions Regulations received February 28, 2022, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC–3565. A letter from the Sanctions Regulations Advisor, Office of Foreign Assets Control, Department of the Treasury, transmitting the Department's final rule — Weapons of Mass Destruction Proliferators Sanctions Regulations received February 28, 2022, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC–3566. A letter from the Senior Advisor, Administration for Children and Families, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting a notification of a discontinuation of service in acting role and a designation of acting officer, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 3349(a); Public Law 105-277, Sec. 151(b); (112 Stat. 2681-614); to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

EC–3567. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting a notice from the Secretary regarding Sec. 542 of Division F of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021, pursuant to Public Law 116-260, div. F, title V, Sec. 542; (134 Stat. 1477); to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

EC–3568. A letter from the Officer for Civil Rights and Civil Liberties, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's Office for Civil Rights and Civil Liberties Fiscal Year 2021 Semiannual Report, Third and Fourth Quarters, pursuant to 6 U.S.C. 345(b); Public Law 107-296, Sec. 705; (116 Stat. 2219); to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

EC–3569. A letter from the Associate General Counsel for General Law, FEMA, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting a notification of a designation of acting officer, and a nomination, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 3349(a); Public Law 105-277, Sec. 151(b); (112 Stat. 2681-614); to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

EC–3570. A letter from the Inspector General, Office of the Inspector General of the U.S. House of Representatives, transmitting a memorandum on Audit of Cybersecurity Event Detection (Report No. 20-CAO-06); to the Committee on House Administration.

EC–3571. A letter from the Legal Counsel, Office of Legal Counsel, Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — 2022 Adjustment of the Penalty for Violation of Notice Posting Requirements (RIN: 3046-AB17) received February 28, 2022, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

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

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ: Committee on Small Business. H.R. 4877. A bill to amend the Small Business Act to require the Small Business and Agriculture Regulatory Enforcement Ombudsman to create a centralized website for compliance guides, and for other purposes (Rept. 117–255). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ: Committee on Small Business. H.R. 6454. A bill to clarify the primary functions and duties of the Office of Advocacy of the Small Business Administration, and for other purposes Rept. 117–256). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ: Committee on Small Business. H.R. 6450. A bill to amend the

Small Business Act to reauthorize the SCORE program, and for other purposes (Rept. 117–257). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ: Committee on Small Business. H.R. 6441. A bill to amend the Small Business Act to improve the women's business center program, and for other purposes (Rept. 117–258). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. SAN NICOLAS (for himself, Mr. SABLAN, Ms. NORTON, and Ms. PLASKETT):

H.R. 6941. A bill to provide for a nonvoting delegate to the Senate to represent American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Guam, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands of the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. GREEN of Tennessee:

H.R. 6942. A bill to prohibit the importation of oil and gas products from Russia, Iran, or Venezuela, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. TRONE (for himself and Mr. RESCHENTHALER):

H.R. 6943. A bill to amend the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to authorize public safety officer death benefits to officers suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder or acute stress disorder, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. CURTIS:

H.R. 6944. A bill to impose sanctions with respect to the importation of oil and natural gas from Russia, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committees on Financial Services, Energy and Commerce, and Natural Resources, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. CLOUD (for himself, Mrs. BOEBERT, Mr. MASSIE, Mrs. MILLER of Illinois, Mr. MOONEY, Mr. GOOD of Virginia, Mr. ELLZEY, Mr. GOSAR, Mr. BUDD, Mr. DESJARLAIS, Mr. BUCK, Mr. CLINE, Mr. HARRIS, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mr. PERRY, Mr. BIGGS, Mr. GOHMERT, Mr. JACKSON, Mr. POSEY, Mr. LATURNER, Ms. HERRELL, Mr. GAETZ, Mr. GIBBS, Mr. MCKINLEY, Mr. BUCHANAN, Mr. BISHOP of North Carolina, Mr. ROY, Mr. ROSE, Mr. HUDSON, Mr. NORMAN, Mr. LAMBORN, Mr. FULCHER, Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana, Mr. RICE of South Carolina, Mr. BENTZ, Mr. HICE of Georgia, Mr. MANN, Mr. CAWTHORN, Mr. BABIN, Mrs. CAMMACK, Mr. CRAWFORD, Ms. TENNEY, Mr. TIFFANY, Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania, and Mr. CLYDE):

H.R. 6945. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to discontinue the collection by the Federal Government of firearm transaction records of discontinued firearms businesses, to require the destruction of such already collected records, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. PAPPAS (for himself, Mr. NEWHOUSE, and Mr. BUDD):

H.R. 6946. A bill to amend the Controlled Substances Act with respect to fentanyl-related substances, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. ARRINGTON (for himself, Mr. NEWHOUSE, Ms. VAN DUYNE, Mr. GIBBS, Mr. BABIN, Mr. DUNCAN, Mr. ELLZEY, Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana, Mr. BUDD, Mr. CALVERT, and Mrs. BOEBERT):

H.R. 6947. A bill to prohibit the importation of crude oil, petroleum, petroleum products, and liquefied natural gas from the Russian Federation, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committees on Transportation and Infrastructure, Agriculture, Energy and Commerce, Natural Resources, Foreign Affairs, Financial Services, Intelligence (Permanent Select), Armed Services, and Oversight and Reform, 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. CRENSHAW (for himself and Mr. BURGESS):

H.R. 6948. A bill to direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services, acting through the Commissioner of Food and Drugs, to promulgate rules to update certain regulations relating to human cells, tissues, and cellular and tissue-based products, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. EVANS (for himself, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. DELGADO, and Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER):

H.R. 6949. A bill to amend the Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation Act to reauthorize Delaware River Basin conservation programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. GOSAR:

H.R. 6950. A bill to require the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives to eliminate its Enterprise Content Management Imaging Repository System, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. GOTTHEIMER (for himself, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. CASE, Mr. MEIJER, Mr. GOLDEN, Mr. MCKINLEY, Ms. HOULAHAN, Mr. PANETTA, Mr. REED, Mr. HORSFORD, Mr. VALADAO, Mr. SUOZZI, Ms. PINGREE, Mr. COHEN, Mr. PAPPAS, Mr. COSTA, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Mr. KILMER, Mr. PHILLIPS, Mr. VICENTE GONZALEZ of Texas, Mr. SOTO, Mr. MALINOWSKI, Ms. SPANBERGER, Mr. SCHNEIDER, Mrs. LURIA, Ms. MANNING, Mr. MEUSER, Ms. BOURDEAUX, Mr. PETERS, Mrs. DINGELL, Mr. CASTEN, Mr. LAMB, Mr. NEWHOUSE, Mr. BURGESS, Mr. KAHELE, Mrs. LEE of Nevada, Mr. VAN DREW, Mr. SCHRADER, Mr. DIAZ-BALART, Mr. MORELLE, Mr. KATKO, Mr. BUCHANAN, Ms. WILD, Mr. SHERMAN, Mr. CORREA, Mr. KIM of New Jersey, Ms. SLOTKIN, Ms. STEVENS, Mrs. HINSON, Ms. SHERRILL, Mr. TONY GONZALES of Texas, Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, and Mr. FULCHER):

H.R. 6951. A bill to prohibit the importation of crude oil, petroleum, petroleum products, liquefied natural gas, and coal from the Russian Federation; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, 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. JOHNSON of South Dakota:

H.R. 6952. A bill to amend the National Labor Relations Act to permit employers to pay higher wages to their employees; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. KHANNA (for himself and Ms. MACE):

H.R. 6953. A bill to prohibit the importation of crude oil and petroleum products from the Russian Federation, to impose sanctions with respect to persons involved in the importation of such crude oil and petroleum products who have engaged in acts of corruption or who are responsible for serious human rights abuses, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committees on Energy and Commerce, Ways and Means, Oversight and Reform, Financial Services, and the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mrs. KIM of California (for herself, Ms. SLOTKIN, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mr. OWENS, Mr. HUIZENGA, Mr. ELLZEY, Mr. CHABOT, Mr. GARBARINO, Mr. GOODEN of Texas, Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS, Mr. KATKO, Mr. FALLON, Mr. DIAZ-BALART, Mrs. BICE of Oklahoma, and Mr. MANN):

H.R. 6954. A bill to direct the Secretary of State to provide to Congress a briefing and report on the support of the People's Republic of China for Russia's invasion of Ukraine, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committee on Intelligence (Permanent Select), 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. KIM of New Jersey:

H.R. 6955. A bill to provide a direct appropriation of funds for the Learn and Serve America program of the Corporation for National and Community Service; to the Committee on Appropriations.

By Mr. KIM of New Jersey:

H.R. 6956. A bill to direct the Secretary of Education to carry out grant programs to encourage student participation in local government and volunteer service, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. KIM of New Jersey:

H.R. 6957. A bill to expand opportunities for employment of recent graduates in Federal Government positions, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

By Mr. KIM of New Jersey:

H.R. 6958. A bill to expand the financial, healthcare, and educational benefits received by Peace Corps and AmeriCorps volunteers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committees on Foreign Affairs, Veterans' Affairs, and Education and Labor, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. KIM of New Jersey:

H.R. 6959. A bill to transfer the Peace Corps and the Corporation for National and Community Service under the umbrella of an American Volunteering Corporation, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and Labor, and in addition to the Committee on 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. McKINLEY (for himself, Mr. UPTON, Ms. MACE, and Mr. CARTER of Georgia):

H.R. 6960. A bill to prohibit the importation of fossil fuels from the Russian Federation, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Ways and Means, Foreign Affairs, Oversight and Reform, Financial Services, Intelligence (Permanent Select), Armed Services, Transportation and Infrastructure, Natural Resources, and Agriculture, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. MRVAN:

H.R. 6961. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve hearings before the Board of Veterans' Appeals regarding claims involving military sexual trauma; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Ms. NORTON:

H.R. 6962. A bill to direct the Director of the Bureau of Prisons to provide information on certain persons under the jurisdiction of the Bureau of Prisons to the Mayor of the District of Columbia, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. PALLONE:

H.R. 6963. A bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to strengthen requirements for postapproval studies for drugs approved using accelerated approval, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Ms. STRICKLAND (for herself, Mr. KILMER, and Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER):

H.R. 6964. A bill to authorize leases of up to 99 years for lands held in trust for the Confederated Tribes of the Chehalis Reservation; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Ms. TITUS (for herself, Mr. CASE, and Mr. YOUNG):

H.R. 6965. A bill to promote travel and tourism in the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Foreign Affairs, and the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. WILD (for herself and Mr. MEIJER):

H.R. 6966. A bill to require that the offices of the Internal Revenue Service are staffed with employees to answer phone calls during business hours and quickly confirm receipt of hard mail tax returns, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. McCLINTOCK (for himself, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mr. PALAZZO, Mr. C. SCOTT FRANKLIN of Florida, Mr. HICE of Georgia, Mr. NORMAN, Mr. DUNCAN, and Mr. ELLZEY):

H.J. Res. 74. A joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States prohibiting the United States Government from increasing its debt except for a specific purpose by law adopted by three-fourths of the membership of each House of Congress; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mrs. SPARTZ (for herself, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. QUIGLEY, Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. HARRIS, Mr. HILL, Mr. NEWHOUSE, Mr. LAMALFA, Mr. TIMMONS, Mrs. WAGNER, Mr. BILIRAKIS, Mr. OWENS, Mr. MOORE of Utah, Mr. DIAZ-BALART, Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania, Mr. BANKS, Mrs. LESKO, Mr. McKINLEY, Mr. GIBBS, Mr. HUIZENGA, Mr. MEIJER, Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN, Mr. MANN, Mr. BURGESS, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. VAN DREW, Ms. SALAZAR, Mrs. WALORSKI, Mr. LATURNER, Mr. C. SCOTT FRANKLIN of Florida, Mr. COSTA, Mr. BERGMAN, Mrs. BICE of Oklahoma, Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS, Mr. STEUBE, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois, Mrs. HARTZLER, Mr. ELLZEY, Mrs. HARSHBARGER, Ms. STEFANIK, Mr. ALLEN, Mr. ROUZER, Mrs. MILLER of West Virginia, Mr. MOOLENAAR, Mr. TONY GONZALES of Texas, Mr. BALDERSON, Mr. HUDSON, Mr. AMODEI, Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio, Mr. HERN, Mr. RESCHENTHALER, Ms. MALLIOTAKIS, Mr. GARCIA of California, Mr. GIMENEZ, Mr. FERGUSON, Mr. BUDD, Mr. LUETKEMEYER, Mr. KATKO, Mr. LOUDERMILK, Mr. MOONEY, Mr. SMITH of Nebraska, Mrs. STEEL, Mr. JACKSON, and Mr. CALVERT):

H. Res. 963. A resolution expressing the sense of the House of Representatives condemning the Russian Federation, President Vladimir Putin, members of the Russian Security Council, the Russian Armed Forces, and Russian military commanders for committing flagrant acts of aggression and other atrocities rising to the level of crimes against humanity and war crimes against the people of Ukraine and others; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. ESPAILLAT (for himself, Mr. CICILLINE, Ms. NORTON, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, and Mr. KAHELE):

H. Res. 964. A resolution expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that the United States condemns the Russian Government's gross violations of international law amounting to war crimes and crimes against humanity, stands in solidarity with the people of Ukraine, and supports the efforts of international organizations to help people displaced by war and conflict; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin (for herself and Ms. LEE of California):

H. Res. 965. A resolution expressing support for the designation of the week beginning March 6, 2022, as ''School Social Work Week''; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. SMITH of New Jersey (for himself, Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. CHABOT, Mr. HARRIS, and Mr. SUOZZI):

H. Res. 966. A resolution expressing the sense of the House of Representatives regarding the need for investigation and prosecution of the crime of aggression and other international crimes committed by officials of the Government of the Russian Federation against the Government and people of Ukraine, and calling on the President to direct the United States representative to the United Nations to use the voice, vote, and influence of the United States to immediately promote the establishment of an appropriate regional or international justice mechanism to investigate and prosecute possible international crimes stemming from the Russian invasion of Ukraine, and further calling upon the President to convoke and convene the world's democracies for the purposes of establishing such an international justice mechanism at the earliest possible time, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN (for herself and Ms. STEVENS):

H. Res. 967. A resolution raising awareness of the impact of COVID-19 on bereaved children; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

MEMORIALS

Under clause 3 of rule XII,

ML-139. The SPEAKER presented a memorial of the Senate of the State of Arizona, relative to Senate Memorial 1001, urging the United States Congress to protect consumers and financial institutions from burdensome Internal Revenue Service rules; which was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY STATEMENT

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

By Mr. SAN NICOLAS:

H.R. 6941.

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

Article IV, sec. 3, cl. 2: ''The Congress shall have Power to dispose of and make all needful Rules and Regulations respecting the Territory or other Property belonging to the United States.''

By Mr. GREEN of Tennessee:

H.R. 6942.

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

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 of the U.S. Constitution

By Mr. TRONE:

H.R. 6943.

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

Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution of the United States.

By Mr. CURTIS:

H.R. 6944.

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

Article 1 Section 8

By Mr. CLOUD:

H.R. 6945.

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

Article 1, 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 or Officer thereof.''

By Mr. PAPPAS:

H.R. 6946.

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

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

By Mr. ARRINGTON:

H.R. 6947.

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

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18

By Mr. CRENSHAW:

H.R. 6948.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section VIII, Clause III
By Mr. EVANS:
H.R. 6949.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
clause 3 of section 8 of article I of the Constitution.
By Mr. GOSAR:
H.R. 6950.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I Section 8
Second Amendment
By Mr. GOTTHEIMER:
H.R. 6951.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following: Article I, Section 8, Clause 18: To make all laws that shall be necessary and proper for carrying into execution the foregoing powers, and all powers vested by this Constitution in the government of the United States, or in any department or officer thereof.
By Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota:
H.R. 6952.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution
By Mr. KHANNA:
H.R. 6953.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8
By Mrs. KIM of California:
H.R. 6954.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8
By Mr. KIM of New Jersey:
H.R. 6955.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution
By Mr. KIM of New Jersey:
H.R. 6956.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution
By Mr. KIM of New Jersey:
H.R. 6957.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution
By Mr. KIM of New Jersey:
H.R. 6958.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution
By Mr. KIM of New Jersey:
H.R. 6959.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution
By Mr. MCKINLEY:
H.R. 6960.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
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. MRVAN:
H.R. 6961.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, Clause 18
By Ms. NORTON:
H.R. 6962.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
clause 18 of section 8 of article I of the Constitution.
By Mr. PALLONE:
H.R. 6963.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Under Article I, Section 8, Clause 3: [The Congress shall have Power] To regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes.
By Ms. STRICKLAND:
H.R. 6964.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Under Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution, Congress has the power ''to make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or any Department or Officer thereof''.
By Ms. TITUS:
H.R. 6965.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
The Congress enacts this bill pursuant to Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.
By Ms. WILD:
H.R. 6966.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I Section VIII
By Mr. MCCLINTOCK:
H.J. Res. 74.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 5, which confers on Congress the power, whenever two thirds of both Houses shall deem it necessary, to propose Amendments to this Constitution

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

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

H.R. 82: Ms. STEVENS and Ms. KAPTUR.
H.R. 558: Mr. ELLZEY, Mr. TIMMONS, Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS, and Mr. TONY GONZALES of Texas.
H.R. 564: Mr. TRONE.
H.R. 565: Mr. DONALDS.
H.R. 616: Ms. BROWN of Ohio.
H.R. 623: Ms. ROSS and Mr. KAHELE.
H.R. 774: Ms. SCANLON.
H.R. 923: Mr. CHABOT.
H.R. 992: Mrs. HARTZLER.
H.R. 1179: Mrs. LURIA, Mr. GOMEZ, Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. SOTO, Mr. TORRES of New York, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, and Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia.
H.R. 1210: Mr. CRENSHAW.
H.R. 1284: Mr. DONALDS, Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS, Mr. GOSAR, Mr. CRAWFORD, Mr. BUCK, Mr. ROUZER, Mr. CLINE, and Mr. LAMBORN.
H.R. 1332: Mr. COSTA, Ms. HOULAHAN, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, and Mr. C. SCOTT FRANKLIN of Florida.
H.R. 1334: Mr. JONES, Mrs. CHERFILUS-MCCORMICK, and Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD.
H.R. 1364: Ms. NORTON.
H.R. 1437: Mr. CLEAVER.
H.R. 1551: Mr. NEGUSE.
H.R. 1558: Mr. AGUILAR.
H.R. 1574: Ms. Sánchez.
H.R. 1577: Ms. LOFGREN.
H.R. 1627: Mr. NEGUSE.
H.R. 1636: Ms. MANNING.
H.R. 1670: Mr. GOTTHEIMER.
H.R. 1676: Mr. NEGUSE.
H.R. 1696: Mr. NADLER and Mr. LARSON of Connecticut.
H.R. 1729: Mr. BERGMAN.
H.R. 1735: Mr. CLEAVER, Mrs. TRAHAN, and Ms. CRAIG.
H.R. 1956: Mr. GARAMENDI.
H.R. 2012: Ms. DEGETTE.
H.R. 2021: Mr. CÁRDENAS.
H.R. 2100: Mr. GRAVES of Missouri.
H.R. 2144: Mr. AUCHINCLOSS and Ms. DEAN.
H.R. 2163: Mr. ALLRED, Mr. PAPPAS, Mr. KELLER, Mr. FORTENBERRY, Ms. MENG, and Ms. ESHOO.
H.R. 2192: Mr. FERGUSON, Mr. NEAL, and Mr. THOMPSON of California.
H.R. 2311: Mr. CRAWFORD.
H.R. 2499: Ms. DEGETTE, Ms. JAYAPAL, Mr. CROW, Ms. MATSUI, Mrs. TORRES of California, Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, Ms. ADAMS, Mr. CONNOLLY,
Mrs. DINGELL, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Mr. HIGGINS of New York, Mr. CUELLAR, and Mr. BLUMENAUER.
H.R. 2517: Ms. HOULAHAN.
H.R. 2519: Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois.
H.R. 2558: Mr. BABIN.
H.R. 2654: Ms. STRICKLAND.
H.R. 2718: Mr. BENTZ and Mr. BUCHANAN.
H.R. 2735: Mr. LIEU.
H.R. 2770: Mr. CONNOLLY.
H.R. 2805: Mr. SOTO.
H.R. 2811: Ms. MATSUI.
H.R. 2820: Mr. MALINOWSKI.
H.R. 2841: Mr. MANN.
H.R. 2850: Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ.
H.R. 2864: Mr. BANKS, Mr. MFUME, Mr. ARMSTRONG, Mr. PETERS, Mr. DONALDS, and Mr. CARSON.
H.R. 2886: Ms. BROWN of Ohio.
H.R. 2974: Ms. SCHRIER, Mr. PHILLIPS, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. BROWNLEY, Ms. JACOBS of California, Ms. TITUS, Ms. STEFANIK, and Mr. CONNOLLY.
H.R. 3042: Ms. VAN DUYNE.
H.R. 3079: Mr. CALVERT.
H.R. 3095: Mr. LEVIN of Michigan, Mr. SUOZZI, Ms. GARCIA of Texas, Ms. MALLIOTAKIS, Mr. TAKANO, Ms. BONAMICI, and Mrs. BEATTY.
H.R. 3165: Mr. CARSON.
H.R. 3183: Ms. BOURDEAUX.
H.R. 3185: Mr. ALLEN.
H.R. 3203: Mr. PALAZZO.
H.R. 3207: Mr. KILMER.
H.R. 3285: Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia and Ms. CRAIG.
H.R. 3294: Mr. MCCAUL, Ms. ESCOBAR, and Ms. SPEIER.
H.R. 3335: Ms. SCANLON and Ms. DEGETTE.
H.R. 3344: Ms. SLOTKIN.
H.R. 3425: Mr. WENSTRUP and Mr. POSEY.
H.R. 3447: Mr. JACKSON.
H.R. 3449: Ms. SÁNCHEZ.
H.R. 3451: Mr. JONES.
H.R. 3488: Mr. CARTER of Louisiana and Ms. BROWN of Ohio.
H.R. 3491: Mr. BOWMAN.
H.R. 3525: Ms. GARCIA of Texas, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Mr. MCEACHIN, and Ms. Sánchez.
H.R. 3550: Ms. BARRAGÁN, Ms. NEWMAN, and Mr. RUSH.
H.R. 3577: Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Mr. LUCAS, and Ms. ADAMS.
H.R. 3614: Ms. SHERRILL.
H.R. 3857: Mr. DESAULNIER, Mr. GARAMENDI, and Ms. SÁNCHEZ.
H.R. 3897: Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky.
H.R. 4003: Ms. DEAN, Ms. ROSS, Mr. BUDD, Mr. NEGUSE, and Mr. CALVERT.
H.R. 4042: Mr. PAYNE, Mr. COSTA, and Mr. CONNOLLY.
H.R. 4058: Ms. MCCOLLUM.
H.R. 4075: Mr. CONNOLLY.
H.R. 4079: Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts.
H.R. 4114: Mr. BERA.
H.R. 4199: Mr. GOODEN of Texas.
H.R. 4239: Ms. CRAIG.

H.R. 4268: Ms. SPANBERGER, Mr. ROGERS of Alabama, Mr. GARAMENDI, and Mr. RASKIN.
H.R. 4312: Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania.
H.R. 4331: Mr. NEGUSE.
H.R. 4386: Mr. NEGUSE.
H.R. 4390: Ms. BONAMICI.
H.R. 4402: Mr. NEAL.
H.R. 4455: Mr. CARBAJAL.
H.R. 4575: Ms. SHERRILL.
H.R. 4589: Ms. NORTON and Mr. SCHIFF.
H.R. 4601: Ms. LOFGREN, Ms. UNDERWOOD, and Mr. NEAL.
H.R. 4635: Ms. SCHRIER.
H.R. 4656: Mr. NEGUSE.
H.R. 4687: Mr. NEGUSE.
H.R. 4693: Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. GALLAGHER, Mr. HUIZENGA, and Mr. YARMUTH.
H.R. 4700: Mr. VEASEY.
H.R. 4750: Mr. CÁRDENAS.
H.R. 4772: Mr. BILIRAKIS.
H.R. 4853: Mr. HARDER of California, Ms. NEWMAN, Mr. GARAMENDI, Ms. TLAIB, and Mr. LIEU.
H.R. 4865: Mr. GOTTHEIMER and Mr. SESSIONS.
H.R. 4871: Mrs. TRAHAN.
H.R. 4877: Mr. CARSON.
H.R. 4938: Mr. CARSON.
H.R. 5073: Mr. NEAL.
H.R. 5141: Ms. SLOTKIN, Mr. MALINOWSKI, and Mr. VICENTE GONZALEZ of Texas.
H.R. 5150: Mr. MFUME.
H.R. 5218: Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHI and Mr. BUTTERFIELD.
H.R. 5232: Mr. GALLEGO, Ms. BASS, Mr. REED, Mrs. BICE of Oklahoma, Ms. JACKSON LEE, and Mr. CAREY.
H.R. 5254: Mr. O'HALLERAN.
H.R. 5352: Mrs. RODGERS of Washington.
H.R. 5416: Mr. O'HALLERAN.
H.R. 5502: Mr. O'HALLERAN and Mr. ARMSTRONG.
H.R. 5503: Mrs. BUSTOS.
H.R. 5575: Mr. CICILLINE.
H.R. 5611: Ms. SCHRIER.
H.R. 5654: Ms. CRAIG and Mr. THOMPSON of California.
H.R. 5699: Ms. ROSS.
H.R. 5710: Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia.
H.R. 5756: Mr. GOTTHEIMER.
H.R. 5761: Mr. GOODEN of Texas.
H.R. 5768: Mr. RYAN.
H.R. 5775: Mr. GRIJALVA and Mr. LOWENTHAL.
H.R. 5863: Mr. CARSON.
H.R. 5874: Mr. STEUBE.
H.R. 5937: Mr. SUOZZI, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, and Mrs. CHERFILUS-MCCORMICK.
H.R. 5974: Mr. MFUME.
H.R. 5984: Mr. AGUILAR, Mr. POCAN, Ms. MATSUI, and Mr. RUPPERSBERGER.
H.R. 6015: Mr. PASCRELL, Mr. PETERS, Mr. GOMEZ, and Ms. ESCOBAR.
H.R. 6024: Ms. CRAIG.
H.R. 6059: Mrs. DINGELL.
H.R. 6109: Mr. GOTTHEIMER.
H.R. 6127: Mr. FLEISCHMANN and Mr. ELLZEY.
H.R. 6132: Mr. MCKINLEY and Mr. OBERNOLTE.
H.R. 6161: Mr. RASKIN, Mr. GOODEN of Texas, and Mr. ALLRED.
H.R. 6184: Mr. ELLZEY and Mr. LUCAS.
H.R. 6202: Mrs. MURPHY of Florida.
H.R. 6205: Mr. WELCH.
H.R. 6213: Mr. NEGUSE.
H.R. 6261: Mr. AGUILAR, Ms. WATERS, and Mrs. HAYES.
H.R. 6268: Mr. MFUME.
H.R. 6270: Mr. OBERNOLTE and Mr. KATKO.
H.R. 6272: Mrs. CHERFILUS-MCCORMICK.
H.R. 6273: Mr. CASE, Mr. SABLAN, and Mr. HUDSON.
H.R. 6287: Ms. WILD.
H.R. 6394: Mr. PENCE and Ms. SCHRIER.
H.R. 6396: Mr. CARSON and Mr. SARBANES.
H.R. 6411: Mr. SCHIFF and Mr. TRONE.
H.R. 6448: Ms. WILD.
H.R. 6455: Mr. MEUSER and Mr. MEIJER.
H.R. 6494: Mr. SCHIFF.
H.R. 6523: Mrs. CHERFILUS-MCCORMICK.
H.R. 6536: Mr. CRAWFORD.
H.R. 6552: Ms. MATSUI and Mr. WILSON of South Carolina.
H.R. 6557: Mr. GARAMENDI.
H.R. 6571: Ms. NORTON.
H.R. 6577: Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mrs. TORRES of California, and Mr. PERLMUTTER.
H.R. 6613: Mr. NEGUSE, Mr. MOULTON, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. MEUSER, Mr. KAHELE, Mr. RUSH, and Mr. DESAULNIER.
H.R. 6615: Mr. JONES.
H.R. 6626: Mr. BABIN and Mr. SESSIONS.
H.R. 6630: Mr. MCCLINTOCK, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. GARCIA of California, Mr. VALADAO, Ms. JACOBS of California, Mr. ISSA, Mr. OBERNOLTE, Mr. GOMEZ, and Mr. CÁRDENAS.
H.R. 6631: Mr. MCCLINTOCK, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. GARCIA of California, Mr. VALADAO, Ms. JACOBS of California, Mr. ISSA, Mr. OBERNOLTE, Mr. GOMEZ, and Mr. CÁRDENAS.
H.R. 6649: Mrs. BOEBERT.
H.R. 6653: Mr. STEUBE.
H.R. 6659: Mrs. HINSON, Mr. FITZGERALD, Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER, Mr. STAUBER, Mr. TURNER, Mrs. FISCHBACH, Mr. GOSAR, Mr. LAMALFA, Mr. COLE, Mr. HUIZENGA, Mr. CHABOT, and Mr. BENTZ.
H.R. 6661: Mr. CÁRDENAS, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Mr. SHERMAN, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. OBERNOLTE, and Mr. SCHIFF.
H.R. 6671: Mr. TIFFANY, Mr. MOORE of Alabama, and Mr. OBERNOLTE.
H.R. 6678: Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois.
H.R. 6698: Mr. DESAULNIER and Ms. STRICKLAND.
H.R. 6703: Mr. KELLER.
H.R. 6710: Mr. JACKSON.
H.R. 6711: Mr. JACKSON.
H.R. 6712: Mrs. FISCHBACH.
H.R. 6728: Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois.
H.R. 6738: Mrs. LURIA.
H.R. 6742: Mr. LUETKEMEYER, Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio, Mr. HUIZENGA, Mr. LOUDERMILK, Mr. ARRINGTON, Mr. CARTER of Texas, and Mr. GARBARINO.
H.R. 6748: Mr. BARR, Mr. KELLER, Mr. ARRINGTON, Mr. EMMER, and Mr. MEIJER.
H.R. 6762: Ms. NORTON.
H.R. 6766: Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ, and Mr. HIGGINS of New York.
H.R. 6783: Mr. DESAULNIER and Ms. ROSS.
H.R. 6785: Mr. CASE, Mrs. MCBATH, Mr. LIEU, and Mr. MCNERNEY.
H.R. 6787: Ms. MANNING.
H.R. 6816: Mr. GRIJALVA.
H.R. 6817: Mr. STEUBE.
H.R. 6828: Mr. SMITH of Nebraska.
H.R. 6835: Ms. SEWELL, Mr. SUOZZI, Mr. GOMEZ, Mr. SCHNEIDER, and Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania.
H.R. 6836: Ms. NORTON.
H.R. 6842: Mr. TRONE and Mrs. FLETCHER.
H.R. 6843: Mr. CASE.
H.R. 6848: Mr. NADLER.
H.R. 6852: Ms. DELBENE.
H.R. 6853: Mr. CARSON, Mrs. FLETCHER, Mr. TRONE, and Ms. GARCIA of Texas.
H.R. 6858: Mr. HILL, Mrs. FISCHBACH, Mr. TIMMONS, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mr. GUEST, Mr. BERGMAN, Ms. TENNEY, Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota, Mr. GRAVES of Missouri, Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER, Mr. GALLAGHER, Mr. CHABOT, Mr. BACON, Mr. TURNER, and Mr. EMMER.
H.R. 6860: Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Mr. NEGUSE, and Mrs. LURIA.
H.R. 6862: Ms. NORTON and Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN.
H.R. 6864: Mr. CICILLINE.
H.R. 6872: Mr. ALLRED.
H.R. 6874: Mrs. KIM of California and Mr. MEIJER.
H.R. 6877: Mr. CLEAVER.
H.R. 6882: Mr. LOWENTHAL and Mr. PALLONE.
H.R. 6886: Mr. STEUBE, Mr. BABIN, Mr. CLYDE, Mr. LATURNER, Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio, Mr. CARTER of Texas, Mr. HUDSON, Ms. FOXX, Mr. JOYCE of Ohio, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, and Mr. OBERNOLTE.
H.R. 6890: Mr. CHABOT.
H.R. 6891: Mr. KUSTOFF.
H.R. 6916: Mr. BUCHANAN.
H.R. 6919: Mr. GARBARINO, Mr. LATURNER, Mr. BILIRAKIS, Mr. LUCAS, Ms. Tenney, Mr. BUDD, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mrs. HARSHBARGER, Mr. LUETKEMEYER, and Mr. MOONEY.
H.R. 6922: Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin.
H.R. 6926: Mr. MASSIE, Mr. NORMAN, Mr. VAN DREW, and Mr. PALAZZO.
H.R. 6927: Mr. CLYDE, Mr. NORMAN, and Mr. JACKSON.
H.R. 6934: Ms. MATSUI, Ms. BUSH, Mrs. HAYES, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mr. CARBAJAL, Mr. KHANNA, Mr. WELCH, Mr. CARTER of Louisiana, Ms. MENG, and Ms. ROSS.
H.R. 6938: Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida and Mr. ALLRED.
H.J. Res. 46: Mr. MCCLINTOCK and Mr. CAWTHORN.
H.J. Res. 48: Mr. GARAMENDI and Mr. LOWENTHAL.
H. Con. Res. 32: Mr. LIEU.
H. Con. Res. 65: Mr. KELLER.
H. Con. Res. 70: Mr. RUSH, Mr. MFUME, Mr. TRONE, Mr. JONES, Mr. COURTNEY, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. BOWMAN, Ms. MANNING, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Ms. GARCIA of Texas, Mr. NEGUSE, Mrs. LEE of Nevada, Ms. BASS, Mrs. MCBATH, Mr. CRIST, Mr. PAYNE, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. SARBANES, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Mr. PAPPAS, Mr. SAN NICOLAS, Mr. YARMUTH, Mr. GARAMENDI, Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia, Ms. PLASKETT, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. SUOZZI, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Ms. TITUS, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Mr. MCGOVERN, Ms. NEWMAN, Mrs. HAYES, Mr. SIRES, Mr. CASTRO of Texas, Mr. LANGEVIN, Ms. SLOTKIN, Mr. TIMMONS, Ms. JACOBS of California, Mr. CARBAJAL, Ms. SPEIER, Mr. TAKANO, Mr. SCHRADER, Mr. KAHELE, Mr. NORCROSS, Mr. CLEAVER, Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. DEFAZIO, Ms. OMAR, Mr. SCHNEIDER, Ms. STRICKLAND, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mrs. LAWRENCE, Ms. MENG, Mr. CICILLINE, and Mr. COHEN.
H. Con. Res. 72: Mr. JONES.
H. Con. Res. 75: Mr. COSTA.
H. Con. Res. 77: Mr. DAVIDSON.
H. Res. 289: Mr. CICILLINE.
H. Res. 681: Ms. NORTON.
H. Res. 874: Mr. MCKINLEY, Mr. GOHMERT, Ms. HERRELL, Mrs. HARSHBARGER, and Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio.
H. Res. 878: Ms. SEWELL.
H. Res. 881: Mr. SIMPSON, Mr. MALINOWSKI, Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Mr. DUNCAN, Mr. ROSENDALE, Ms. PORTER, Mr. GREEN of Tennessee, Ms. SLOTKIN, Ms. MANNING, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Mrs. LURIA, Mr. DEFAZIO, Mr. MCCARTHY, Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota, Mr. GOSAR, Mr. BEYER, Mr. BERA, Mr. BOWMAN, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. GUTHRIE, Mr. GUEST, and Mr. BAIRD.
H. Res. 888: Mr. FALLON.
H. Res. 896: Mr. SCHIFF.
H. Res. 928: Mr. PFLUGER, Mr. MOOLENAAR, and Mr. RUTHERFORD.
H. Res. 945: Mr. ISSA.
H. Res. 958: Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, Ms. NORTON, and Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia.
H. Res. 961: Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Mr. GROTHMAN, Mr. GUEST, Mr. NEWHOUSE, Mr. LATURNER, Mr. BROOKS, Mr. BERGMAN, and Mr. SMITH of Nebraska.

DELETION OF SPONSORS FROM PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

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

H.R. 6181: Ms. STRICKLAND.

PETITIONS, ETC.

Under clause 3 of rule XII,

PT-100. The SPEAKER presented a petition of the Guam Legislature, relative to Resolution No. 215-36, relative to expressing the utmost support of the Guam Legislature for the passage of H.R. 5606, the ''Return Home to Housing Act''; which was referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

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Senate

The Senate met at 3 p.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore (Mr. LEAHY).

PRAYER

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

Let us pray.

Eternal God, mighty to save, lift high our vision that we may see clearly that You are still in charge of Your world.

Lord, give us the courage to follow Your precepts, realizing we have spiritual weapons for our warfare. In these trying and dangerous times, keep our lawmakers strong and pure and good. Remind them that we are fighting more than flesh and blood; we are engaged in combat with principalities, powers, and wickedness in the celestial realm. Give us all the wisdom to keep our eyes on You, comprehending that all things are possible to those who believe.

We pray in Your sovereign 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.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

POSTAL SERVICE REFORM ACT OF 2022

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate will resume consideration of H.R. 3076, which the clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 3076) to provide stability to and enhance the services of the United States Postal Service, and for other purposes.

Pending:

Schumer (for Peters) amendment No. 4955, to modify the deadline for the initial report on the operations and financial condition of the United States Postal Service.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Hawaii.

Ms. HIRONO. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

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

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The Republican leader is recognized.

UKRAINE

Mr. MCCONNELL. Madam President, the eyes of the American people and the entire world are fixed on Eastern Europe. Vladimir Putin is continuing his unjustifiable invasion of a sovereign country and his unprovoked killing of innocent people.

Over the weekend, Senators were honored to speak electronically with Ukraine's brave leader, President Zelenskyy. His courageous leadership has helped rally freedom-loving people the world over to the Ukrainians' cause. One of his main pleas was that America and our partners continue providing Ukraine with additional military assistance and to do so very quickly. Long before the invasion began, I was on this floor warning the Biden administration that we could not let assistance be trickled out at the speed of bureaucracy. I certainly hope that lesson has finally been learned.

IRAN

But even while one foreign policy nightmare plays out in Eastern Europe, inexplicably, the Biden administration is reportedly poised to announce a giant, gratuitous capitulation to our principal adversary in the Middle East as well.

The nature of the Biden administration's approach to Tehran thus far has concerned not just Republicans but Members of both parties.

Our Democratic colleague, the chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee, recently exhorted the administration and our partners to ''exert more pressure on Iran to counter its nuclear program, its missile program, and its dangerous behavior around the Middle East, including attacks on American personnel and [American] assets.''

I would note that Senator MENENDEZ also stressed the importance of building bipartisan support for any new deal which the President's team wants to cook up with the Iranians. This is the same message I conveyed to the President and his top advisers at the beginning of the Biden administration. If he wants his policy or his deal to endure beyond his Presidency, he must bring Republicans on board.

Regrettably, President Biden appears to have ignored this good advice. Reports indicate a sequel—a sequel—to the bad 2015 nuclear deal may be imminent. Yet the administration has laid zero bipartisan framework.

Rumors of this impending deal—because rumors are all that Congress has—suggest it would be an enormous step in the wrong direction. It appears not to be a longer and stronger deal than the JCPOA, as was promised, but a weaker and shorter deal. It appears

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

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not to safeguard and increase our leverage over Tehran and its Revolutionary Guard but instead to breezily, sort of, sign our leverage away.

President Biden appears to want to give Tehran enduring sanctions relief now in exchange for limited and short-term curbs on their nuclear program. A reminder of how bad President Obama's Iran deal was is the fact that these restrictions will begin to expire as soon as next year. That will put more pressure on Western negotiators, not on Iran.

This is extortion playing out step by step, and this administration seems prepared to sign on to it. Iran gets serious sanctions relief and expanded trade with Russia and China, their price is even fewer restrictions than the original failed Iran deal, and those restrictions begin to expire in just 2 years. This is really wildly reckless. This is an administration chasing a deal—any deal—instead of pursuing our interests.

There is some suspicion the administration is desperate for any excuse to ease sanctions on Iranian oil exports to help blunt the impact of the European crisis on American's pocketbooks. This White House seems determined to go hat in hand and beg every bad actor around the world to ramp up their own fossil fuel production but still will not stop their holy war against our own American energy production here at home.

If press reports of the deal are accurate, the President and the Democrats on Capitol Hill surely understand that it will not be accepted widely or quietly.

If the President seeks to remove sanctions on Iran, there will be votes. Democrats who now regret their recent vote to protect the Nord Stream 2 Pipeline should think twice before voting to help President Biden ease sanctions on Iranian entities that engage in terrorism, missile proliferation, or human rights abuses.

Given Chairman MENENDEZ's concerns, I hope and would expect the Foreign Relations Committee will hold major hearings. But I know this much for certain: The next time Republicans control the Senate, vigorous oversight will take place over the diplomatic mess that is unfolding in the Middle East: the failure to consolidate the historic gains of the Abraham Accords; gigantic unilateral concessions to the most active state sponsor of terrorism in the entire world; pointless capitulation to Iran-backed Houthi terrorists that has only yielded even more violence in Yemen and increased ballistic missile and drone attacks against Saudi and Emirati cities.

It is bad enough that Democrats in Congress have spent months actively fighting against sufficient funding for our national defense and our Armed Forces, but these dynamics are made even more dangerous by a White House that is actively choosing weakness in the Middle East.

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

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

UKRAINE

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, 260 years ago, a young nobleman from Poland and a military officer helped lead a rebellion against what he and many others saw as a Russian puppet King in what was known as the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth. He was driven into exile in France, where Lafayette and Benjamin Franklin urged him to go to America to join in the fight, the Revolutionary War.

That young Polish nobleman's name was Casimir Pulaski. When he arrived in America, he wrote to General George Washington and said to him:

> I came here, where freedom is being defended, to serve it, and to live or die by it.

Pulaski was at Washington's side and is credited with saving George Washington's life at the Battle of Brandywine. He is remembered fondly as the Father of the American Calvary.

Pulaski died at age 34 in the fight for freedom and independence in America.

Today is Casimir Pulaski Day, which we know full well in Illinois, where it is a State holiday. Today, however, we look at the world and realize that freedom is being defended in Ukraine. And today, we seek Casimir Pulaski's spirit and fierce commitment to freedom and human dignity in a historic young Ukrainian President and in Ukrainian men and women who are fighting to save their Nation from another would-be Russian czar.

I have been in Congress for a few years. Over the weekend, I had an experience unique to my service in Congress.

Early on Saturday morning, hundreds of Members of Congress joined a video call with Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy. I have never seen anything like it.

With the Russian military laying siege to his country and a Russian bull's-eye on his back, President Zelenskyy spoke to us with remarkable dignity and courage. He didn't mince words about what is happening in Ukraine—the brutal Russian assaults literally trying to destroy his nation. He said we all share the same basic values and dreams: to live our lives in peace, watch our kids grow up, and to kiss them. He said the Ukrainian people are fighting for these basic freedoms, and they are prepared to be friends and share culture with their Russian neighbors, if they can.

But over the last 12 days, his country, Ukraine, has faced full-fledged war with barbaric attacks on kindergartens, nuclear powerplants, apartment buildings, infrastructure, and innocent civilians.

Last Thursday, Russia and Ukraine agreed to create humanitarian corridors in Ukraine, to allow civilians in areas under the heaviest Russian attacks to evacuate safely. Twice over the weekend, Ukraine was forced to close those corridors because Russia was attacking them mercilessly. This is Vladimir Putin's war, deliberately targeting women and children who have left everything and are trying just to reach safety.

This photo shows the result of one horrific attack by Russian soldiers on the people of Ukraine. Many people have seen it. It was on the front page of the New York Times this morning. It took place in the city of Irpin on Sunday. A Russian mortar struck an evacuation point where these civilians were waiting to board a bus to go to safety.

Irpin's mayor said the attack killed at least eight people, including a family. Sadly, you can see the children lying on the street. These are among the 364 Ukrainians killed during the last 12 days of Putin's barbaric war.

Mr. Putin, these deaths, like the death of that little girl I showed on the floor last week, are your doing. Your reputation as a war criminal and a bloody tyrant is now sealed in history.

More than 1.7 million Ukrainians have fled as refugees to neighboring countries, such as Poland and Moldova. The open arms of the Polish people and Moldovan people to their Ukrainian brothers and sisters is remarkable and a reminder to the rest of us that we do share common human bonds.

Some of you may have seen the moving stories last night on ''60 Minutes'' of the families with their children, desperately trying to reach Poland, other countries nearby so that they can escape the bonds of Vladimir Putin.

This strategy is like nothing we have seen in Europe since World War II. But Putin's war on Ukraine is not simply an attack on one young democracy; it is an attack on democracy itself.

I am proud to represent the city of Chicago, prouder still that it is the home of so many immigrants who have made a difference in that city and in America, Polish immigrants and descendants of Polish immigrants. Per capita, there is a larger number in Chicago than anyplace outside of Warsaw.

We are also home to many immigrants who trace their heritage to the Baltic States. I happen to be one who does as well.

We have such a long history of Ukrainian immigrants coming to our city that there is a neighborhood in Chicago called Ukrainian Village.

Last Friday, I went over to the Ukrainian National Museum. It is near their Orthodox church. I take great pride in it. One woman there, who is a Ukrainian artist, had displayed many of the creations she had made on the wall. She said to me: They are for sale, Senator.

And I said: Well, I am glad to know that.

And she said: All the proceeds are going to the Ukrainian Army.

Naturally, I left with one under my arm.

Putin's war on Ukraine and the wave of refugees pouring into Poland and other neighboring nations hits home in Chicago. People from all backgrounds are donating money and goods—whatever they can—to help.

Meest-Karpaty is a Chicago-area shipping company with experience in Eastern Europe. For 7 days now, the company's shipping facility on the Northwest Side of Chicago has been an operations center for an incredible volunteer effort to rush critical supplies to Ukraine. People and companies are dropping off supplies of first aid equipment, non-perishable food, diapers, and basic essentials: warm clothes, sleeping bags, tents, flashlights.

Scores of volunteers assemble the donations into first aid kits and baby kits—whatever is needed. They pack the donations in the boxes that will be flown and delivered to the Polish border, where more volunteers deliver them to Ukrainians who need them. People are doing everything they can to support Ukraine's fight for freedom and democracy.

Andriy Herha is a banking executive from Oak Brook, IL, who was born in Ukraine's capital city of Kyiv. His dad, in-laws, cousins, friends—they are still there in Ukraine. In one day last week, he raised $40,000, personally, to buy bulletproof vests, helmets, first aid kits, and other supplies. When he learned that it would take weeks for the supplies to reach those who needed them, he decided to pack them into suitcases and board a flight to Poland and deliver them himself. As Andriy Herha told a reporter, ''we are trying to do anything possible to help them.''

We in this Senate must also do what we can to help Ukraine in its fight for freedom and democracy. Last week, I led more than 40 Senators—both parties, Democrats and Republicans—in asking President Biden to extend temporary protected status to the 75,000 Ukrainians who are currently in the United States, including on student and work visas. On Thursday, as I knew he would, the President responded favorably. He is granting that protection.

Congress should also act without delay to approve $10 billion this week in emergency aid to assist Ukraine and bolster our NATO allies, as well as support neighboring nations like Poland and Moldova that are providing safe havens to the refugees.

And after listening to President Zelenskyy on Saturday, I thought to myself: How can we possibly be importing Russian oil and gas, giving the profits of those transactions to Vladimir Putin to pay for his war machine?

I believe now—and I have cosponsored the legislation that reaches this goal—that the United States should ban the purchase of Russian oil to further tighten economic pressure on Putin. I joined in the legislation introduced by Senators Murkowski and Manchin to do that.

Secretary of State Antony Blinken was talking with our NATO allies. Many of them also seem willing to consider a ban on Russian oil.

Vladimir Putin is threatening not only the security of Ukraine; he is threatening the security of the world. We must not even indirectly fund his war machine. While Putin wages war on democracy, the world, including the United States, will likely pay more to fill our tanks at the gas stations and heat our homes. We have to be ready for that reality, but that is the price today of defending freedom and democracy. The Ukrainians are paying with their lives. We may end up paying some more at the pump.

Amid all this utterly outrageous and unnecessary suffering and destruction, all to assuage Vladimir Putin's warped sense of grievance and his twisted nostalgia for the dark days of the Russian Empire, President Zelenskyy ended his talk with us on Saturday morning on a memorable note. He said we are all one big, undefeatable army for freedom and that we should all live in peace and openness and, despite the horrors inflicted on his people, we must hold on to our humanity.

He was a standup comedian at one point. He did a movie, which was a spoof on someone as unlikely as himself being elected President. Lo and behold, in the next free election, he was elected President of the country.

Many people questioned whether he was up to the job. Boy, his detractors are very quiet now. This man has risked his life for his country, as so many are in Ukraine. It is time for us to stand behind Ukraine solidly—solidly for their leadership.

I hope this crisis ends soon. Until then, the United States and the rest of the civilized world must stand with Ukraine for freedom and democracy.

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

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

Mr. PORTMAN. Madam President, I come to the Senate floor today to once again talk about the crisis in Ukraine and what we can do here to help.

Night has fallen in Ukraine and in Kyiv, Kharkiv, and other cities and towns. All through Ukraine, the bombing continues, the bombardment—artillery shells, missiles. Thousands of innocent Ukrainians have already lost their lives. We cannot let this stand. We need to work with our allies to stop these atrocities.

By the way, all over the country, people are standing up and speaking out.

A week ago Sunday, I was in Ohio with a thousand people—mostly Ukrainians, Americans of Ukrainian descent, but also people from everyplace: Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Slovenia, and so many other countries, and people who have been Americans for generations—who were standing together to say: This cannot stand. We had a prayer vigil and a demonstration. The prayer vigil was in a huge church, but it was an overflow crowd pouring out into the streets.

Yesterday, I came to Washington to join such a rally. It was in front of the White House, and again it included so many Ukrainians, including from Ohio, but so many others as well. The rallying cry was: We are all Ukrainians today because we all believe in democracy and freedom and the right for a country to chart its own course and for people to be independent and free. We had rabbis there; we had ministers there; we had clergy there from four or five different denominations—again, praying for the people of Ukraine.

We were all standing together, hoping that through joint action, we can help during these dark days for the people of Ukraine. We prayed for protection for those in harm's way, of course. We prayed for the courageous Ukrainian troops, some of whom are civilian soldiers who have just joined the armed forces for the first time. Some are seasoned professional soldiers, and we prayed for their protection—all of them.

We asked for God's wisdom and blessing on the duly-elected Government of Ukraine—again, duly-elected. We prayed for strength and resolve for President Zelenskyy and for his protection. He has been amazing. He has been resolute and courageous, and he has shown the Ukrainian people that the way forward was just to stand up to these barbarous acts.

If you care about America, you should care about Ukraine. Every freedom-loving country should care because in Ukraine today is where the fight for freedom is being waged. It is not just about Ukraine; it is also about the rest of the countries in Eastern Europe, of course—Latvia, Estonia, Lithuania, Poland, Romania, Hungary, those countries. But it is also about the entire world, isn't it? It is about, can an authoritarian government step into a free, independent government and take over territory and kill its citizens?

By the way, Ukraine wants nothing but to live in peace. They are not looking to attack anybody. They just want to be able to lead a life where they can, in peace, pursue their dreams.

Just today, during the negotiations between the Ukrainian Government and the Russian Government, the Russian Federation, the Russians said that they would only allow humanitarian corridors to go from these cities that they are bombing, where they are killing civilians—they would only allow humanitarian corridors to go into Russia or into Belarus. Think about that for a minute. Innocent Ukrainian women and children who are fleeing the violence savagely and illegally brought on by Belarus and by Russia

are told: You can leave, but you will be forced to go to the land of your enemies. You are forced to go only to Belarus or Russia, the countries that are killing you and your family.

That doesn't sound like peace talks to me.

There have been numerous recorded war crimes in this assault on Ukraine. One is the way they are dealing with these civilians, obviously. President Putin and his generals and his officials must be held accountable. The Russian Federation's deliberate targeting of civilians is the most obvious example, but there are so many—the bombing of a nuclear powerplant.

It is now documented that yesterday—yesterday and into this morning—Russians shelled Ukrainian citizens who were fleeing the siege of Mariupol while they were transiting through a negotiated humanitarian withdrawal corridor—a corridor that was established for them to escape. They were shelled by Russian combat forces—civilians—because Russians did not keep their word to allow for a humanitarian escape corridor in the besieged southern port city of Mariupol. Hundreds of thousands of people remain trapped without food and water, under regular bombardments.

Again, this is a tragedy on a scale difficult to comprehend. That is why it is so important to show our support with actions, not just words.

A number of my colleagues and I spoke to President Zelenskyy this weekend. It was emotional, and it was inspiring. He pleaded for our assistance to help his people, and he told us he needs defensive weaponry, like fighter planes and drones, desperately.

After the call, I led a bipartisan letter to President Biden with my colleague from New Hampshire, Senator JEANNE SHAHEEN. We repeated what we had called for over the last several days, which is to help Ukraine be able to get what they need, which is more air power.

Our Eastern European allies, including Poland, Bulgaria, and Slovakia, have older, Soviet-era aircraft, such as the MiG–29 and the Su-25, that they are willing to provide to Ukraine, but they would like to have an agreement with the United States that they can backfill over time by purchasing advanced fighters, such as F–16s.

By the way, the Poles, as an example, already have F–16s, but they already have these older MiGs that they are willing to provide.

This seems like a win-win for everybody—for Ukraine certainly but also for Poland to improve their defensive posture in the wake of what is going on in Ukraine.

The Soviet aircraft are compatible with the Ukrainian Air Force. Their pilots have the requisite training to operate them.

Again, we have been told they are willing to donate these aircraft when they are provided these assurances and a roadmap, that they will be allowed to purchase more advanced aircraft over time.

Let's make this happen. Let's not say we have to go through a long, bureaucratic process. Let's be creative here. They need these planes now. They needed them yesterday. This will help to stop some of the atrocities we talked about. Think of that column, miles and miles of armored vehicles and tanks heading towards Kyiv to kill more civilians. Some airpower would be very helpful right now.

And there are other capabilities such as communications gear, drones that can provide intelligence and surveillance and ammunition, all of it should be moving quickly into Ukraine. And I applaud the administration for what they have done, but we have got to do more.

We have all seen these horrible images on our television sets, families torn apart, the ravages of a needless war, the deliberate intentional targeting of civilians by rockets, even cluster munitions.

By providing lethal and humanitarian assistance to Ukraine, the U.S. sends a strong message: We stand for freedom, and we stand with freedom-loving countries.

I commend the administration for some of the steps they have taken, as I say, but we have got to do more.

I appreciate that we have sanctioned Russian banks, Russian elites, placed limits on high-tech commerce, Russia's ability to do business in dollars. That is all good. The Treasury Department has imposed sanctions on economic measures to target the core infrastructure of Russia and more than 50 percent of the total banking system of Russia, which will have devastating economic effects over time.

But let's put all the banks into that system. Let's do everything we can to tighten the noose on the Putin economy.

Some have asked me: Why does what is happening in Ukraine matter? I was home this weekend, and a lot of positive response, but people were also saying: Ukraine is a long way away, why does it matter so much?

I would say that this is where, in our generation, in our time, the cause of freedom is being defended. This is where, in our generation, in our time, we must protect those who wish to chart their own course, protect their sovereign independent country. And this is where we are being tested—not just the United States, but our allies and all freedom-loving people around the world.

When the people of Ukraine chose to get rid of a corrupt Russian-backed government 8 years ago—for a second time, by the way—they chose freedom over tyranny. They chose democracy over authoritarianism. They chose to ensure that the people of Ukraine would have the ability to be free and independent. That is what we freedom-loving countries of the world proclaim every day.

Now is the time not to shirk our responsibilities, but to step forward and help any way we can shoulder to shoulder with the people of Ukraine.

They are defending their homeland fiercely. They have already denied President Putin his early goals. He has severely underestimated the power of freedom and the power of the Ukrainian people; there is no question about that. But in Congress, we can and should do more. And the international community must do more to hold Russia accountable.

I say to the Russian commanders in the field and to the officials in Moscow: There is another choice. Stop this atrocity. Refuse the orders to kill innocent neighbors. Stop this atrocity that has already taken the lives of thousands of innocent civilians—men, women, and children—who want nothing other than to live in peace.

I say to those commanders and these officials: The world is watching. The war crimes are being recorded. You have a choice.

Here in Congress, we can do more to tighten the sanctions. We can do more to provide more military assistance to Ukraine. There is bipartisan agreement on so much of this, including the need to cut off the funding that is going to the Putin economy and his war machine. One example of this, but one important one, is not to buy Russian oil and send blood money to Russia. Why would we be importing Russian oil, sending Russia $40, $50 million a day? That makes no sense.

Let's use our natural resources here in North America. We have the resources here. We should not be dependent on the Russian oil. We should not be sending them this blood money.

By the way, there is bipartisan agreement on this. Last week, I joined legislation with Republicans and Democrats alike, equal number, with Senator MURKOWSKI and Senator MANCHIN, to do just that.

We need to stop all Russian banks from their access to the international banking system—not some; all. I commend the administration's sanctioning of Russian oligarchs and wealthy citizens, but we need to do more. We need to move from freezing assets to seizing assets. We can do that. Other countries have done it. By the way, Germany has done it. France has done it. We should be out front as Americans and not just freezing but seizing. By the way, those assets that we seize should go to the people of Ukraine to help with the humanitarian effort that is underway.

Right now, our friends in Ukraine need our help. Right now. Immediately. Yesterday. They can't wait. We have an emergency supplemental bill we are working on here in Congress. Let's get it done. Let's do it outside of the omnibus or the CR or anything else. We know what needs to be done. Let's not wait. Let's not dither. The shells are flying tonight, raining upon the cities of Ukraine and its people.

We cannot let this call to action go unanswered. We cannot let the Ukrainian people continue to be at the mercy of a tyrannical dictator. We cannot sit by and watch as innocent civilians are being killed. In the West, in America, we must stand up—all of us—for freedom. The world is watching. Our allies are watching. Our adversaries are watching.

We must show the world that America does stand for freedom, and we stand with Ukraine.

God bless Ukraine. Or as the Ukrainian people say: Glory to Ukraine, glory to the heroes. Slava Ukraini, heroyam slava.

I yield the floor.

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

Mr. TUBERVILLE. Mr. President, before I start my speech today on another topic, I want to take just a moment to discuss what is on all of our hearts across the country and across the world, that we should be praying for the Ukrainian people. We have got a mess in Ukraine.

A lot of us have been to Ukraine over the last few months. We have made friends. I went over and met with the President a few months ago and a lot of his staff—and what good people. But they told us then that they needed help. And for some reason, this administration decided to drag its feet and tried to talk its way out of it.

Sometimes, when you try to talk your way out of it instead of putting facts in front of you, you have problems. Well, we have had real problems. President Putin, who is a murderous tyrant, thought this was going to be easy. He didn't realize that the people of Ukraine were going to stand up and fight for their country. And they have done just that. They have lost many lives, Ukrainian soldiers, men and women, and also many, many citizens, but it has made NATO stronger. Putin never thought that would happen.

So as I said earlier, I think that we all should remember every day and every night our prayers will go out to the Ukrainians, and, hopefully, in the near future, we can all come to some kind of consensus of what works best and that President Putin will come to his senses and call this off.

INFLATION

Mr. President, the other thing I want to talk about real quickly is rising prices, inflation. I was back in my home State of Alabama this week, and prices are at historic highs and getting higher every day. But we were told by this administration that inflation was transitory. We heard that all last year. The definition of transitory: not for long. Well, they were very wrong on that.

They also said inflation was due to COVID. Well, COVID is not gone, but it has died down, and inflation is getting higher.

We were told by this administration that it was due to corporate greed. Well, we have had the same corporations for years and years. Inflation has been low, but now still going higher and higher.

And the last reason that this administration said inflation is going up is because of war, and there is probably something to that. Obviously, we have got an energy crisis in this country, and everything runs off of energy.

But one thing this administration didn't tell us was they didn't blame it on the trillions of dollars that we basically have taken and thrown out of helicopters all over this country. We have got more money now, 36 percent more money in circulation than we had 2 years ago in this country, and we have less goods. And that is when you have inflationary prices that creep up.

But we have got to get control of our energy crisis. If we don't do that, then the economy is not going to have a chance. That is the bottom line. That is the basics of the economy. Our farmers are getting killed with planting as we speak. They are in the fields paying more and more every day for their fuel. Small businesses are struggling with rates that are climbing at double and triple the rates in terms of being shipped their goods, and they are having to pay the price for that. And then the price goes up, and the American consumer pays that much more.

So we have got a problem, and we better get control of that in the very near future, or our economy is going to continue to go down and continue to get in debt.

So we have got those two problems, one at home and one on the road. It is a road game in Ukraine; and, hopefully, we can help out the Ukrainian people, give them what they need to continue to fight. But as we watch television each day, they continue to lose ground each day. But they are going to fight for what they believe in, and that is their freedom.

DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME

Mr. President, my topic today, though, is—I think it is something that we need to listen to from people across this country. It is not war. It is not inflation. It has something to do with basic life here in this country. To be their voice, I am advocating on the people's behalf of this country.

So let me read you a little bit about something that comes from my people in Alabama. A constituent from Talladega County writes:

> Daylight savings time year-round means the elderly, like myself, will be able to be more active in early evenings.

Another from Mobile writes:

> Please try and do whatever is necessary to have daylight savings time permanent in the State of Alabama and our country. Everyone I know and everyone that I talk to, they want more daylight in the evening.

And this is from a mental health professional:

> I am writing to let you know of the negative effects of my population of having the time change the way it does in November towards an earlier sundown, less daylight hours. It increases depression and decreases productivity in about half of my psychiatric patients.

In other words, he is having problems when the sun goes down, basically because people can't get outside. These messages make important points, and I couldn't agree more. That is why I cosponsored Senator RUBIO's bill, the Sunshine Protection Act, which would make daylight saving time permanent. That would mean an extra hour of sunlight during the dark and cold winter months.

And ahead of this weekend, when we start daylight saving time this coming Sunday, I want to take a moment to discuss the many reasons why we should do away with the outdated practice of springing forward and falling back.

Daylight saving time should be a thing of the past, because it literally is. Introduced as a temporary measure during World War I, daylight saving time was originally called ''wartime,'' and it was a way to help conserve fuel and better utilize resources.

Following the end of World War I, the 1918 Standard Time Act was enacted that discontinued daylight saving time nationally, but individual States continued to spring forward and fall back.

Then, during World War II, there was a renewed Federal push for full-time daylight saving time, which then was repealed in 1945. Finally, in 1966, Congress passed legislation to set a national standard time.

All this to say, changes to our clocks might have made sense when it first began, but it certainly doesn't now.

In fact, as recently has 2005, Congress moved the start of the date of daylight saving time 1 month earlier in the spring and 1 month later in the fall. This change was implemented in 2007, giving us the ratio of daylight saving time that we have now—8 months to 4 months.

The ways we consume energy have dramatically changed since the beginning of World War I. What started as an energy saver now just does not make sense for these modern times. To turn the clocks back each year is a nuisance and not smart policy.

You know, kids get out of school and the Sun is starting to set. Families in their kitchen are cooking dinner, and it seems more like a bedtime dinner. Weekends have less sunlight hours, limiting the amount of time folks of all ages can spend enjoying the outdoors.

Additionally, reduced levels of sunlight are known to disrupt the body's internal clock, which regulates sleep and alertness. It is no wonder that cases of SAD, S-A-D, or seasonal affective disorder, are much more common in the winter months than they are in the spring.

And for our farmers, longer days mean more time to work in the fields under sunlight, which translates to a more profitable bottom line.

From an economic perspective, the time change costs the U.S. economy an

estimated $430 million annually when accounting for lost productivity in the change of sleep.

That is why Alabama, along with 17 other States, have passed legislation or resolutions to flip the switch on this outdated practice, permanently increasing our daylight hours.

However, for the will of the States to be enacted, the Federal Government—this body, this building—has to get involved. The 1966 law must be changed, and the Sunshine Protection Act does just that.

The Sunshine Protection Act makes sense from a health and economic perspective, and it is just common sense. It is time we passed the Sunshine Protection Act. Let's give Americans something to celebrate: longer days and more sunshine.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. SCHUMER. 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 MAJORITY LEADER

The majority leader is recognized.

TRIBUTE TO BEN RAY LUJÁN

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, well, let me start off with some great news. When we vote later today, all of us will be able to say these four wonderful words: Senator LUJÁN, welcome back.

He is not on the floor right now, but, BEN RAY, it was great to see you back here in this Capitol last week. It was great to see you today. We have missed you. We are thrilled to have you back on the job. We admire your strength and your courage and your fortitude—your quiet strength.

UKRAINE

Mr. President, now, over the weekend, Members from both the House and Senate met virtually with Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy, and we reemphasized Congress's strong and unwavering commitment to providing robust and ample assistance to his country in this time of war.

I told the Ukrainian President he was an inspiration to Americans, and I assured him that his pleas for help will not go unanswered.

In particular, President Zelenskyy made a desperate plea for getting Eastern European countries to provide Russian-made planes to Ukraine. I strongly support the President's request, and yesterday I called on the administration to explore all feasible options to getting these fighter aircraft to Ukraine. These planes are very much needed, Ukrainian forces are familiar with them, and they will very much help in countering the Russians, especially as Putin massacres—massacres—civilians in Ukraine.

Democrats and Republicans broadly agree that this is a necessary step against Russia's illegal invasion, and today I reiterate my call for the administration to explore how to ensure the Ukrainians have the capabilities they need.

I also spoke with the administration yesterday and was told they are looking closely at imposing a ban on Russian oil.

Meanwhile, there are other steps Congress can take in the coming days to support the Ukrainian people. Above all, we must finalize a more than $12 billion emergency aid package to be included in the upcoming omnibus spending bill. This emergency aid will provide both humanitarian and military assistance for Ukraine—funding for refugees, medical supplies, emergency food supplies, as well as funding to support weapon transfers into Ukraine and help our eastern flank NATO allies.

The clearest signal Congress can send to Vladimir Putin this week is passing a bipartisan aid package, leaving no doubt that the democratic nations of the world stand with Ukraine and against Putin's deeply immoral and bloody war.

And again—let me say it again. The quickest—the quickest—way to secure an emergency aid package for Ukraine is through the omnibus, and I believe both sides are close—very close—to arriving at an agreement.

CORONAVIRUS

Now, on COVID aid, at the same time, there is another important matter that Congress must address in the spending bill: additional COVID relief aid, which the administration has wisely urged Congress to approve.

The Federal Government has completely exhausted all the public health funding approved last year as part of the American Rescue Plan. That means that to prepare for future variants, more Federal funding is needed now.

Across the country, thank God, we have seen signs that the United States is turning the corner on COVID. Schools are open. Mask guidelines are being reversed. Vaccinations have surpassed 216 million Americans. And last Friday, we learned that more than 7 million jobs have now been created since President Biden took office. This is all great news. Cases are falling, unemployment is falling, and the country is on the right track. But experience has taught us that new variants can come back with a vengeance if—if—we aren't ready.

The administration has been clear: If we want schools to stay open, if we want to preserve as much of normal life as possible when another variant arises—and the odds are quite high that one will—Congress must pass additional COVID funding now, not later. We have to have it ready. We have to have the therapeutics ready. We have to have the testing ready. We have to have the vaccines ready. We can't wait 2, 3 months after the variant hits to debate this issue and then allocate the money and then production starts. That would be terrible for the country. It will be too little too late. It is far better to prepare now than play catch-up later. We should have learned our lesson a long time ago, but now we are, hopefully.

I have been strongly urging my colleagues to get a deal done on COVID. Failure to act is not an acceptable outcome.

H.R. 3076

Mr. President, another issue this week is postal reform. This week, the Senate is going to put the finishing touches on a bipartisan accomplishment weeks, months, and, in fact, years in the making: comprehensive postal reform legislation.

Six days a week, the U.S. Postal Service processes an average of 167 million pieces of first-class mail. It employs nearly half a million people. It has been a fixture of our country since the very beginning, since Benjamin Franklin. But over the last decade, the post office has been in serious need of reform. Everyone knows the frustration of waiting weeks for a package to come in the mail. So this week, the Senate is finally passing legislation that will deliver for the post office the long-overdue reforms it has been waiting for.

The fact that this bill has extraordinary bipartisan support is indicative of its importance, and I am glad that both sides have negotiated in good faith thus far. I want to particularly thank Chairman PETERS and Ranking Member PORTMAN for making sure this legislation has kept moving over the past few weeks.

For generations, the post office has delivered for America, and now Congress is delivering for the post office. By passing postal reform legislation, we can ensure that Americans will continue to benefit from a speedy, dependable, and well-run post office, just as we have for our entire history.

COSTS

Mr. President, now on costs, a few weeks ago, a Member of the Republican leadership released a platform that proposed raising taxes on tens of millions of Americans, focused on fanning the flames of division, and zeroed in on proposals that failed to address the biggest problems of our time.

Today, a new analysis found that a plan like that from the junior Senator of Florida could raise taxes on many American families by more than $1,000 in 2022 alone. Democrats don't think that we should be raising taxes on working Americans as we recover from COVID. In fact, we are working to make sure Americans have more money, not less, in their pockets.

So, today, I sent my colleagues a letter outlining how Democrats will keep a laser focus over the next few months on cutting costs, building upon historic job growth, and finding bipartisan ways to help everyday Americans make ends meet. Democrats are the party offering ideas for how to combat inflation that is being felt around the world because of COVID. Democrats are taking aim at capping insulin prices to $35

a month, while making prescription drugs much, much cheaper.

Democrats are working to repair supply chain bottlenecks that are hurting businesses, including in our seaports. And Democrats are zeroing in on policies to combat price hikes at the grocery store, including meat prices, which the President noted last week.

This week, our caucus will hold our annual DPCC retreat, where we will go over our proposals in greater detail. I want to compliment Senator STABENOW for putting this retreat together, and I encourage all of my colleagues to review my letter so we can all continue our work of lowering costs for the American people.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Texas.

UKRAINE

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, Russia's brutal and unprovoked attack on Ukraine intensified over this last weekend, bringing even more death and destruction to the Ukrainian people and more uncertainty to the rest of the world. It appears that Russia is now targeting noncombatant evacuation routes—the latest blatant war crime and a clear escalation following targeted attacks on civilians.

Russian forces fired on civilians as they fled for their lives, killing a mother, her two children, and a family friend. Over the last couple of weeks, hundreds of Ukrainians have been killed, and countless others have been wounded. More than 1½ million people have fled the country, making it the fastest growing refugee crisis in Europe since World War II.

Through the immense suffering Russia has inflicted, the bravery and resolve of the Ukrainian people has shown bright. The world has been awestruck at the courage of teachers, architects, grandmothers, Ukrainians from all walks of life who have taken up arms in defense of their democracy.

We have all been moved by the leadership of President Zelenskyy, who is fighting alongside of his fellow Ukrainians while pleading with the rest of the world to take action. We have admired the strength of those who were forced to say goodbye to loved ones, abandon their homes, and search for safety beyond Ukraine's borders.

People around the world have rallied around Ukraine, offering support in ways big and small. Families across Europe are welcoming refugees into their homes. People around the world have organized fundraisers and donation drives to get food, blankets, first-aid kits, and other critical supplies into the hands of the Ukrainians.

People all over the free world have cheered on and generously supported Ukraine at this critical moment, but now it is time for Congress to act. Since Ukraine is not a member of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, we have no legal obligation to support its fight against Russia, but we do have a moral obligation to help them defend themselves.

Russia has waged an unmistakable war on a sovereign democracy. It has targeted civilian areas and brought immeasurable destruction to Ukraine, and it continues to threaten further death and destruction outside and beyond Ukraine, even rattling its nuclear saber at the heart of Europe.

Yes, we have a moral duty to support the Ukrainian people as they defend their sovereignty in their beloved country. So far, the United States has provided military, humanitarian, and economic assistance for Ukraine. These resources have been critical in the fight so far.

The United States and our allies have also imposed harsh sanctions on Russia's economy, sending its currency into a downward spiral. This has, no doubt, made life harder for the Russian people, with whom we have no quarrel, but we should continue to use every tool at our disposal to impose costs on Vladimir Putin for his aggression in the hope that his own people will eventually rise up and say ''enough.''

Many businesses have suspended operations in Russia, inflicting even more economic pain on the Kremlin. I am encouraged by the global response so far, but we need to do more.

This is a seminal moment in American history and in human history, reminiscent of events most Americans today only know about from their history books and wars fought by our parents and grandparents. After this extended holiday from history, the United States must now take every possible step to stop this war by all available means.

This week, I expect the Senate to vote on an emergency funding bill to send even more resources to the fight in Ukraine. The White House has requested $10 billion in military and humanitarian assistance, and there is strong bipartisan understanding that we need to move that quickly, as we just heard from the majority leader. The traditionally slow pace of legislation won't cut it.

This is a reminder of the importance of not only preserving but growing our military strength. Authoritarian leaders like Putin, Kim Jong Un, President Xi, and Iran's Supreme Leader are watching this test of the free world's resolve.

Our Democratic colleagues have consistently fought to shift funds from our national defense to domestic programs. When the case of inflation is accounted for, President Biden's first budget proposed an actual decrease in defense spending. We need to turn that around, especially in light of recent developments.

The war in Ukraine has proven that a well-funded and well-prepared military isn't a luxury; it is a necessity. Germany's dramatic reversal on defense spending illustrates how clear this point has now become. Our colleagues on the Appropriations Committee are still working through the details of an omnibus appropriations bill, and I hope they are able to reach an agreement before the funding deadline this Friday.

While short-term bills are better than government shutdowns, they only hamper our ability to plan for the future. Our military leadership needs a predictable budget in order to prepare for the many threats we are experiencing now and those that are on the horizon. That was true before Russia invaded Ukraine, and it is absolutely critical now.

In a recent Washington Post op-ed, former Defense Secretary and CIA Director Robert Gates wrote about the need for ''a new American strategy'' to safeguard security interests. That includes predictable funding, strong alliances, new technologies, and reforms within the Pentagon. Bureaucracy and redtape come with a lot of overhead, and those dollars would better be spent on advanced technologies and equipment. As former Secretary Gates said, ''Our executive and legislative branches must understand the new world we live in, set aside business as usual and embrace dramatic change to ensure that we and our democratic allies prevail in that contest.''

Investments and reforms in our national defense will be critical to America's security for years to come, but there are immediate steps we should take to increase the cost of this unprovoked war by Russia.

The United States and our allies have imposed crippling sanctions on Russian banks and oligarchs, but the country's lucrative oil and gas industry remains virtually untouched. Russia continues to export energy to the rest of the world. In fact, many parts of Europe are completely dependent on Russian energy exports, and Putin is happy to use the revenue that he generates from those sales to sustain the attack on Ukrainian civilians.

The embarrassing truth is that the United States is one of Russia's customers. We cannot continue to supply Russia with the blood money they get from their exports to the United States. That is why there is strong bipartisan support for a ban on Russian oil imports.

I am proud to be a cosponsor of legislation that was introduced by our friend from Kansas, Senator MARSHALL, to ban the purchase of Russian oil in the United States.

We have the great fortune of living in a resource-rich country, and there is no reason why we should rely on anyone else—let alone a power-hungry dictator—for our basic energy needs.

Putin's aggression has lit a fire under the United States and our allies, and we need to take concrete steps to end our reliance on foreign oil and continue our pursuit of energy independence, at the same time making sure that our friends and allies around the world have access to more than just one choice when it comes to their energy needs. Again, we need to take that noose out of the hand of Vladimir

Putin when it comes to dissuading these countries that are dependent on Russia. We need to give them more choices and the freedom to make those choices.

Strangely, there are media reports today the administration is considering easing sanctions on Venezuelan oil to compensate for what nations import from Russia. But I have to ask, why on Earth would we trade one oil-rich dictator for another?

Instead, here is a novel concept perhaps the administration would consider: Why don't we boost our own production from here in the United States and sell it across the globe?

It is truly shocking that this administration is so against and so opposed to American oil and gas that they would rather make it easier to buy oil from the Maduro regime than from here at home in America. It is simply unfathomable and inexcusable. Energy security is something we have taken for granted here in the United States—so has Germany and so has Europe. But now they are learning that there are bitter lessons to be learned from that dependency on imports from a country like the Russian Federation. We simply cannot ignore the fact that energy security is national security, and we can't ignore the grave risks that accompany our reliance on foreign oil for our most basic needs or those of our allies.

Over the last couple of weeks, people around the world have rallied in support of the people of Ukraine. In ways big and small, the global community has sent an unmistakable message that Russia's attack on the sovereignty of Ukraine will not be tolerated. It is time for Congress to step up to the plate and provide even more support to our friends in that country.

As I said, we may not have a legal obligation, but we do have a moral obligation to supply Ukrainian forces and civilians with the resources they need in order to resist Russian aggression. That is the task before us this week, and I hope we can take strong bipartisan action that sends an unmistakable message to the world.

I hope we will also consider other more harsh actions against Russia. For example, I support our colleagues on the Finance Committee to strip Russia of its permanent normal trading relations status. This will place Russia in the same pariah category as North Korea and Cuba.

The Wall Street Journal made the point this last week that nothing can be the same after the Russian invasion of Ukraine. There are few seminal points in our life where we remember that everything changed thereafter, whether it is September 11, 2001, the assassination of a President, and now, after this post-Cold War holiday from history, the invasion of another democracy in Europe.

This is a watershed moment, and the United States must take every possible step to stop this war before the cost grows even higher and spreads to other countries outside of Ukraine.

I yield the floor.

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

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

IOWA

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, on Saturday, deadly tornadoes swept through Iowa, destroying homes, parks, and leaving over 10,000 people without power.

The communities most affected are Winterset, IA, and Chariton, IA, but other communities as well. Tragically, seven people—five adults and two children—died, and many people have been affected because of this severe weather. This is the deadliest tornado in our State in 15 years. The one 15 years ago came close to my hometown of New Hartford, IA, and the adjoining community of Parkersburg, IA, and 13 people lost their lives that time.

So, with today's incident, as families, businesses, and communities continue to assess the damage and clean up from these storms, I want Iowans to know that I have talked to the Department of Homeland Security's Secretary Mayorkas about these tornadoes. He has been assuring that wherever the Federal Government has authority to help, they will step in and do that. I have also reached out to FEMA, the State of Iowa, and affected communities. I will do everything I can at the Federal level to assist.

Unfortunately, Iowa is no stranger to tornadoes and natural disasters. Once again, I am encouraged by the stories I hear from neighbors of strangers helping each other and their communities. Of course, we all know that that is the Iowa way: neighbor helping neighbor. These storms take time to recover, and I know that we will continue to reach out and help our fellow Iowans in need.

My thoughts and the thoughts of all Iowans and their prayers go out to those who lost loved ones and to those whose properties were affected by these tornadoes. I also pray for those who were hurt and for some who were hospitalized in that they will have speedy recoveries.

Iowans are strong and resilient people. We will recover, and we will rebuild. As Iowa's Senator, I will be there to help in any way needed.

FREE SPEECH

Now, Mr. President, another matter that I have spoken of on the floor of the U.S. Senate recently and, to some extent, a few times last year is the issue of freedom of speech in our colleges. In recent years, I have tried to highlight some of the most ridiculous impositions on freedom of speech in college, but so many of these cases get swept under the rug.

It can be hard to get an idea of whether typical students feel free to speak their minds in the university environment. So last spring, the Iowa legislature passed a bill strengthening free speech across our State's education system. In part, this bill was meant to find out how big a problem the restraint of free expression is at our State's public universities. Last month, that led to the results of a survey of 17,000 students in Iowa's public universities. The results raised serious concerns.

Now, get this: Fewer than half of the employees thought that their universities allowed them to say what they believed. A third of the students thought that their institutions ''hinder[ed] free speech.'' A quarter of the students didn't even think that their campuses provided an ''environment for [the] free and open expression of ideas.''

A university that can't meet that basic bar is missing the whole purpose of a college or university. You have heard me say my definition of a ''university'' is one wherein controversy ought to run rampant. Thankfully, the bill that passed the Iowa legislature takes action to solve the issue that I just described.

This semester, students across the State have begun taking a course to instill in them the value of free speech. The goal is to ensure that students and faculty understand the value of the First Amendment: freedom of speech. The course emphasizes respect for another's speech and its impact both in and out of the classroom.

I am hopeful that this will start to steer us in the right direction in not only my State of Iowa; I hope it has some impact across the country, because letting students speak their minds is central to the idea of a liberal arts education. Yet the default has increasingly become to censor at the drop of a hat, only allowing free speech if administrators find blowback.

Just look to a case last month here in Washington, DC, at George Washington University. A student put up posters criticizing having the Olympics in China, given the repressive regime there. We know about that repressive regime because we talk about it quite often as the Chinese Communists deny freedom of religion and other freedoms to the Uighur minority. These posters at George Washington University were well done and well within the mainstream discussion. They speak to the concerns that I have myself about what goes on in China.

The university immediately responded by tearing them down and saying the posters were racist. They only reversed themselves when it came out that the artist himself—I had better say himself or herself—was Chinese and that the concerns were far from unique. I find it hard to believe the university's namesake would approve of this approach.

Examples like this are why we need Iowa's new free speech course. Hopefully, this example set in my State by our own State legislators is followed elsewhere. Students and administrators alike have forgotten why the First Amendment matters. I am glad to see States like Iowa are starting to remind everybody.

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.

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

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

UKRAINE

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Madam President, like most of my colleagues, I spent the weekend monitoring the war in Ukraine. I took the opportunity to join the video conference with President Zelenskyy. I don't know how anyone could have hung up from that call confused about Vladimir Putin's intentions with Ukraine. Indeed, I think we saw that Vladimir Putin has ill intent for anyone who opposes him.

What is happening in Ukraine is not a ''special military operation,'' as Putin likes to say; it is an all-out war. Putin has caused a massive humanitarian and human rights crisis, and even though the world is collapsing around him, he has given no indication of pulling back.

The sanctions imposed by the free world have had a devastating impact on Russia's economy. The ruble just crashed to a record low. The United States just instituted a ban on Russian flights over our airspace. Sports organizations, entertainers, and private corporations are all avoiding Russia like the plague.

If Putin's goal was to transform Russia into another ''hermit kingdom,'' he is well on his way to making that dream a reality. The very idea seems insane, but remember, Vladimir Putin may be a madman, but he is a madman who is very intentional in what he is doing. He is reading the terrain, and he sees that the world's foremost superpower is too busy worrying about optics to do the one thing that would send Russia's economy back to the stone age.

Putin sent his army to invade Ukraine on February 24. The Ukrainian people have endured 11 days of savagery, and we still have not imposed meaningful sanctions on the Russian energy sector. But now, the entire world knows that Putin is using energy as a weapon.

Russia is now the U.S.'s third largest supplier of crude oil. The European Union gets about 40 percent of its gas imports and more than a quarter of its oil from Russia. We are feeling the pain every time we put gas in our cars, but looking at oil prices is still a bright spot in Putin's day.

Russia is really a great big oil depot with an army, and he knows that much of the world is depending on Russian oil. He is financing his war with every single tank of U.S. gas at a time. Every time you pull up to fill up your tank, this is what is happening. As long as Joe Biden refuses to tear us free from our entanglement with Russian energy, he is complicit with every single barrel of oil that he buys.

Energy is the most powerful economic weapon that Putin has at his disposal. It is his currency. The only way to neutralize it is to cut off the revenue stream. We must sanction the Russian energy sector, and we must do it now. We must end the purchasing of Russian oil. It is important to our partners in Ukraine and to our own Nation's security.

Last year, Joe Biden made the unilateral decision to destroy energy independence in the United States when he canceled the Keystone Pipeline and banned new oil and gas leases on Federal land—that is right.

Colleagues, in January 2021, we were energy independent. We were a net exporter of energy. But Joe Biden changed all that. He decided that by Executive order—not by a vote of the House or the Senate but by Executive order—he was going to end energy independence. So where does that put us? It has placed us right into the hands of a warmonger who is hellbent on recreating the U.S.S.R. And his weapon, No. 1 weapon, is energy. He does indeed think he has got you over the barrel.

Our energy sector needs certainty, not a series of actions based on the President's political whims, and we should give them that certainty by allowing us to move to energy independence.

I implore the President to see reason and to end this dangerously foolish entanglement with Moscow and Russian oil.

On that note, I think it should be made clear to everybody that the answer is not to go to Venezuela and negotiate to buy Venezuelan oil from another madman, and the answer is not to have the Russians working as an intermediary on a new Iran nuclear deal, which, by the way, the people of this country do not want to be entangled with Iran.

By the way, we hear they are negotiating to buy Iranian oil. This is about the dumbest damn thing I have ever heard of. It is amazing. You are going to go do business with Venezuela and with Iran and have the Russians involved in the middle of that? This is astounding.

This weekend, as I talked to Tennesseans, they could not believe that this administration would be stooping to such.

Sanction Russian energy. Restart the Keystone Pipeline. Open up capped wells. Stop flaring natural gas. Put it into the supply chain. Make certain that you are drilling domestically, exploring domestically. Do it before it is too late.

Our mission as Americans has not changed. We have a duty to preserve and protect freedom. The sheer availability of live footage and photographs flowing out of Ukraine has highlighted the importance of that mission to protect and preserve security.

This isn't the first time that Putin has invaded sovereign territory, but it is the first time that his crimes have been live-streamed for the entire world to see.

And as far as the free world is concerned, most of us have correctly identified the villain, but there are more than a few people out there who need persuading, and it is our job to help keep the information flowing.

Early on in the war, Putin launched cyber attacks to destabilize Ukraine and prevent communications with the outside world. Through my work on the Armed Services Committee, I have supported funding for domestic programs that would help protect State and local governments here in the United States from these types of attacks.

In the fiscal year 2022 NDAA, we created the Civilian Cyber Security Reserve Program to make sure that our Federal Government can keep up with cyber threats like the ones from Moscow being launched at the Ukrainians, but when it comes to defending freedom, shoring up our own defenses is not enough. We have to look outward and prevent the kinds of vulnerabilities Putin is trying to create.

Last week, I introduced the Internet Freedom and Operations Act with my colleague Senator MENENDEZ. This legislation builds off of the work we did together on the Open Technology Fund Authorization Act. It would authorize more than $100 million to support programs and circumvention technologies that keep the internet up and running in conflict zones and under other repressive media environments. We have successfully used this technology to put control over information back in the hands of the people, right where it belongs.

Dictators like Putin suppress dissent for a reason. The truth is that free speech scares them to death. They don't want it. They want cancel culture—only one point of view, and it is theirs.

From where I am sitting, it is clear that Putin is right to be fearful of the resistance in Ukraine and around the world and especially in his own country, as his citizens are taking to the streets—thousands protesting, thousands being arrested—so that they can push forward with freedom in their countries.

I would encourage my colleagues to support the freedom fighters in Ukraine and elsewhere, support them by signing on to the INFO Act. Again, I thank Senator MENENDEZ for his work on that.

We have talked a lot lately about sanctions and Stingers and ammunition, but I would argue that what has

rattled Putin the most is how powerless he is to stop people from speaking. As I mentioned earlier, his war crimes are being broadcast in real time to anybody who has a screen and an internet connection.

Russian citizens are protesting in the streets against the Russian Government. His struggling military is the subject of intense ridicule on every digital platform. It is a propagandist's worst nightmare and the source of immense hope for the Ukrainian people. And—God bless them—they are in the fight.

We have a duty to help keep that hope alive, and I would encourage my colleagues who haven't yet realized this to join together this week to stand up for the people in Ukraine, to stand up for energy independence in this country, and to stand up for free speech.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Ohio.

H.R. 3076

Mr. PORTMAN. Madam President, I am here on the floor today to talk about Postal Service reform. We have another vote this afternoon.

And this is incredibly important to the people I represent and whom all of us represent. It is important because the Postal Service is something people depend on for so much. This legislation we are talking about has been in the works for years. It is a bill to try to save the post office from insolvency. And if we don't act on this, I believe in the next few years we will be back here with a big bailout for the Postal Service because they are having a tough time financially.

The combination of this legislation that we will pass and some internal reforms that the post office is making should be enough to get the post office back on track.

The Postal Service has a Postmaster General right now who is absolutely committed to that—making the post office more effective, more efficient—but he needs a little breathing room, as he says, and that is what we are doing here in Congress. It doesn't cost the taxpayer anything. By the way, if we don't do this, in a few years, it would cost the taxpayers a lot in terms of a bailout, and I am afraid it would happen.

The post office, again, is so important. It is definitely worth saving. Our country is pretty divided right now—let's be honest—but one enduring reality about our country is that we have a post office that ties us all together, and everybody depends on that post office.

By the way, it has been that way for a long time. In 1775, 3 months after the battles of Lexington and Concord—so this is 1775, before the Revolution was finalized in 1776. During that time, the delegates to the Second Continental Congress appointed Benjamin Franklin as the Postmaster General. And why was this so important? Franklin was one of the Founding Fathers, and this was considered to be a really crucial post because the new Postal Service offered a way for the colonists to talk to each other, to communicate, for Revolutionary leaders to be able to strategize with each other outside of the official British channels.

So the post office has that rich history, and it continues to bind us today. In Ohio, it ensures that veterans get their medications that they get through the mail. And believe me, that is important to them, to get it on time.

It allows for absentee voters. In Ohio we have no-fault absentee. We have had it for years. It works well, but it requires the post office to do its job and obviously to not just deliver the absentee forms but to get the ballots in on time.

It is also crucial for people to get their rent checks in or to be sure that they get their utility bill on time. It is for people's financial statements from their banks. But, also, the post office still delivers birthday cards, thank-you notes, and personal letters that strengthen the bonds of family and friendship. So our Postal Service binds us together at a time when we are increasingly polarized.

Let's talk about what this particular legislation does. How does it save the post office? First, very simply, the bill makes sure the post office is going to be on a strong footing for the future by relieving the Postal Service of an obligation that virtually nobody else has—nobody in the Federal Government—which is to prefund retiree health benefits.

Now, if you are in a private company and you are listening to this, I am almost sure you don't prefund your retirement healthcare benefits. People don't do that. In the Federal Government, we don't do that. We don't do it here in Congress. Yet the post office has that obligation.

This would allow the post office, by getting out from under that obligation, to reconcile its books more accurately and to focus on immediate obligations. They should focus on those immediate obligations but not the prefunding.

Second, this bill requires postal employees who retire in the future to enroll in Medicare Part B and Part D. So hospitalization, Part A, people are already signed up for that—everybody is. But for Part B and Part D—doctors' visits, prescription drugs—about 25 percent of the people who work for the post office are not signed up for that. And by putting that 25 percent into there, it helps to save a lot of money for the post office and the taxpayers. Taxpayers will save about $1.5 billion based on this legislation, and a lot of it is because of that change. The employee health benefit plan that they would otherwise be in is a more generous plan, and that is how you get those savings.

Third, the bill requires the post office to maintain its current standard of 6-day delivery. That is important to a lot of my constituents, particularly in the rural areas—they like getting their mail—and to do it through an integrated delivery system of mail and packages together. That, of course, makes sense. You don't want separate systems going out for packages and for mail. That is what they do now, so this is really just restating the status quo, and that is very important. For some of the private-sector companies that provide delivery services, they want to know that this is just the status quo; we are not talking about any changes.

Both sides of the aisle have talked to me about this 6-day delivery. I know that wherever people have a rural area in their State, this is particularly important. It ensures that people are going to receive their medications, their checks, their correspondence on a timely and predictable basis.

So this bill shores up the post office, and it does it in a way that actually saves money. The nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office estimates, as I said, this legislation will save taxpayers $1.5 billion, so it doesn't cost taxpayers anything. It is not the appropriation of more money, but over 10 years it saves that money.

CBO, the Congressional Budget Office, which is the nonpartisan body up here that looks at the economic impact of legislation, has told us recently that this bill will not affect the solvency of the Medicare Hospital Insurance Trust Fund. That is the trust fund we talk about a lot here that we are concerned that it is going to become insolvent in only a short number of years and that that is going to cause problems for Medicare. That trust fund is not touched by this legislation.

CBO has also made it clear that the bill will not increase Part B or Part D premiums—again, Part B, doctors' visits; Part D, prescription drugs. That is very important because a lot of people have concerns about that. And one reason it doesn't affect it, by the way, is there is only a small number of postal employees—only 25 percent of them—who would become part of that, so it is a drop in the bucket compared to the number of people on Medicare. There are probably 60-some million people—that would be 61, 62 million people in Medicare, and this is between 14,000 and maybe 80,000 people who would be added to Part B and Part D. So it does not affect the premiums. By the way, these people have been paying into Medicare for their whole career, so it is appropriate that they go into Part B and Part D.

This is a good bill, and I think that is why it passed the House with such a strong vote. It passed with a bipartisan vote in the House of 342 to 92. That rarely happens, particularly in the House of Representatives. So that is an indication of what kind of legislation this is.

It is popular because it is about saving the post office, and it is popular because it does so without asking the taxpayers to step up and do more. In

fact, it saves some money. And it is popular because we have worked together on this. We have each side made concessions. Is it the perfect bill that I would have written? No. The same as my colleague from Michigan, who has just arrived on the Democratic side. He would have written it differently in a number of respects. I know that because he had to make concessions; we had to make concessions. But we ended up with legislation that does the job, and that is what is important: to put the post office in a position to succeed in its critical mission to provide essential services to small businesses, to our veterans, to our seniors, to our rural constituents.

Let's pass this bill, and let's ensure the post office is healthy for all those folks we represent back home.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Michigan.

Mr. PETERS. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that I may speak 5 minutes prior to the commencement of the vote.

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

Mr. PETERS. Madam President, in just a few moments, this body will take an important vote to continue moving forward on the bipartisan Postal Service Reform Act. These vital reforms will help set the Postal Service on a more stable financial footing so that this trusted public service can continue delivering to every single community in the United States.

Millions—millions—of Americans are counting on the Postal Service to deliver essential mail, including medications, important financial documents, and other critical supplies. We have all seen firsthand how veterans and seniors, small businesses, rural residents, and others who rely on the Postal Service face serious hardships when the Postal Service is focused on cutting costs by making changes to delivery service.

This bill will help address the most significant financial burdens on the Postal Service by reversing an unnecessary requirement to prefund every cent of healthcare benefits that every postal employee will eventually use in retirement no matter how far off that retirement may be. By eliminating this aggressive prefunding requirement—I may add, something that no other business in America is forced to do—along with integrating postal retirees' healthcare into Medicare, like so many other private employers, this bipartisan, commonsense legislation will save the Postal Service more than $49 billion over the next 10 years.

The bill also requires the Postal Service to deliver 6 days a week and improves transparency and accountability for Americans by requiring the Postal Service to publicly post weekly performance data on its website.

This legislation has been 15 years in the making, and tonight, we will get one step closer to making it a reality.

I am grateful to my colleagues who have shown strong, bipartisan support for this legislation, including my colead, Ranking Member PORTMAN from Ohio, and the 28 cosponsors from both sides of the aisle who have worked with us to make this a reality. Our cosponsors have played an important role in helping to build additional support for this critical bill.

Certainly, there is still more work to do to ensure even greater long-term success for the Postal Service and its customers, but tonight—tonight—the Senate will take a substantial step to continue advancing this incredibly important bill.

I urge my colleagues to join me in taking this meaningful action to protect the future of the Postal Service and the essential services that it provides to our communities all across our country.

I yield the floor.

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 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 motion to proceed to Calendar No. 273, H.R. 3076, a bill to provide stability to and enhance the services of the United States Postal Service, and for other purposes.

Charles E. Schumer, Gary C. Peters, Mazie K. Hirono, Tina Smith, Margaret Wood Hassan, Jeff Merkley, Ron Wyden, Patty Murray, Debbie Stabenow, Jack Reed, Mark Kelly, Cory A. Booker, Robert Menendez, Jon Tester, Jon Ossoff, Sheldon Whitehouse, Martin Heinrich.

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

The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that debate on H.R. 3076, a bill to provide stability to and enhance the services of the United States Postal Service, and for other purposes, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from California (Mr. PADILLA) is necessarily absent.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. COTTON), the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE), the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. KENNEDY), the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. LANKFORD), the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. PAUL), the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. SCOTT), the Senator from Alaska (Mr. SULLIVAN), and the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. TOOMEY).

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 74, nays 17, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 69 Leg.]

YEAS—74

Baldwin	Graham	Ossoff
Bennet	Grassley	Peters
Blumenthal	Hassan	Portman
Blunt	Hawley	Reed
Booker	Heinrich	Rosen
Boozman	Hickenlooper	Rounds
Brown	Hirono	Sanders
Burr	Hoeven	Schatz
Cantwell	Hyde-Smith	Schumer
Capito	Kaine	Shaheen
Cardin	Kelly	Sinema
Carper	King	Smith
Casey	Klobuchar	Stabenow
Cassidy	Leahy	Tester
Collins	Luján	Thune
Coons	Manchin	Tillis
Cortez Masto	Markey	Van Hollen
Cramer	Marshall	Warner
Daines	McConnell	Warnock
Duckworth	Menendez	Warren
Durbin	Merkley	Whitehouse
Ernst	Moran	Wicker
Feinstein	Murkowski	Wyden
Fischer	Murphy	Young
Gillibrand	Murray	

NAYS—17

Barrasso	Hagerty	Rubio
Blackburn	Johnson	Sasse
Braun	Lee	Scott (FL)
Cornyn	Lummis	Shelby
Crapo	Risch	Tuberville
Cruz	Romney	

NOT VOTING—9

Cotton	Lankford	Scott (SC)
Inhofe	Padilla	Sullivan
Kennedy	Paul	Toomey

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. KELLY). On this vote, the yeas are 74, the nays are 17.

Three-fifths of the Senators duly chosen and sworn having voted in the affirmative, the motion is agreed to.

The Senator from Ohio.

REMEMBERING PAUL FARMER

Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, last month, the world lost one of its great champions for public health, Dr. Paul Farmer.

Few people did as much to save lives around the world as Paul. He was a giant. He changed how the world thinks about international aid and about public health. Millions of people, from Haiti to Peru, to Russia, to Rwanda, are living longer, healthier, more fulfilling lives because of Paul Farmer and because of the movement he launched.

Paul moved to Haiti immediately after graduating from college. He had a special relationship with that country for the rest of his life. It is where he met his wife Didi Bertrand—a school principal and preacher's daughter in Cange. Even during Harvard Medical School, Paul would fly back and forth to Haiti, setting up his own clinic and an expanding network of community health facilities.

In 1987, he and my friend Jim Yong Kim and their two colleagues, Ophelia Dahl and Todd McCormack, founded Partners in Health. They founded Partners in Health on Paul's radical idea, and it is a radical idea in so many ways; that all human beings, regardless of who they are and where they live, deserve equal dignity and equal healthcare.

In 2003, the very good writer Tracy Kidder wrote a book about Paul and his

life: ''Mountains Beyond Mountains.'' After Paul's death, Tracy wrote a tribute to him and titled it ''He Wanted to Make the Whole World His Patient,'' and he really did.

I met Paul on a trip to Haiti with my friend Joanne Carter, the executive director of RESULTS, which is a grassroots organization dedicated to ending the cause of poverty around the world. It was in April 2003. Partners in Health was working in Haiti, and the hospital and clinic Paul started in Cange had grown to a broad network around the country. Paul and his colleagues were working with community health workers to treat drug-resistant tuberculosis and to scale up AIDS treatment in the most impoverished place, by far, in the Western Hemisphere at a time when there was almost no antiviral treatment available in poor countries.

People claim that treating patients and getting antivirals out in countries like Haiti was just impossible. Paul proved them wrong. Partners in Health invited several hundred U.S. policymakers, journalists, and Members of Congress, over time, to Haiti to see firsthand how they were expanding access to lifesaving treatment. At the time, there was still a popular sentiment, even among health workers, that we couldn't do this; that it was impossible to get these antiviral treatments out on any kind of large scale in low-income countries. It was a transformational moment. Paul opened the world's eyes to what was possible.

We could and had to treat patients everywhere. The barrier wasn't that it couldn't be done; it was that no one had made it a priority. No one in rich countries like ours or in even middle-income countries wanted to or really had tried to make this a priority.

I remember we met a young man in a wheelchair in a hospital unit. I was with Paul. He was caring for this young man. He had tuberculosis of the spine. It is called Pott's disease. It is when tuberculosis bacteria migrates into the spinal column and causes paralysis. He was getting treatment that no one would have thought possible before Paul. We met HIV/AIDS patients and saw how antiviral treatments were transforming their lives. People called it the Lazarus effect. In a relatively short amount of time, this treatment revived them and brought them back from the brink.

Late at night, we sat around together, at Paul's little house in Cange, and talked about what would come next and what we needed to do to rouse the world to action. It was an exciting time. A global fund had just been created. Paul's ideas were gaining traction. Paul Farmer brought such a moral clarity to all of these conversations. Whether it was talking to policymakers or to public health experts or to community leaders or to his patients—his impoverished patients often—he began every discussion with the same fundamental principle: Everyone has the right to quality healthcare.

Rather than have a technical conversation, he would look at all of these health experts and leaders when they would say, ''Unfortunately, there are just not enough resources to treat everyone, so we have to make choices,'' and Paul would say, ''When we make these choices, we are always talking about somebody else's children.'' He didn't say it in an accusatory way; he wasn't judgmental; and he didn't look down on anybody. It was simply how he thought about it and how he wanted everyone to think about it.

The other thing that always struck me and that was so astonishing about Paul is that he cared so much about each individual person. He had uncommon and maybe even unparalleled empathy. He had an absolute commitment to his patients' care. He was a big thinker in change policy, but he was a practitioner up close who took care of fellow human beings. He had an absolute commitment to his patients' care literally right up until the moment of his death. He was talking about patients he was treating in Rwanda, and he was giving advice right up until the day he died.

Tracy Kidder reported that Paul had been up late the night before, seeing patients. Mr. Kidder said, in his experience with Paul, that being up late and seeing patients was the equivalent of a night on the town.

Over the past few weeks since we lost Paul, a remembrance of that empathy has poured out from people around the world—from former students and colleagues, patients, world leaders, public health luminaries. Everyone has a story about Paul Farmer's dedication to humankind and to his patients individually. They agree that Paul really did change the world. His legacy will certainly inspire many of us in this body. More importantly, it will inspire people around the world.

When I think of Paul Farmer, I think of one of my favorite passages in the Gospel, Matthew 25. We are all familiar with it—Christians, certainly—but nonbelievers, Jews, Hindus, Buddhists, and Muslims, I think know this passage from Jesus.

Jesus said: When I was hungry, you fed me. When I was thirsty, you gave me drink. When I was in prison, you visited me. What you did to the least of these you did to me.

I thought, you know, that doesn't quite sound right, ''What you did to the least of these,'' because I cannot believe that Muhammad or Buddha or Jesus or Maimonides or Moses would think that MARK KELLY is worth more or less than another human being. All of us in God's eyes are equal.

So I came across a friend of ours who lives down the street—a pastor—and she gave to me a Bible called the ''Justice and Poverty Bible.''

It say this in Matthew 25: When I was hungry, you fed me. When I was thirsty, you gave me drink. When I was in prison, you visited me. What you did to those who seemed less important you did for me—not what you did for the least of these but what you did for those who seemed less important.

That was how Paul Farmer lived his life. He understood that no human being was worth less than anyone else; that everyone is deserving of compassionate healthcare; and that everyone is deserving, as Rumi said, of generosity and helping others: Be like a river in compassion and grace. Be like the Sun. That is the way Paul looked at the world.

Our thoughts are with his family and his patients around the world. Let's recommit ourselves to following the example of Dr. Paul Farmer.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

EMMETT TILL ANTILYNCHING ACT

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of H.R. 55, which was received from the House and is at the desk.

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 55) to amend section 249 of title 18, United States Code, to specify lynching as a hate crime act.

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

Mr. SCHUMER. I ask unanimous consent that the bill be considered read a third time and passed and that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

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

The bill (H.R. 55) was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I just want to go over what just happened.

After more than 200 failed attempts to outlaw lynching, Congress is finally succeeding in taking the long-overdue action by passing the Emmett Till Antilynching Act. Hallelujah. It is long overdue.

The first anti-lynching legislation was introduced a century ago, and after so long, the Senate has now finally addressed one of the most shameful elements of this Nation's past by making lynching a Federal crime. That it took so long is a stain—a bitter stain—on America.

While this will not erase the horrific injustices to which tens of thousands of African Americans have been subjected over the generations—nor fully heal the terror inflicted on countless others—it is an important step forward as we continue the work of confronting our Nation's past in pursuit of a brighter and more just future.

I want to applaud the work of the legislation's sponsors. Senator BOOKER has been relentless to get this done and deserves tremendous credit, as does his colleague on the Republican side of the aisle, Senator SCOTT, and, of course,

Representative BOBBY RUSH, who worked so hard to pass this bill as well.

We look forward now to President Biden quickly signing this long-delayed bill into law.

BURIAL EQUITY FOR GUARDS AND RESERVES ACT OF 2021

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 288, S. 2089.

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (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, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill, which had been reported from the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, with an amendment to strike all after the enacting clause and insert in lieu thereof the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''Burial Equity for Guards and Reserves Act of 2021''.

SEC. 2. PROHIBITIONS ON RESTRICTING INTERMENT OF CERTAIN INDIVIDUALS IN CERTAIN STATE VETERANS' CEMETERIES.

(a) GRANTS.—Section 2408 of title 38, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subsection (d)(2), by striking ''The Secretary may'' and inserting ''Except as provided in subsection (i), the Secretary may'';

(2) by redesignating subsection (i) as subsection (k); and

(3) by inserting after subsection (h) the following new subsections:

''(i)(1) The Secretary may not establish a condition for a grant under this section that restricts the ability of a State receiving such a grant to inter in a veterans' cemetery owned by that State any individual described in paragraph (2) solely by reason of the ineligibility of such individual for burial in an open national cemetery under the control of the National Cemetery Administration under section 2402(a) of this title.

''(2) An individual described in this paragraph is the following:

''(A) Any member of a reserve component of the Armed Forces who was discharged or released from service under conditions other than dishonorable or whose death occurs under conditions other than dishonorable while a member of such a reserve component.

''(B) Any member of the Army National Guard or the Air National Guard who was discharged or released from service under conditions other than dishonorable or whose death occurs under conditions other than dishonorable while a member of the Army National Guard or the Air National Guard.

''(C) Any member of the Reserve Officers' Training Corps of the Army, Navy, or Air Force whose death occurs under conditions other than dishonorable while a member of the Reserve Officers' Training Corps of the Army, Navy, or Air Force.

''(D) Any spouse of any member described in subparagraphs (A) through (C).

''(E) Any minor child or unmarried adult child (as such terms are defined in section 2402(a) of this title) of any member described in subparagraphs (A) through (C).

''(j) The Secretary may not deny an application for a grant under this section solely on the basis that the State receiving such grant may use funds from such grant to expand, improve, operate, or maintain a veterans' cemetery in which interment of individuals described in subsection (i)(2) is allowed.''.

(b) PROHIBITION ON ENFORCING CERTAIN CONDITIONS ON GRANTS FOR STATE VETERANS' CEMETERIES.—The Secretary of Veterans Affairs may not enforce a condition on a grant described in subsection (i)(1) of section 2408 of title 38, United States Code, as added by subsection (a), that was established before the date of the enactment of this Act.

(c) PLOT ALLOWANCES.—Section 2303 of title 38, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subsection (b)—

(A) by amending paragraph (1) to read as follows:

''(1) the Secretary shall pay to the relevant State, agency, political subdivision, or tribal organization, as the case may be, the sum of $700 (as increased from time to time under subsection (c)) as a plot or interment allowance for such veteran if the veteran is buried (without charge for the cost of a plot or interment) in a cemetery, or a section of a cemetery, that—

''(A) is used solely for the interment of persons who are—

''(i) eligible for burial in a national cemetery;

''(ii) members of a reserve component of the Armed Forces not otherwise eligible for such burial or former members of such a reserve component not otherwise eligible for such burial who are discharged or released from service under conditions other than dishonorable; or

''(iii) described in section 2408(i)(2) of this title; and

''(B) is—

''(i) owned by a State or by an agency or political subdivision of a State; or

''(ii) on trust land owned by, or held in trust for, a tribal organization.''; and

(B) in paragraph (2), by inserting ''tribal organization,'' after ''of a State,''; and

(2) by adding at the end the following new subsection:

''(e) In this section, the terms 'tribal organization' and 'trust land' have the meanings given those terms in section 3765 of this title.''.

Mr. SCHUMER. I ask unanimous consent that the committee-reported substitute amendment be agreed to; that the bill, as amended, be considered read a third time and passed; and that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

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

The committee-reported amendment in the nature of a substitute was agreed to.

The bill (S. 2089), as amended, was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

AMENDING TITLE 38, UNITED STATES CODE, TO CLARIFY THE ROLE OF DOCTORS OF PODIATRIC MEDICINE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs be discharged and the Senate now proceed to the immediate consideration of H.R. 2545.

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 2545) to amend title 38, United States Code, to clarify the role of doctors of podiatric medicine in the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

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

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

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

The bill (H.R. 2545) was ordered to a third reading, was read the third, and passed.

NATIONAL WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 537, 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. 537) designating March 2022 as ''National Women's History Month.''

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

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, I rise today in honor of Women's History Month to recognize the extraordinary achievements of past generations of women and to pay tribute to the vital role they have played in the political, economic, and social development of this Nation.

Women's History Month provides a special opportunity to reflect upon the numerous contributions made by women who touch all aspects of our society—from government, to business, the arts and sciences, the military, and much more. I look upon the courage our predecessors displayed with great admiration, and I continue to be inspired by those who blazed the trail for women like me.

I am reminded of how incredibly proud I was to see the Smithsonian Women's History Museum Act, which I coled with Senator Susan Collins, enacted in December 2020. This law establishes a long-overdue, permanent museum to collect, study, and create programs that celebrate the contributions and experiences of women. The Women's History Museum will be established on or near the National Mall, and I look forward to hearing about the site when it is announced later this year.

However, it is with sadness that the past year brought with it the loss of a number of pioneering women, including the First Lady of Television Betty White; Sarah Weddington, who represented ''Jane Roe'' in the landmark Roe v. Wade case; authors bell hooks, Beverly Clearly, and Joan Didion; and

Motown vocalists Mary Wilson and Wanda Young. Although these icons are no longer with us, their contributions will live on, and their accomplishments have shattered glass ceilings for future generations of women. May we honor their work and memory with a commitment to empower and support future women leaders.

But the future is bright. In the 117th Congress, we have reached a new high-water mark for women in politics, as more women are now serving in elected office than ever before. There are now 148 women serving in Congress: 124 women in the House of Representatives and 24 women in the U.S. Senate. Just last year, the Senate confirmed Janet Yellen to be the first female Treasury Secretary. Just recently, President Biden nominated Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson to be the Nation's first Black woman as a Supreme Court Justice.

These are exciting times for women indeed, and much progress has been made. Yet we still have a lot of work cut out for us. We must come together to address the ongoing pandemic, which has had devastating consequences for the health of our country and economy. The pandemic has also uniquely harmed women and girls—especially women of color. A disproportionate number of women have lost their jobs as a result of the pandemic and are often unable to maintain work commitments with children learning from home while schools are closed. This unequal harm endured by women during the pandemic reminds us that the march toward equality is yet to be done. We must continue our work to ensure fairness and equity for women everywhere.

As we convene to celebrate Women's History Month, I ask my colleagues to celebrate with me how far we have come and to continue the fight for the progress of all women—especially those who are struggling during these trying times.

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

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

The resolution (S. Res. 537) 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. 3757

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I understand that there is a bill at the desk that is due for a second reading.

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 3757) to prohibit the importation of crude oil, petroleum, petroleum products, liquefied natural gas, and coal from the Russian Federation.

Mr. SCHUMER. In order to place the bill on the calendar, under the provisions of rule XIV, I would object to further proceeding.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection having been heard, the bill will be placed on the calendar.

Mr. SCHUMER. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

MORNING BUSINESS

SUPPLY CHAIN SECURITY

Mr. RISCH. Mr. President, I rise today on behalf of myself and Senator CRAPO to express grave concern with the vulnerability of supply chains and the long-term implications if we do not act now to develop a secure supply chain of critical minerals. In light of the aggression shown by our adversaries, supply chain security is more important than ever.

Our Nation is at a crossroads; Russia has invaded Ukraine. At the same time, China continues to use economic coercion to control global markets and shape countries' political decisions. With Congress' support, this administration must take drastic and targeted measures to ensure our Nation takes the right path to advance U.S. competitiveness and maintain a strong position in domestic and foreign markets, including critical minerals production.

Critical minerals are vital to the emerging technologies that will underpin the future economic well-being and prosperity of this Nation. In recognition of these important minerals, under President Trump, the Department of the Interior developed a list of 35 critical minerals, a process that Congress later codified. That list, just last week, expanded to 50. Our home State of Idaho is rich in many of these minerals—some of which are fundamental to energy and national security applications—such as antimony and cobalt.

Antimony and cobalt serve as critical components in grid storage batteries and other electrification implements essential to providing reliable energy sources to American homes and businesses. In addition to its energy contribution, antimony serves as a critical component of ammunition, armaments, and other national security platforms. Although these minerals serve as essential components in highly utilized U.S. products, 53 percent of antimony comes from China, and another 23 percent comes from Russia. Most cobalt is sourced from the Democratic Republic of the Congo—DRC—where the Chinese Government has subsidized companies that engage in nontransparent practices, dominate the industry, and undermine the prosperity and rights of the Congolese.

Aside from mineral production, Idaho is responsible for cutting-edge mineral research. We are proud to be the home of the Idaho National Lab, the Nation's premier nuclear energy laboratory, whose research is paramount to any future clean energy strategy. Unfortunately, the Biden administration chose to remove uranium from the critical minerals list, which leaves the Nation's nuclear fleet even more reliant on Russian fuel.

As tensions rise with Russia and the potential of additional sanctions loom, China will look to take advantage of the void left by Russia's isolation in the market. While we need to take strong actions on Russia, the reality is that we source many of our raw minerals from them. As we tighten our grip on their financial system and exports, we must prioritize domestic sourcing and reduce our reliance on countries like Russia and China.

The time is now for this administration to take real action to prioritize a strong domestic supply chain for these essential minerals. We do not want to compromise any of our environmental or other standards. We are simply calling on the administration to prioritize the timely completion of the permits of currently proposed projects so we may take back control of a fundamental piece of many of our essential industries: critical minerals production.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

REMEMBERING HELEN SELIG

• Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize the life and service of former Hot Springs mayor Helen Selig.

Selig was a beloved member of the Hot Springs community and made a substantial difference in the lives of so many Arkansans. She not only served as mayor of Hot Springs from 1994–2000, but also played a crucial role in fulfilling countless projects aimed at bettering the city.

As mayor, Selig saw great success throughout her 6-year tenure, and it was something that was recognized by citizens and leaders alike. Hot Springs city manager Bill Burrough reflected that, ''Hot Springs is truly a better place because of her passion, the work that she did, and her influence. When Helen Selig was involved, people would listen.''

Selig has been praised widely for her involvement in a variety of community projects, including the construction of the convention center. In the recent weeks, dozens of local leaders have been outspoken in their praise and gratitude for her dedication to Hot Springs.

In 1992, Selig was already making waves as a well-known leader of a group advocating for Hot Springs to be chosen as the location for the Arkansas School for Mathematics, Science, and the Arts. This school did end up being located in the so-called Spa City and has helped so many students with bright minds flourish throughout our State.

Her lifetime of service to her community and neighbors extended far beyond her time as an elected leader. She was a founding member of the Arkansas Women's Leadership Forum, as well as the Women's Foundation of Arkansas, in addition to volunteering for several organizations, including Habitat for Humanity, Hot Springs Parks Board of Directors, R.E.G.A.R.D., YMCA Board of Directors, Hot Springs Music Festival—board of directors—Kappa Kappa Gamma fraternity, Catholic Church of St. John the Baptist, the Lotus Book Club, and Hot Springs National Park Rotary Club. Time and time again, Helen Selig exhibited her firm commitment to the people of Hot Springs.

I am so grateful for Mayor Selig's dedication to serving her community and truly making a difference in the lives of those around her. I want to take this time to pray for her family in their time of grief and reassure them that Helen's memory will live on through the great work she has done for Arkansas.●

REMEMBERING ART BROWN

● Mr. RISCH. Mr. President, along with my colleague Senator Mike Crapo, I rise today to recognize Arthur Brown, a long-time resident of Idaho, a wonderful citizen, and a tremendous contributor to Idaho. Art died on February 9, 2022, having lived a full, rich and meaningful life.

Art was born October 27, 1940, in Germiston, South Africa, the eldest of three children. Art attended school in Germiston and went on to study at Witwatersrand Technical Institute, earning a mining engineering degree. Soon after graduating, he left his homeland to work for the Cementation Company in Nelson, British Columbia, Canada in 1962. It was in Nelson where he met Tiia, an immigrant from Estonia, and the woman who would become his wife. Together, Art and Tiia had three daughters, Lisa, Hayley, and Laura.

Art arrived in Wallace, ID, in June of 1967, where he became an industrial engineer for Hecla Mining Company. He worked hard and was eventually promoted to mine superintendent at the Lucky Friday Mine. While living in the beautiful Silver Valley, Art thoroughly enjoyed the outdoors, often taking his family skiing and camping. Art, Tiia, and their two daughters who were born in Canada celebrated becoming U.S. citizens in 1972.

Art ascended the ranks at Hecla, becoming president in 1986, the same year the company moved its headquarters to Coeur d'Alene, ID. Art reached the pinnacle of his career when he was made Hecla's CEO and chairman of the board. In 2003, Art retired from Hecla, marking the end of a remarkable career that spanned four decades.

An accomplished businessman and corporate leader, Art was also a dedicated family man, making time to travel and support his daughters at ski races, basketball games, tennis matches, and horse shows. And ever the proud grandfather, he supported his four grandchildren at football, basketball and baseball games, cross-country meets, golf tournaments, and soccer matches.

Art shared his enthusiasm for life with everyone he knew and was always willing to listen and help solve problems. He was genuinely interested in the people he met and was loved by many. Art will be missed, but not forgotten.

We are proud to have known Art Brown, for the example he set for business, for the contributions he made in his community, and for the way he loved and supported his family. On behalf of so many in our great State, we honor Art Brown today and express our heartfelt thanks to him for a lifetime of service to others.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

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

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The messages received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bill was read the second time, and placed on the calendar:

S. 3757. A bill to prohibit the importation of crude oil, petroleum, petroleum products, liquefied natural gas, and coal from the Russian Federation.

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–3309. A communication from the Board Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Farm Credit Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Administration's Fiscal Year 2021–2022 Federal Information Security Management Act (FISMA) and Privacy Management Report; to the Committees on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry; Appropriations; Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs; and Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3310. A communication from the Officer for Civil Rights and Civil Liberties, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Department's Office for Civil Rights and Civil Liberties semiannual report for the third and fourth quarters of fiscal year 2021 (April 1, 2021 - September 30, 2021); to the Committees on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs; the Judiciary; and Select Committee on Intelligence.

EC–3311. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of the Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled ''Operation Allies Welcome Afghan Evacuee Report''; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

PETITIONS AND MEMORIALS

The following petition or memorial was laid before the Senate and was referred or ordered to lie on the table as indicated:

POM–113. A resolution adopted by the Commission of the Caddo Parish, Louisiana urging and requesting the United States Congress to pass the COVID–19 Hate Crimes Act of 2021; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

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. MENENDEZ (for himself and Mrs. BLACKBURN):

S. 3764. A bill to authorize United States Government efforts to promote and protect Internet freedom in countries where the freedom of information is under threat; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself and Ms. COLLINS):

S. 3765. A bill to provide assistance to American fisheries participants to comply with Federal regulations to protect the endangered North Atlantic right whale by reducing the risk of incidental entanglement in fishing gear; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation .

By Mr. BROWN (for himself, Mr. PORTMAN, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. PETERS, and Mr. YOUNG):

S. 3766. A bill to increase the benefits guaranteed in connection with certain pension plans, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. CARPER (for himself, Mr. CASEY, Mr. COONS, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. MENENDEZ, and Mr. SCHUMER):

S. 3767. A bill to amend the Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation Act to reauthorize Delaware River Basin conservation programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. THUNE (for himself and Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina):

S. 3768. A bill to require the Secretary of Labor to implement the industry-recognized apprenticeship program process, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. REED (for himself, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. COONS, and Mrs. SHAHEEN):

S. 3769. A bill to amend the Energy Conservation and Production Act to improve the weatherization assistance program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. LEE (for himself and Mr. SCOTT of Florida):

S. 3770. A bill to establish a point of order against legislation that would cause a net increase in outlays unless the Director of the Congressional Budget Office certifies that inflation is below 3 percent; to the Committee on the Budget.

By Mr. CORNYN (for himself, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. HAGERTY, and Mr. KING):

S. 3771. A bill to prohibit United States persons from engaging in transactions with foreign persons that purchase or transact in gold from the Russian Federation; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. CASSIDY (for himself and Ms. HASSAN):

S. Res. 536. A resolution expressing the sense of the Senate that President Vladimir Putin is a war criminal; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. SCHUMER, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Ms. ERNST, Mr. MARKEY, Ms. LUMMIS, Ms. SINEMA, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mrs. FISCHER, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. BARRASSO, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. KING, Mr. CASEY, Ms. WARREN, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mr. MENENDEZ, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. CARPER, Mr. REED, Mr. BOOKER, Ms. ROSEN, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. DURBIN, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. WARNER, Ms. STABENOW, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. PADILLA, Ms. SMITH, Mr. LUJÁN, Mr. BENNET, Mr. KELLY, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. BROWN, and Mr. PETERS):

S. Res. 537. A resolution designating March 2022 as ''National Women's History Month'' ; considered and agreed to.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 140

At the request of Mr. WHITEHOUSE, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 140, a bill to improve data collection and monitoring of the Great Lakes, oceans, bays, estuaries, and coasts, and for other purposes.

S. 444

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the names of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) and the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) were added as cosponsors of S. 444, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to provide or assist in providing an additional vehicle adapted for operation by disabled individuals to certain eligible persons.

S. 773

At the request of Mr. THUNE, the name of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CRAMER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 773, a bill to enable certain hospitals that were participating in or applied for the drug discount program under section 340B of the Public Health Service Act prior to the COVID–19 public health emergency to temporarily maintain eligibility for such program, and for other purposes.

S. 1175

At the request of Mr. BURR, the name of the Senator from Tennessee (Mrs. BLACKBURN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1175, a bill to categorize public safety telecommunicators as a protective service occupation under the Standard Occupational Classification System.

S. 1596

At the request of Mrs. SHAHEEN, the names of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET), the Senator from Delaware (Mr. CARPER), the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY), the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS), the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN), the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY), the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. SCHATZ), the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. SMITH) and the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER) were added as cosponsors of S. 1596, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the National World War II Memorial in Washington, DC, and for other purposes.

S. 2061

At the request of Mr. CASSIDY, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MARSHALL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2061, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to ensure coverage of mental health services furnished through telehealth.

S. 2780

At the request of Mr. MARSHALL, the name of the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. PAUL) 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. 2810

At the request of Mr. MANCHIN, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2810, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to ensure the solvency of the Black Lung Disability Trust Fund by extending the excise tax on coal.

S. 2937

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the names of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER) and the Senator from Colorado (Mr. HICKENLOOPER) were added as cosponsors of S. 2937, a bill to authorize humanitarian assistance and civil society support, promote democracy and human rights, and impose targeted sanctions with respect to human rights abuses in Burma, and for other purposes.

S. 2956

At the request of Mr. COONS, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Ms. ROSEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2956, a bill to advance targeted, high-impact, and evidence-based inventions for the prevention and treatment of global malnutrition, to improve the coordination of such programs, and for other purposes.

S. 3601

At the request of Ms. DUCKWORTH, the names of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BRAUN) and the Senator from Georgia (Mr. OSSOFF) were added as cosponsors of S. 3601, a bill to require the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency to include breast pumps and other lactation supplies and equipment in disaster relief and emergency response.

S. 3710

At the request of Mr. BOOKER, the names of the Senator from California (Mr. PADILLA), the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO), the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. HASSAN), the Senator from West Virginia (Mrs. CAPITO), the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. SMITH), and the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) were added as cosponsors of S. 3710, a bill to amend section 249 of title 18, United States Code, to specify lynching as a hate crime act.

S. 3718

At the request of Mr. MARSHALL, the name of the Senator from Wyoming (Ms. LUMMIS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3718, a bill to prohibit the importation of petroleum and petroleum products from the Russian Federation.

S. 3752

At the request of Mr. HOEVEN, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3752, a bill to strengthen United States energy security, encourage domestic production of crude oil, petroleum products, and natural gas, and for other purposes.

S. 3754

At the request of Mr. MARKEY, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. HEINRICH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3754, a bill to prohibit the importation of crude oil and petroleum products from the Russian Federation, to impose sanctions with respect to persons involved in the importation of such crude oil and petroleum products who have engaged in acts of corruption or who are responsible for serious human rights abuses, and for other purposes.

S. 3757

At the request of Mr. MANCHIN, the names of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET), the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN), the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. HASSAN), the Senator from Iowa (Mr. GRASSLEY), the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN), the Senator from Florida (Mr. SCOTT), the Senator from Virginia (Mr. KAINE), the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. SCOTT), the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MARSHALL), the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO), the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER), and the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN) were added as cosponsors of S. 3757, a bill to prohibit the importation of crude oil, petroleum, petroleum products, liquefied

natural gas, and coal from the Russian Federation.

At the request of Ms. ROSEN, her name was added as a cosponsor of S. 3757, supra.

S. 3760

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. HICKENLOOPER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3760, a bill to continue the temporary waiver of interest on State unemployment loans during the pandemic to provide additional relief, and for other purposes.

S.J. RES. 17

At the request of Mr. KAINE, the name of the Senator from Texas (Mr. CRUZ) was added as a cosponsor of S.J. Res. 17, a joint resolution requiring the advice and consent of the Senate or an Act of Congress to suspend, terminate, or withdraw the United States from the North Atlantic Treaty and authorizing related litigation, and for other purposes.

S. CON. RES. 9

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

S. RES. 531

At the request of Mr. GRAHAM, the names of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. HOEVEN) and the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 531, a resolution expressing the sense of the Senate condemning the Russian Federation, President Vladimir Putin, members of the Russian Security Council, the Russian Armed Forces, and Russian military commanders for committing flagrant acts of aggression and other atrocities rising to the level of crimes against humanity and war crimes against the people of Ukraine and others.

AMENDMENT NO. 4933

At the request of Mr. SCOTT of Florida, the names of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. LANKFORD) and the Senator from Iowa (Mr. GRASSLEY) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 4933 intended to be proposed to H.R. 3076, a bill to provide stability to and enhance the services of the United States Postal Service, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 4951

At the request of Mr. BRAUN, the name of the Senator from Iowa (Mr. GRASSLEY) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 4951 intended to be proposed to H.R. 3076, a bill to provide stability to and enhance the services of the United States Postal Service, and for other purposes.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. CARPER (for himself, Mr. CASEY, Mr. COONS, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. MENENDEZ, and Mr. SCHUMER):

S. 3767. A bill to amend the Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation Act to reauthorize Delaware River Basin conservation programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

Mr. CARPER. Mr. President, today I am pleased to introduce, along with the Senator from Pennsylvania, Mr. CASEY, the Junior Senator from Delaware, Mr. COONS, the Senator from New Jersey, Mr. BOOKER, the Senator from New Jersey, Mr. MENENDEZ, and the Senator from New York, Mr. SCHUMER, the Delaware River Basin Conservation Reauthorization Act of 2022.

The Delaware River Basin Conservation Act became law as part of the Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation Act of 2016. This legislation, which I was proud to lead, responded to the need for Federal, State, and local governments and regional partners to come together to identify, prioritize, and implement restoration activities within the Delaware River Basin. The legislation also created a nonregulatory grant program for which appropriations have flowed through the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation has done an excellent job of working with the Fish and Wildlife Service to administer the Delaware Watershed Conservation Fund under the authority of this act.

In just a few short years, this program has grown tremendously. To date, the Delaware Watershed Conservation Fund has awarded more than $25 million to projects that support recreation, water quality, water management, and habitat. Grantees have matched that investment by a ratio of nearly 2 to 1—an impressive total conservation impact of over $70 million.

This program is a great example of how when the government—at all levels—works with diverse suites of nongovernment stakeholders, we can achieve meaningful results on the ground that improve the lives of people and wildlife alike.

For example, the program has funded several diverse projects in Delaware, including installing pollinator gardens at places of worship, removing a dam in White Clay Creek, improving fish passage in the Brandywine River, and restoring wetlands at our national wildlife refuges. These restoration efforts protect the species we love, clean up our drinking water, and provide a boost to local tourism.

The legislation I am introducing today would reauthorize the Delaware River Basin Conservation Act and make some minor improvements to allow even better results on the ground throughout the Delaware River Watershed. This reauthorization has clear benefits for our environment and economy—a win-win for Delaware and our region.

I look forward to working with my colleagues to enact this important legislation this Congress. I ask unanimous consent that a copy of the bill I am introducing today appear in the Record following my statement.

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

S. 3767

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 ''Delaware River Basin Conservation Reauthorization Act of 2022''.

SEC. 2. DELAWARE RIVER BASIN CONSERVATION REAUTHORIZATION.

(a) COST SHARING.—Section 3504(c)(1) of the Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation Act (Public Law 114–322; 130 Stat. 1775) is amended—

(1) by striking ''The Federal share'' and inserting the following:

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subparagraph (B), the Federal share''; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

''(B) SMALL, RURAL, AND DISADVANTAGED COMMUNITIES.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—Subject to clause (ii), the Federal share of the cost of a project funded under the grant program that serves a small, rural, or disadvantaged community shall be 90 percent of the total cost of the project, as determined by the Secretary.

''(ii) WAIVER.—The Secretary may increase the Federal share under clause (i) to 100 percent of the total cost of the project if the Secretary determines that the grant recipient is unable to pay, or would experience significant financial hardship if required to pay, the non-Federal share.''.

(b) REPEAL OF PROHIBITION ON USE OF FUNDS FOR FEDERAL ACQUISITION OF INTERESTS IN LAND.—Section 3506 of the Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation Act (Public Law 114–322; 130 Stat. 1775) is repealed.

(c) SUNSET.—Section 3507 of the Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation Act (Public Law 114–322; 130 Stat. 1775) is amended by striking ''2023'' and inserting ''2030''.

By Mr. THUNE (for himself and Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina):

S. 3768. A bill to require the Secretary of Labor to implement the industry-recognized apprenticeship program process, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

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

S. 3768

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 ''Training America's Workforce Act''.

SEC. 2. INDUSTRY-RECOGNIZED APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAMS.

The Act of August 16, 1937 (commonly known as the ''National Apprenticeship Act''; 50 Stat. 664, chapter 63; 29 U.S.C. 50 et seq.) is amended—

(1) by redesignating section 4 as section 5; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

''SEC. 4. INDUSTRY-RECOGNIZED APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAMS.

''(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

''(1) INDUSTRY-RECOGNIZED APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM.—The term 'industry-recognized apprenticeship program'—

''(A) means a high-quality, competency-based apprenticeship program that is—

''(i) recognized by a standards recognition entity;

''(ii) developed or delivered by an entity such as a trade or industry group, corporation, nonprofit organization, institution of higher education, labor organization, or labor-management organization (among other entities, as determined appropriate by the Secretary); and

''(B) may include a program that meets the requirements of subparagraph (A) and trains apprentices to perform construction activities.

''(2) SECRETARY.—The term 'Secretary' means the Secretary of Labor.

''(3) STANDARDS RECOGNITION ENTITY.—The term 'standards recognition entity' means a private sector or public sector entity that—

''(A) is recognized by the Secretary (acting through the Administrator of the Office of Apprenticeship of the Department of Labor) for purposes of recognizing apprenticeship programs as industry-recognized apprenticeship programs;

''(B) has a demonstrated ability to ensure an industry-recognized apprenticeship program meets the standards described in subsection (d); and

''(C) has the capacity to perform the oversight necessary to ensure the ongoing compliance of an industry-recognized apprenticeship program with such standards.

''(b) RECOGNITION OF INDUSTRY-RECOGNIZED APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAMS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—By not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of the Training America's Workforce Act, the Secretary, after consultation with private sector industry associations, institutions of higher education, State, local, and Tribal governmental agencies, and other stakeholders the Secretary determines appropriate, shall establish a process to recognize entities as standards recognition entities for purposes of recognizing industry-recognized apprenticeship programs under this Act.

''(2) LIMITED DISCRETION.—The Secretary shall not deny recognition as a standards recognition entity to a private sector or public sector entity that meets the requirements of subparagraphs (B) and (C) of subsection (a)(3) and satisfactorily completes the process established under paragraph (1).

''(3) ADMINISTRATIVE FLEXIBILITY.—The Secretary shall ensure that the recognition process for standards recognition entities established under paragraph (1) is a flexible process with low administrative and reporting burdens for the standards recognition entities and industry-recognized apprenticeship programs.

''(c) REQUIREMENTS.—The recognition process of standards recognition entities and the activities and procedures carried out by the standards recognition entities shall, to the maximum extent practicable and except as otherwise explicitly provided in this section, be consistent with the requirements, activities, and procedures under subpart B of part 29 of title 29, Code of Federal Regulations, as such subpart was in effect on May 11, 2020.

''(d) STANDARDS.—Each standard recognition entity shall establish standards for the industry-recognized apprenticeship programs recognized by the entity that, at a minimum, ensure that each industry-recognized apprenticeship program—

''(1) includes—

''(A) paid work;

''(B) on-the-job learning;

''(C) a mentorship component;

''(D) education and classroom instruction;

''(E) a written training plan and apprenticeship agreement; and

''(F) safety and supervision components; and

''(2) provides, during participation in or upon completion of the apprenticeship, an industry-recognized credential.

''(e) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this section shall be construed as affecting apprenticeship programs registered under this Act and recognized by the Secretary of Labor.''.

By Mr. REED (for himself, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. COONS, and Mrs. SHAHEEN):

S. 3769. A bill to amend the Energy Conservation and Production Act to improve the weatherization assistance program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

Mr. REED. Mr. President, today I am introducing the Weatherization Assistance Program Improvements Act, which will make critical updates to ensure this important program can effectively serve even more households across the country.

Since 1976, the Weatherization Assistance Program has helped more than 7 million low-income families reduce their energy bills by making their homes more energy efficient. The Department of Energy estimates that these upgrades help each household save $283 in energy bills annually. Those energy savings free up limited financial resources for essentials, like groceries and medicine.

In addition to traditional services like attic and wall insulation, the program also provides services that help with home health and safety measures, such as installing smoke and carbon monoxide detectors. Energy efficient homes also help cut down on our carbon footprint, reducing the greenhouse gas emissions that cause climate change.

An independent study of the Weatherization Assistance Program by Oak Ridge National Laboratory found that children in weatherized households miss less school, improving educational outcomes. Adults miss less work, increasing both their own incomes and their contributions to the economy. Families also reported experiencing fewer flu and cold symptoms and emergency room visits, decreasing costly medical expenses.

The Weatherization Assistance Program also helps boost our economy. The program supports over 8,500 jobs for energy experts and contractors, while increasing our national economic output by $1.2 billion.

The program is a win-win for all involved. That is why, as a member of the Senate Appropriations Committee, I have led my colleagues in supporting strong funding for it every year. And that is why I am introducing this bill—to ensure it continues to work for years to come.

This bill, which is cosponsored by Senators COLLINS, COONS, and SHAHEEN, will help expand the program to many more low-income households that are currently unable to receive weatherization services because their homes are not structurally sound. The bill will authorize a Weatherization Readiness Fund, providing $65 million a year for 5 years to repair structural issues and prepare homes for weatherization assistance, increasing the number of homes the program is able to serve.

At the same time, it will raise the amount of funding allowed to be spent on each home to keep up with current labor and material costs, and it will raise the cap on the amount of funding allowed to be spent on renewable energy upgrades in each home. These provisions are essential updates to a program that has helped so many families over the past few decades.

I urge my colleagues to join us in supporting this commonsense legislation.

By Mr. CORNYN (for himself, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. HAGERTY, and Mr. KING):

S. 3771. A bill to prohibit United States persons from engaging in transactions with foreign persons that purchase or transact in gold from the Russian Federation; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

Mr. CORNYN. President, I ask unanimous consent to print my bill for introduction in the Congressional Record. The bill prohibits U.S. persons from engaging in transactions with foreign persons who purchase or transact in gold from the Russian Federation.

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

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''Stop Russian Government and Oligarchs from Limiting Democracy Act of 2022'' or the ''Stop Russian GOLD Act''.

SEC. 2. PROHIBITION ON TRANSACTIONS WITH FOREIGN PERSONS THAT PURCHASE OR TRANSACT IN RUSSIAN GOLD.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Any transaction by a United States person with a foreign person described in subsection (b) is prohibited.

(b) FOREIGN PERSON DESCRIBED.—A foreign person is described in this subsection if the foreign person—

(1) purchases, transacts in, or transports between countries gold received from the Government of the Russian Federation, including from reserves of the Central Bank of the Russian Federation held outside the Russian Federation; or

(2) engages in a transaction—

(A) involving gold; and

(B) that has a physical or electronic nexus to the Russian Federation.

(c) GUIDANCE.—Not later than 30 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the Treasury shall publish guidance for United States persons with respect to compliance with this section, including guidance—

(1) to ensure that United States persons are able to avoid unknowingly investing in or transacting with foreign persons described in subsection (b) through bundled or basked assets; and

(2) to facilitate divestment from investment in and transactions with such foreign persons.

(d) IMPLEMENTATION; PENALTIES.—

(1) IMPLEMENTATION.—The President may exercise all authorities provided under sections 203 and 205 of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1702 and 1704) to carry out this section.

(2) PENALTIES.—A person that violates, attempts to violate, conspires to violate, or causes a violation of this section or any regulation, license, or order issued to carry out this 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.

(e) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) FOREIGN PERSON.—The term ''foreign person'' means an individual or entity that is not a United States person.

(2) 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.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 536—EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE THAT PRESIDENT VLADIMIR PUTIN IS A WAR CRIMINAL

Mr. CASSIDY (for himself and Ms. HASSAN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 536

Whereas, under international law, a war crime is a serious violation of the laws or customs of war as defined by international customary law and international treaties;

Whereas war crimes also include initiating a war of aggression as prosecuted at the Nuremberg trials following World War II and more recently defined in the 2010 amendments to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court;

Whereas a war criminal is a person who has planned, ordered, or carried out an act during the conduct of a war that violates accepted international rules of war; and

Whereas Articles 26 and 27 of the Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties, done at Vienna May 23, 1969, state, ''Every treaty in force is binding upon the parties to it and must be performed by them in good faith. . . . A party may not invoke the provisions of its internal law as justification for its failure to perform a treaty.'': Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That it is the sense of the Senate that—

(1) President Vladimir Putin of the Russian Federation has committed war crimes as defined by the United Nations, the International Criminal Court, and other international bodies by—

(A) initiating an unprovoked war;

(B) violating the sovereignty of Ukraine repeatedly;

(C) targeting civilian infrastructure, including hospitals, schools, and apartment buildings, militarily;

(D) targeting government facilities unrelated to legitimate military objectives; and

(E) attempting to overthrow the democratically elected government led by President Volodymyr Zelensky; and

(2) since President Vladimir Putin is the Commander in Chief (equivalent) of the Armed Forces of the Russian Federation and as such was involved in the planning of the invasion of Ukraine, he is culpable of launching a war of aggression and the systematic commission of war crimes during that war by Russian troops.

SENATE RESOLUTION 537—DESIGNATING MARCH 2022 AS ''NATIONAL WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH''

Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. SCHUMER, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Ms. ERNST, Mr. MARKEY, Ms. LUMMIS, Ms. SINEMA, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mrs. FISCHER, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. BARRASSO, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. KING, Mr. CASEY, Ms. WARREN, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mr. MENENDEZ, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. CARPER, Mr. REED, Mr. BOOKER, Ms. ROSEN, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. DURBIN, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. WARNER, Ms. STABENOW, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. PADILLA, Ms. SMITH, Mr. LUJÁN, Mr. BENNET, Mr. KELLY, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. BROWN, and Mr. PETERS) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 537

Whereas National Women's History Month recognizes and spreads awareness of the importance of women in the history of the United States;

Whereas, throughout the history of the United States, whether in the home, in the workplace, in schools, in the courts, or during wartime, women have fought for themselves, their families, and all people of the United States;

Whereas, even from the early days of the history of the United States, Abigail Adams urged her husband to ''Remember the Ladies'' when representatives met for the Continental Congress in 1776;

Whereas women were particularly important in the establishment of early charitable, philanthropic, and cultural institutions in the United States;

Whereas women led the efforts to secure suffrage and equal opportunities for women, and also served in the abolitionist movement, the emancipation movement, labor movements, civil rights movements, and other causes to create a more fair and just society for all;

Whereas suffragists wrote, marched, were arrested, and ultimately succeeded in achieving—

(1) the ratification of the 19th Amendment to the Constitution of the United States, which provides, ''The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of sex''; and

(2) the enactment of the Voting Rights Act of 1965 (52 U.S.C. 10301 et seq.), which extended the protection of the right to vote to women of color and language minorities;

Whereas women have been and continue to be leaders in the forefront of social change efforts, business, science, government, math, art, literature, music, film, athletics, and other fields;

Whereas women now represent approximately half of the workforce of the United States;

Whereas women once were routinely barred from attending medical schools in the United States, but now are enrolling in medical schools in the United States at higher numbers than men;

Whereas women previously were turned away from law school, but now represent approximately half of law students in the United States;

Whereas, since the American Revolution, women have been vital to the mission of the Armed Forces, with more than 200,000 women serving on active duty and 2,000,000 women veterans representing every branch of service;

Whereas more than 10,000,000 women own businesses in the United States;

Whereas Jeannette Rankin of Montana was the first woman elected to the House of Representatives in 1916 and Hattie Wyatt Caraway of Arkansas was the first woman elected to the United States Senate in 1932;

Whereas Margaret Chase Smith of Maine was the first woman to serve in both Houses of Congress;

Whereas, in 2022, a record total of 148 women are serving in Congress, including 124 women in the House of Representatives and 24 women in the Senate;

Whereas President Jimmy Carter recognized March 2 through March 8, 1980, as ''National Women's History Week'';

Whereas, in 1987, a bipartisan group of Senators introduced the first joint resolution to pass Congress designating ''Women's History Month'';

Whereas, in 1987, President Ronald Reagan issued a Presidential proclamation proclaiming March 1987 as ''Women's History Month'';

Whereas, in 2020, Congress passed the Smithsonian American Women's History Museum Act (20 U.S.C. 80t et seq.) to establish a national women's history museum on or near the National Mall in Washington, DC; and

Whereas, despite the advancements of women in the United States, much remains to be done to ensure that women realize their full potential as equal members of society in the United States: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates March 2022 as ''National Women's History Month'';

(2) recognizes the celebration of National Women's History Month as a time to reflect on the many notable contributions that women have made to the United States; and

(3) urges the people of the United States to observe National Women's History Month with appropriate programs and activities.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 4977. Mr. SCHUMER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 3076, to provide stability to and enhance the services of the United States Postal Service, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4978. Mr. SCHUMER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 3076, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4979. Mr. SCHUMER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 3076, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4980. Mr. SCHUMER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 3076, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4981. Mr. SCHUMER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 3076, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 4977. Mr. SCHUMER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 3076, to provide stability to and enhance the services of the United States Postal Service, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end add the following:

SEC. ___. EFFECTIVE DATE.

This Act shall take effect on the date that is 1 day after the date of enactment of this Act.

SA 4978. Mr. SCHUMER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 3076, to provide stability to and enhance the services of the United States Postal Service, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 1, line 3, strike ''1 day'' and insert ''2 days''.

SA 4979. Mr. SCHUMER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 3076, to provide stability to and enhance the services of the United States Postal Service, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end add the following:

SEC. ___. EFFECTIVE DATE.

This Act shall take effect on the date that is 4 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

SA 4980. Mr. SCHUMER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 3076, to provide stability to and enhance the services of the United States Postal Service, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 1, line 3, strike ''4'' and insert ''5''.

SA 4981. Mr. SCHUMER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 3076, to provide stability to and enhance the services of the United States Postal Service, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 1, line 1, strike ''5'' and insert ''6''.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I have one request 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 FOREIGN RELATIONS

The Committee on Foreign Relations is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Monday, March 7, 2022, at 6:15 p.m., to hold a classified briefing.

ORDERS FOR TUESDAY, MARCH 8, 2022

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it recess until 10:30 a.m., Tuesday, March 8, and that following the prayer and pledge, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day; further, that the Senate recess from 12:30 p.m. until 2:15 p.m. to allow for the weekly caucus meetings; finally, that all time during the adjournment, recess, morning business, and leader remarks be counted postcloture on H.R. 3076.

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

Mr. SCHUMER. For the information of Senators, we will continue to process the Postal Service Reform bill and hope to complete its action during Tuesday's session.

RECESS UNTIL 10:30 A.M. TOMORROW

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

There being no objection, the Senate, at 7:03 p.m., recessed until Tuesday, March 8, 2022, at 10:30 a.m.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate:

MORRIS K. UDALL AND STEWART L. UDALL FOUNDATION

DENIS UDALL, OF CALIFORNIA, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE MORRIS K. UDALL AND STEWART L. UDALL FOUNDATION FOR A TERM EXPIRING APRIL 15, 2023, VICE CAMILLA C. FEIBELMAN, TERM EXPIRED.

TERESA ARRINGTON FOX UDALL, OF COLORADO, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE MORRIS K. UDALL AND STEWART L. UDALL FOUNDATION FOR A TERM EXPIRING OCTOBER 6, 2022, VICE ANNE J. UDALL, TERM EXPIRED.

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

JAY CURTIS SHAMBAUGH, OF MARYLAND, TO BE AN UNDER SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY, VICE BRENT JAMES MCINTOSH.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

WILLIAM H. DUNCAN, OF TEXAS, A CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF MINISTER–COUNSELOR, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE REPUBLIC OF EL SALVADOR.

LESSLIE VIGUERIE, OF VIRGINIA, A CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF MINISTER–COUNSELOR, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE KYRGYZ REPUBLIC.

IN THE ARMY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED ARMY NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 12203 AND 12211:

To be colonel

ZANE N. BEEGLE
WILLIAM H. CABANISS
JAMES E. CALDWELL
RICHARD B. DUNN
REBECCA N. DUPUY
JOHN K. EVANS
MICHAEL A. FISH
RICKEY M. FLORES
GLEB GLUHOVSKY
WALTER J. HATFIELD
CARL E. LIVINGSTON
ERIC D. ORCUTT
JAMES D. REESE
LATONYA S. ROBINSON
JUANITA F. ROHLER
DAVID P. SANTOS, JR.
JACOB A. SCOTT
CODY D. WORKMAN

IN THE SPACE FORCE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES SPACE FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be colonel

KYLE S. ALLEN
BENJAMIN P. BARBOUR
MEREDITH S. BEG
BARRY A. CROKER
NATHANIEL J. DOUGLAS
JEFFREY E. GALLAGHER
LISA W. MANDES
GEORGE B. NUNO
GINA A. PETERSON
NEAL R. ROACH

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES SPACE FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be colonel

MATTHEW P. BRUNO
HEIDI L. DEXTER
SOL R. SNEDEKER

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES SPACE FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be colonel

KELLY S. ANDERSON
NATHAN D. BOARDMAN
CARL B. BOTTOLFSON
FRANK BROOKS
LOUIS M. CAMILLI
DAVID E. GALLAGHER
STEPHEN A. HOBBS
KENNETH W. HOLMES
BARBARA A. KING
ROBERT C. MCCONNELL
SUSANNAH B. MEYERS
NICOLE M. PETRUCCI
ERNEST R. SCHMITT
DAVID W. TIPTON
JOSEPH C. TOBIN
DAVID L. WASHER
JEFFREY E. WEISLER

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES SPACE FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant colonel

JAMES P. BANTA
MICHAEL JAMES BARLOW
MITCHELL L. BELGER
BRIAN T. BERRY
DANIEL BUNDY
JOHN S. BURTON
ALEXANDRA L. CARICO
JONATHAN A. CESER
JASON K. COX
CASSANDRA E. DEVOLITES
MATTHEW K. DOUGLAS
EMERSON L. DRAIN
JESSICA R. GETROST
RYAN O. GLASGOW
DARRELL P. GLOVER
SHAWN MICHAEL GREEN
MICHELLE C. HERNANDEZ
CHRISTOPHER M. HIGGINS
ROBERT ALLEN KAEGY
JEREMY D. KOTSENBURG
DARIN JAMES LISTER
STEPHEN G. LORENZ
MARCUS A. LOSINSKI
GREGORY T. LOTZ
JUSTIN D. LUGO
NICHOLAS ANTONIO LUINA
AMANDA L. MANSHIP
COLIN M. MERRIN
SHEENA HARVEY MIRA
STEPHANIE N. MITCHELL
DANIEL MOOMEY
JORDAN O. MUGG
SCOTT Y. NAKATANI
ANDREW J. NASH
JOHANN A. PAMBIANCHI
JASON MARK PANZARELLO
RYAN JOSEPH PENNINGTON
IAN C. PRECOURT
JEAN A. PURGASON
JEFFREY S. RIVENBARK
MICHAEL J. SHERMAN
LATASHA L. SPEAR
GREGORY J. STEWART
DONALD J. THOMAS
JOSHUA M. VACCARO
MARQUIS A. WOFFORD
DEREK WOUDEN
SCOTT M. WRIGHT

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE GRADES INDICATED IN THE REGULAR SPACE FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS, 531 AND 716:

To be lieutenant colonel

ARTEM S. AGOULNIK
CRAIG ANDERSON
MICHAEL J. BALLARD
NANCY C. CECH
MARSHALL E. COOPER
STEVEN R. CREWS
BRENT L. DAVIS
ANDREW C. DERMANOSKI
ANDREW X. DOWNEY
MARQUAY EDMONDSON
MATTHEW S. FECHTER
MAXWELL E. FULDAUER
DORIAN C. HATCHER
DAVID H. HOYT

SUNG J. IN
JACOB M. JONES
NICHOLAS M. KELLER
MICAH R. KELLEY
SUN G. KOH
JOHN G. KOLB
THOMAS LAFLASH
ZACHERY B. LEONARD
TODD R. LETELLIER
JONATHAN MARTINEZ
ERICA M. MITCHELL
WALID R. NASR
DAVID A. PHEASANT
GARRETT A. SHANNON
CHAN Y. SHIN
LEAH C. SHUBIN
DAVID K. SIDEWAND
PATRICK S. SPENCER
SARAH E. THOMPSON
GALEN M. THORP
ALLEN D. WOLD

To be major

BRIDGET L. AJINGA
CASEY L. ALEXANDER
ROBERT J. ANDERSON
ADAM L. ATWOOD
PATRICK G. BALASTA
CHRISTIAN J. BONNO
ANTHONY R. BRICH
KIMBERLY G. BRUTSCHE
BERNARD JAMES B. BUNAL
BRYCE K. CARLSON
SCOTT M. DANIELS
WENDY M. DELACRUZ
NATHAN B. GADBERRY
RICHARD A. GARCIA
RYAN GOLDSMITH
DANIEL C. GROLLER
JEREMY D. HAINES
MICHELLE L. HAINES
JAMES D. HARRISON
SETH M. HAYDEN
JARED M. JACOBSEN
ALEXANDER L. JEHLE
CHRISTIAN R. KELLER
JULIUS N. LEE
JERRY J. LINDSEY
JESSICA B. MAHONEY
ORLANDO A. MARTINEZ
ANNMARIE S. MCCREIGHT
JOSHUA L. MCFARLAND
BRIAN C. MCGILLIVRAY
JUSTIN S. MCMILLAN
THOMAS C. MORSE
MARK D. NATALE
BABAJIDE ODEJOKE–MAXWELL
BONITA M. PARKER
JEREMY E. PARR
GEORGE N. PERKINSON
WILLIAM W. POLLARD
MICHAEL A. PROVENCHER
SEAN E. SCARCLIFF
ERIC S. SCHLIEBER
LEE E. SCHROEDER
RICHARD A. SMITH
JASON E. STUCK
BERNARD N. TUMANJONG
JOHN M. TURNER
DONALD W. ZECK

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES SPACE FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be major

CHRISTOPHER ALAN ALBRIGHT
JOSEPH G. BACON, JR.
JULIA C. BELL
KEVIN G. BESS
HANNAH K. BEST
TROY JOSEPH BIERSACK
JASON JOSEPH BURANICH
DAVID ALAN BURNS
LAUREN BISACKY COLLINS
MADILYNN E. COMPEAN
MATTHEW AARON COOPER
DARRELL LEKYLE DANCY
ARUN DAS
WILLIAM C. DEAVOR
MYLES M. DELCAMBRE
JAMES J. DILLS
JESSICA M. DIXON GALBREATH
CHRISTOPHER ALAN DOORBAL
NICHOLAS R. DOUMONT
JOSEPH ABRAHAM ELLIS
NICHOLAS DAVID EVERETT
CODY HALEMANUOKAUPO FELIPE
MICHAEL A. FISK
ALLEN J. FLETCHER
BRADLEY J. FROST
STEVEN K. FUTCH
RYAN A. GALAZ
NATHAN DOUGLAS GAPP
SAMUEL R. GROTHMAN
DIRK EVAN HALLER
KYLE A. HATHAWAY
SCOTT M. HEDDEN
MAXWELL H. HILL
MATTHEW L. HOLMES
BRANDON A. HUBBARD
ROBERT ELLIOTT IRBY IV
RINALDO R. IZZO
CASSANDRA A. JERKOVIC
RANDE S. JOHNSON
MICHAEL P. JONES
QUINTON R. KENNEDY
DEREK EDWARD AND LAMBE
JACOB A. LASARGE
TAEYOUNG LEE
COREY A. LEIBBRAND
MICHAEL A. LELAND
JAMES ERNESTO MACANDREW
KAYLA CM MACKENTHUN
SERGIO ALEJANDRO MARTINEZ
JULIAN MARTINEZCALDERON
MATTHEW R. MASTERS
MICHAEL FLOYD MILTON, JR.
JEFFERSON D. MITCHELL
AUSTIN D. NASH
ANDREW W. NAUSS
MARK S. OHAIR
DENNIS M. ORTIZ
KIM Q. PANAGSAGAN
COLLIN E. PAYNE
DYLAN R. PENN
CHRISTIAN K. PETERS
JORDAN W. POTTERTON
GARY LEON PRECHTL
DAVID RONALD REED
ADDISON J. REESE
CHRISTOPHER J. REIS
JONATHAN RENDON
JOSE M. RODRIGUEZ
ALEXIS M. SANCHEZ MARTINEZ
ERIK M. SANGIORGI
KYLE P. SCHORY
NATHAN F. SCHULER
KELSEY A. SMITH
RUSSELL C. STUBBS III
CARL HENRY SUCRO
JACK D. TAUTE
CORAVIECE M. TERRY
COLBY J. THOMAS
MITCHELL R. THOMAS
RYAN D. THOMPSON
JOSEPH C. TOMPKINS
QUANG N. TRAN
JAMES M. TREXLER
JOSEPH PATRICK TUCKER
MELISSA L. VONOHLEN
NICHOLAS C. WALTON
CALEB J. WERNER
VICTOR J. ZIMMER

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES SPACE FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be major

ROBERT J. ALLEMAN
SHAUN MICHAEL EVANS
NICO PABALAN GIGANTE
ANDREW C. GOROSPE
UIRI HAN
GREGORY J. HUETE
CHARLENE M. KABUANSEYA
MATTHEW D. KANNING
WILLIAM N. MARSHALL
PAUL GREGORY MCARTHUR
OLIVER B. PEERY
CHRISTOPHER J. PROBASCO
COLE LANDON VONOHLEN
DANIEL CLARKE WHITTON
SARAH L. WOLFSON
EDWARD SEUNGLEE WOOD

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES SPACE FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be major

RACHEL T. ALESSI
TIMOTHY JAMES APPLEGATE
ANDRE DEAN BALL
JOHN BANG
DAVID H. BAUMEISTER
ANDREW MILLER BREEDLOVE
MICHAEL JOSHUA BRIFNEK
BENJAMIN LANSPEARY BRINICH
LOGAN SCOTT BURCH
BRADLY KYLE CAMERON
PATRICK WILLIAM CAPLINGER
JOHN BRIAN CAPONONG
JOSEPH YUSEB CHA
JEFFREY LEE CLARK, JR.
DANIEL R. COMPTON
MARK A. CONQUE
STEFANIE ELIZABETH COWARD
JOHN W. DELONG
MERCEDES EDWARDS DEWAN
JOSEPH ANTHONY DILCOX
CRAIG M. DOPPLER
CHRISTOPHER D. FABIAN
MARCUS G. FAIRCHILD
RYAN A. FATTAL
JULIA A. FENSTERWALD
CLAYTON D. GABLE
KRISTIN E. GAFFNEY
TRAVIS L. GAYOU
FELIX GELINAS
BRANDON C. GEORGE
HAMMAD H. GHAZALI
CALVIN S. HANKINS
JOSHUA J. HARNISCH
RACHEL L. HARRIS
DAVID GUILLAUMNE HEINRICH
PATRICK D. HELMS
LEAH ELISE HOLBECK
MARY ELIZABETH HOLMAN
SARA ELIZABETH HOLMAN
STEPHEN W. HOUK
MD S. HUSSAIN
CHRISTOPHER HUYNH
CHRISTOPHER STEVEN JACKSON
VICTOR MANUEL JARAMILLO
STEPHEN R. JOHNSON
LATINA J. JONES
NATHANIEL JOHN LEE
SUN Y. LEE
BRIAN KEITH LESSIG
RYAN M. LOMBARDO
CORINNE L. MAGNUSSON
BRYAN WILLIAM MAHER
KYLE AUSTIN MANNING
VINCENT A. MARINELLI
KAYLA L. MARTI
ERICA L. MATERKOWSKI
MARVIN LEE MAYS III
HALI A. MENDEZ
KENDRA M. MERIAN
JEREMY LAWRENCE MIRABAL
MICHELLE E. MORRIS
CHELSEA A. MOSS
JACOB ANTHONY MYERS
MATTHEW J. NEDVED
CHRISTOPHER G. NELSON
RONALD NGUYEN
JESSICA R. NORRINGTON
REGINA G. PARK
BRANDON K. PARSHALL
JONATHON W. PATTERSON
FRANCISCO D. PAULINO
FANI HS PFAU
CHRISTOPHER D. PHILLIPS
KAITLYNN N. PLUMMER
ZACHARY B. POULTON
ARIEL A. ROLLINS
DEREK TRISTAN ROSE
SHANNON ELAINE SEWELL
JONATHAN K. SHAW
CHRISTOPHER M. SHEPHERD
SOPHIA A. SINGER
MARK ANTHONY SKINNER
AMY C. SOILEAU
JACOB T. SPIERING
ODALE CANDY STEVENSON
DANIELLE ALEXIS STEWART
KEVIN T. STOCKDALE
THOMAS J. STORTZ
CLINT ALAN SWALLS
KAYLEE P. TAYLOR
THOMAS J. TAYLOR
MATTHEW J. THAMPY
WOLF I. THIELMANN
JOSHUA SCOTT THOGODE
JACOB CAMPBELL THOMAS
NEIL ANDREW TORREZ
CORY WAYNE TYLER
ZACHARIAH J. VANLANDINGHAM
PERRY K. VANZANDT
STEPHEN J. WELLING
JOSHUA COOPER WINNINGHAM
MARGOT C. WOLFERSBERGER
JESSICA M. WONG
JASON M. YLAGAN
HEATHER L. YOUNG

IN THE COAST GUARD

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 14, U.S.C., SECTION 2121(E):

To be commander

MIN H. KIM

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 14, U.S.C., SECTION 2121(E):

To be captain

MICHAEL A. CINTRON

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

NAVAEH SENA

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 7, 2022

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Navaeh Sena for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Navaeh Sena is a student at Arvada West High School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Navaeh Sena is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Navaeh Sena for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassador for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

IN HONOR OF THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF PFC MICHAEL VANCIL

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 7, 2022

Mrs. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Private First Class Michael Vancil, a native of Detroit, Michigan on what would be his 75th Birthday. He was killed in action during the Vietnam War, and his service to our nation and his ultimate sacrifice is worthy of commendation.

Michael Vancil was born to Warren and Socorro Vancil on March 11, 1947, in Detroit, Michigan. Growing up he spent time at home in Detroit with his loving siblings David, Arthur, Joseph, Bruce, and Nina. A gifted fisherman, he could often be found fishing around Southeast Michigan and dancing with friends around town. At age 17, he heard the call of his country and decided to join the fight. He enlisted in the United States Marine Corps on October 7, 1964, joining Company C, 1st Battalion, 4th Marines, 3rd Marine Division (Rein) FMF.

During his deployment, he was assigned to patrol the Thùra Thiên Hué province, providing defense in a vital area of South Vietnam. On June 17, 1966, near Route 546 and Highway 1, CAC 7 Alpha lay in their ambush site providing essential defense. The Viet Cong opened fire on the Marine patrolmen and Private First Class Vancil was killed by hostile rifle fire at age 19.

Private First Class Vancil is buried at Mount Olivet Cemetery in his hometown of Detroit, Michigan. His memory is enshrined forever at Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C. where his name is listed at Panel 8E, Line 59. He is also enshrined at the Veterans Memorial Wall at the John D. Dingell, VA Medical Center in Detroit, Michigan that honors City of Detroit residents who lost their lives in combat.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the life and legacy of Private First Class Michael Vancil for his invaluable service to this nation. He showed courage and patriotism at such a young age, and his sacrifice has never been forgotten. Private First Class Vancil gave his all. We are grateful for his honorable service and know that his legacy lives on through his loving family and friends.

RECOGNIZING THE CENTENNIAL OF THE ROBERT R. TUCK VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS POST 912

HON. BRIAN BABIN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 7, 2022

Mr. BABIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the centennial of the Robert R. Tuck Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Post 912 in Baytown, Texas.

VFW Post 912 was first organized on March 9, 1922, by Fred E. Simpson, John L. Bartlett, and Grover K. Edge. This Post, the second oldest VFW post in Texas, was named in honor of the first Baytown citizen killed in action during World War I, Robert R. Tuck. Their initial meetings were held in tents and buildings owned by the then-Humble Oil and Refining Company. The oil industry was flourishing across the region, and many veterans moved there to work following World War I. The Post has had many outstanding commanders over the years. One such individual was George L. Kenne, a member who served as the Post Commander in 1937. He was the second most decorated soldier in World War I.

In July of 1941, almost two decades after being organized, the Post finally established its first permanent location. They began hosting fundraisers consisting of dances and raffles with fifty-cent admission per civilian and a quarter per service member. This tradition would continue to the present day.

The Post moved one more time before settling into its current location in 1977. After receiving significant flood damage from Hurricane Harvey in 2017, the Post used reserve funds and fundraiser revenue to resume operations within just six months.

Over the last century, the locations and members of VFW Post 912 have changed, but their mission to serve the needs of veterans and their families has not. They have hosted fundraisers and been a part of many important programs throughout the years, such as the VFW Buddy Poppy program, which aids disabled and disadvantaged veterans. The red poppy flowers assembled within the program symbolize the bloodshed in World War I and are given out before Memorial Day each year.

The Post also hosts "turkey shoot" fundraisers in which its members and community supporters shoot at targets to win frozen turkeys, hams, or bacon.

VFW Post 912 has been a steadfast servant of the Baytown community. Along with a local Boy Scout troop, Post members would raise the American flag at local football games before the Junior ROTC took over the duty in 1979. Today, members ensure flags are placed on the graves of local veterans for Memorial Day. Over the decades, the Post has sponsored a baseball team, a local Boy Scout Troop, a beauty pageant, a marble tournament, a Voice of Democracy contest, a writing contest for high school students, and a bowling team. They have also given out numerous scholarships to local high school students and entertained patients at Houston's Michael E. DeBakey Veteran Affairs Medical Center.

Madam Speaker, I would like to congratulate the members of the Robert R. Tuck, VFW Post 912 on their centennial and thank them for their unwavering service to their nation and community. May God continue to bless our veterans and Post 912 for many years to come.

JEREMY CHAVEZ, JR.

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 7, 2022

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Jeremy Chavez, Jr. for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Jeremy Chavez, Jr. is a student at Arvada High School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Jeremy Chavez, Jr. is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Jeremy Chavez, Jr. for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassador for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of his future accomplishments.

RECOGNIZING THE 65TH ANNIVERSARY OF GHANA'S INDEPENDENCE

HON. GWEN MOORE

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 7, 2022

Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin. Madam Speaker, the United States of America is home to hundreds and thousands of people of Ghanaian heritage—including those who were born on this soil to those whose family emigrated here for education, job, or economic opportunities—for the American dream.

Ghanaian Americans are an important fabric in the tapestry of America from the cab driver to the medical doctor. You will find them in all parts of the country from Milwaukee to New York to suburban Ohio and Massachusetts. The culture is hard to ignore with rich food, the iconic Akan Kente cloth, storytelling, inventions, architecture and music.

Today more than ever Ghanaians living in the United States worry about racial injustice, home ownership, access to education, access to small business and immigration support.

Like many Americans, the Ghanaian community in America is not exempt from the COVID–19 crisis. Ghanaian Americans are essential workers and are very active in the health care industry, especially as nurses, personal care aides, and nursing assistants. Ghanaians are included in the 27.5 percent of all Black immigrant workers in the U.S.—more than 750,000—who work in the healthcare sector. Additionally, essential workers include frontline workers in other key industries like food and service & hospitality and leisure.

And Ghanaian Americans have been contributing to the success and business continuity of important industries during these dire times. Ghanaian Americans are included in 23 percent of immigrants in the U.S. who work in the food and service industry, as well as 20 percent of immigrants in the U.S. who work in hospitality and leisure.

On this day, I recognize the 65th anniversary of Ghana's independence and my intention to launch the Congressional Ghana Caucus that will create an inclusive platform in this body for discussing critical policy issues affecting Ghanaians in the Diaspora, as well as bolster the relationship between the U.S. and Ghana.

RECOGNIZING SILVERDALE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE'S MILITARY APPRECIATION DAY

HON. DEREK KILMER

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 7, 2022

Mr. KILMER. Madam Speaker, I would like to take a moment to commemorate Military Appreciation Day in Kitsap County organized by the Silverdale Chamber of Commerce on March 5, 2022.

Here in Kitsap County, we have a lot to be thankful for. Kitsap County has a vibrant history as a military community. This rich history began in September 1891, when 190 acres of the Pacific Northwest wilderness was purchased for the first Naval Station Puget Sound in Bremerton, Washington. Today, this presence has grown to include Naval Base Kitsap—Bangor and Naval Base Kitsap Bremerton and Naval Underseas Warfare Center, Keyport.

Part of what makes this area special is not just the physical presence of our Naval Base, but the tens of thousands of military members and veterans who call it home. Members of the military aren't just fighting for the freedom of our community. They are family members, friends, and neighbors who are making a difference in it, too.

In addition to those serving in uniform, our community is home to thousands of Department of Defense civilian employees who serve our country each day and ensure the readiness and safety of our service members.

Veterans and service members are also a critical part of our local economy, doing everything from creating small businesses to bringing their unique work ethic and skills to employers looking to fill jobs. That's why today is a great way to go beyond saying thanks and turning our words into deeds. And that is why events like today's Military Appreciation Day are so important.

Madam Speaker, I applaud the Silverdale Chamber of Commerce and the Military Affairs Committee for hosting Military Appreciation Day to honor those that do and those that have served our nation.

RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBUTIONS TO OUR COMMUNITY AND COUNTRY BY SANTA ANA'S SUAVECITO FOUNDERS PETE AND TONY ADAME AND JASON VENABLE

HON. J. LUIS CORREA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 7, 2022

Mr. CORREA. Madam Speaker, during the early days of the pandemic, when medical resources and household items were in short supply, Suavecito, Inc., the Santa Ana-based company famous for making hair pomade, decided to start producing much-needed hand sanitizer for frontline workers in our community.

For months, Suavecito donated thousands of bottles of hand sanitizer to first responders, postal workers, grocery store employees, and delivery drivers, filling a critical need for Santa Ana and Orange County.

Like so many people across this country—when their community was in need—Suavecito answered the call. Even when their own production lines shut down, they used their resources to help their community.

Today, Suavecito has rebounded, and its two production warehouses are staffed by more than 100 employees who, last year, produced more than 6 million 4–ounce cans of pomade, as well as other haircare products and merchandise that are sold locally and exported to more than 55 markets around the world.

For their distinguished contribution to U.S. exports during the COVID–19 pandemic, Suavecito earned the President's ''E'' Award from the U.S. Department of Commerce.

Suavecito founders, Pete and Tony Adame and Jason Venable, have been a beacon of hope, prosperity, and resiliency in Santa Ana for more than a decade. This band of brothers represent the best of Orange County, of California, and of America.

SOPHIA PRAMUK

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 7, 2022

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Sophia Pramuk for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Sophia Pramuk is a student at Arvada West High School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Sophia Pramuk is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Sophia Pramuk for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassador for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

HONORING THE LIFE OF CLIFTON N. WEST, JR. OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 7, 2022

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, I rise to ask the House of Representatives to recognize Clifton N. West, Jr., an accomplished business owner who served the residents of the District of Columbia.

Clifton N. West, Jr., ''Skeeter'' was born on December 12, 1933, to Thaddenia West and Clifton N. West, Sr. and was the younger brother of Pat and Beverly. He was raised by his mother and his grandparents in Arlington, Virginia.

In 1952, Skeeter graduated from Dunbar High School in the District of Columbia. During his time at Dunbar, he served in the Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC). He won many awards with the drill team and the track team.

Skeeter enrolled in Howard University in 1952 as a chemistry major. In 1955, he left college and joined the Air Force. He served for three years at the Chateauroux Air Force base in France. After his discharge, in 1958, he used the GI Bill to continue his education at Howard University and worked part-time at the U.S. Postal Service.

He would go on to work at St. Elizabeths Hospital and later at NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center as a medical technologist. In 1963, he started a laboratory in his basement and worked on building his business in the evenings while he worked for Berkley Medical Instruments selling blood analyzers during the day.

In 1971, he founded B & W STAT Laboratory, Inc. on the corner of Georgia Avenue and Irving Street NW in the District of Columbia. His business remains in operation 62 years later. The laboratory was one of the first independent commercial laboratories in the United States and has served as a faithful business anchor for Georgia Avenue ever since, servicing, hiring and training local residents. The company has won numerous specimen-testing contracts and, in 1971, was the first laboratory in the country to install and operate an on-site lab in the D.C. courthouse. The program received network television recognition and served as a model for similar programs throughout the country.

Skeeter founded the Georgia Avenue Business Association, was co-founder of the DC Drug Prevention Partnership, and his business has participated in the Mayor's Summer Youth Employment Program. The DC Drug Prevention Partnership was established to address and curb drug use in D.C.'s Ward 1. Skeeter served as the President of the Lower Georgia Avenue Business and Professional Association. During his tenure as President of B & W STAT, Skeeter and his business received many community service awards, including Outstanding Businessman from the People's Involvement Corporation: recognition from the Department of Employment Services—Outstanding Service; and Commanders of the Rite, Mason of the District of Columbia—Excellence in Science Services—Long Years of Leadership in the Field of Laboratory Testing. B & W STAT has been and continues to be a committed community partner.

Throughout the years, B & W STAT had offices on Independence Avenue, Georgia Avenue and Rhode Island Avenue, had multiple contracts with the military, local hospitals and doctor offices and at one time employed over 100 people. B & W STAT was a well-known laboratory, and if you got married in D.C., the required serology premarital blood test to receive a blue card was performed at B & W STAT from the 1970s to the early 2000s. Skeeter was sure to greet everyone who got married in D.C.

He trained local residents through internships and the summer program and helped rehabilitate many D.C. residents. He streamlined toxicology testing and was featured both on the television news and in the paper. He trained hundreds of military personnel on testing and did not request payment for such training.

Skeeter faced many small business issues, including dealing with banks and lines of credit, but more importantly, dealt with prejudice while performing very technical work. B & W STAT always helped the D.C. government with issues around drug testing and helped when they got behind on testing by turning work around in 24 hours. He worked long hours, starting at 6:00 a.m. and ending after 6:00 p.m.

B & W STAT was a member of the Howard University Bison Express, which provides financial assistance to Howard University student-athletes and supported Howard University athletics initiatives, for many years. The company also raised money to replace equipment stolen from Howard University.

Skeeter loved to travel and take family vacations. He encouraged both of his children to attend Howard University and continue the tradition of Historically Black Colleges and Universities. Both attended and graduated from Howard University.

He is survived by his loving and devoted wife of 62 years, Carole Smith West; his son, Clifton N. West, III, "Skip"; his daughter, Alison West Hughes; his son-in-law, Michael Anthony Hughes; three grandchildren and his sisters, Raquel "Pat" Hall and Beverly W. Goode.

He was loved by many and will surely be missed. His spirit and personality touched everyone he met. His love and spirit will be remembered by all.

CONGRATULATING MEMPHIS LAWYER LUCIAN PERA

HON. STEVE COHEN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 7, 2022

Mr. COHEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Lucian T. Pera, a Memphis lawyer and specialist in legal ethics and media law, who has just been named the winner of this year's American Bar Association Michael Franck Professional Responsibility Award. The award is named in honor of Michael Franck, the late director of the State Bar of Michigan and long-time champion of improvements in lawyer regulation in the public interest. Mr. Pera, a partner in the Memphis office of the law firm Adams and Reese and a former President of the Tennessee Bar Association, has written extensively on ethics issues, including in a column for the magazine of the ABA's Law Practice Division. He has recently served as Chairman of the ABA's Center for Professional Responsibility, and has served as the ABA's Treasurer, on its House of Delegates, and as a member of the Board of Governors. He is recognized nationally for his work on ethics in the legal profession as well as media law and transparency issues in government, particularly in Tennessee, where he also served as President of the Tennessee Open Government Coalition. A graduate of Princeton University and Vanderbilt University Law School, Pera will receive the Franck award at a ceremony in Baltimore on June 3. Mr. Pera is an outstanding lawyer and upstanding citizen, and I commend him for receiving this prestigious award.

SAGE SCHLEGEL-CRIS

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 7, 2022

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Sage Schlegel-Cris for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Sage Schlegel-Cris is a student at Arvada High School and received this award because their determination and hard work have allowed them to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Sage Schlegel-Cris is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Sage Schlegel-Cris for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassador for Youth award. I have no doubt they will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of their future accomplishments.

IN MEMORY OF FRED WILLIAM PATTERSON

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 7, 2022

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of Fred Patterson. To those close to Fred, he was known as a man with two careers. While his career as an advertising salesman and publisher paid the bills, he was passionate about impacting his community. It is through his hard work and leadership that Denton transformed into a cosmopolitan competitor with Dallas and Fort Worth.

On December 25, 1929, Fred was born in Decatur, Texas not too far from our beloved community of Denton. After graduating from the University of Texas in 1952, he eventually moved to Denton, where he joined the sales service department at Moore Business Forms. In 1958, he began work advertising for the Denton Record-Chronicle and that same year he married the love of his life, Patsy. By 1986, Fred and Patsy were the co-owners of the Record Chronicle.

Throughout the 1990s, the Pattersons oversaw the renovation for the Patterson-Appleton Arts Center. Personally, I am grateful for this facility because it provided the space I needed in August of 2009, to hold my largest townhall to-date.

Fred very much appreciated the arts and history. So much so that he raised over $500,000 to move and restore the Bayless-Selby house Museum to the Denton County Historical Park he was also instrumental in founding. Beyond his love for the arts and history, Fred loved his community. He served as chair of the committee that established Denton's television Channel 2 and was vice president of the Friends of WRR radio station.

Denton was more than where he and Patsy lived and raised their two sons Bill and Riley. It was his home, and service to his community was truly his second career.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF PATRICIA ANN PINNEY

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 7, 2022

Mr. COURTNEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to mourn the passing of a true, diligent public servant, Patricia Ann Pinney, of Somers, Connecticut. Pat passed at the age of 70 on February 20, 2022, surrounded by her loving family.

Born to Mary and Stanley Paduch on June 13, 1951, in the neighboring State of Massachusetts, Pat lived out her life as a dedicated, northern Connecticut native. Destined to nurture the same community that raised her, Pat

moved with her family to Suffield from the next-door town of Enfield at the age of 10. After graduating from Our Lady of The Angels Academy, Patricia remained in Eastern Connecticut where she went on to achieve her bachelor's degree from University of Connecticut. It was during her time at the University of Connecticut where she also met and then married the love of her life, David Pinney. Upon achieving her bachelors in 1973, Pat immediately picked up a career teaching in Enfield. A true reflection of her character, however, Pat eventually placed her passion for teaching on pause and departed the Enfield school system so that she could raise their four children: Leigh, Rob, Matthew and Nora.

Having built out her family's roots, Pat recommenced her legacy as a renowned teacher at Hall Memorial School in Willington, Connecticut. Providing students with a sense of the world in which they live, it was Patricia's mission to provide the next generation with the tools they needed to succeed within their respective community. Patricia was a truly natural educator, armed with a keen ability to keep her students engaged. She acted as the regional coordinator for History Day, encouraging students to represent Northeast Connecticut on the national stage during the History Day Competition in Washington, D.C. A strong finalist for the Connecticut Teacher of the Year and recipient of the University of Connecticut's NEAG School of Education Outstanding School Educator Award, Pat's career as an educator was defined by excellence.

Madam Speaker, Patricia was known for her generous spirit. Whether in the classroom, at home, or out in the community, she invested tremendously in everyone who she met. As a mother and educator, she truly had the growth of the next generation at heart. Her absence will be felt sorely in the Eastern Connecticut community. Though we mourn this terrible loss, we find gratitude in the ripple effect caused by the strength of her character. There is literally an army of people out there to operate as the standard bearers of her memory, namely, her husband, David, and family-in-law of over 50 years, their four children and families, and her five siblings. To that end, I ask my colleagues in the House to join me in honoring Patricia Ann Pinney.

MAEVE CARROLL

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 7, 2022

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Maeve Carroll for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Maeve Carroll is a student at Arvada West High School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Maeve Carroll is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Maeve Carroll for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassador for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

COMMEMORATING THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF KATHY GOLDSCHMIDT AND NICOLE FOLK COOPER

HON. DEREK KILMER

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 7, 2022

Mr. KILMER. Madam Speaker, I'd like to take a moment to commemorate the public service of two individuals who have dedicated decades of their lives to enhancing the performance of congressional offices, helping Members of Congress and congressional staff improve as professionals and public servants, and working to revitalize Congress as an institution. Kathy Goldschmidt is the Director of Strategic Initiatives at the Congressional Management Foundation and reached her 25th year of service there last month. Nicole Folk Cooper is the Director of Research and Publications at CMF, and last year reached her 20th year of service. Both individually and as a team, Ms. Goldschmidt and Ms. Folk Cooper have made unparalleled contributions to enhancing the House and Senate.

Starting at CMF in 1997, Ms. Goldschmidt recognized early on the potential impact of the internet on Congress and democracy, urging the organization to proactively work to help congressional offices with this new technology. During the last quarter of a century, she has authored or co-authored nearly every major CMF study on technology and Congress. In 2006 she led the effort to help the House of Representatives create a 10-year information technology road map, a crucial step that helped institutional leaders identify areas for operational improvement. Recently, she co-authored a series of reports, The Future of Citizen Engagement, which has the potential to help every congressional office build greater trust in the Congress and democracy. And in 2018 she co-authored a report entitled the Job Description for a Member of Congress that sought to provide a common understanding of the duties and responsibilities of a Member of Congress for all Americans. She has twice testified before congressional committees, including the Select Committee on the Modernization of Congress, which I chair. We thank her for her advice to our Committee and staff.

Nicole Folk Cooper began working at CMF in 2001. For more than two decades she has trained staff, conducted analyses of congressional offices, and overseen a broad range of CMF projects. For 16 years she has been the editor of CMF's signature publication, Setting Course: A Congressional Management Guide. Every Member of Congress and senior staff is familiar with this unique publication, which provides thoughtful guidance on setting up and running a congressional office. She was the project manager and editor of a similar CMF publication, Keeping It Local: A Guide for Managing District & State Offices. Probably Ms. Folk Cooper's greatest contribution to Congress has been her leadership in the last 10 years of CMF's "Life in Congress" project. This initiative, in partnership with the Society for Human Resource Management, seeks to identify human resource challenges in Congress and provide recommendations for overcoming them in order to help make Congress a better place for both Members and staffers to work. Especially as the dual stresses of the pandemic and the attacks of January 6th weighed so heavily on the congressional workforce, CMF's "Life in Congress" webinars and publications offered valuable guidance to Members and managers.

As a team, Ms. Goldschmidt and Ms. Folk Cooper were also leaders in CMF's "Gold Mouse Awards" project, which identifies best practices in congressional websites. The modern congressional website, which focuses on Members' policy positions, voting records, and constituent services, was largely inspired and created by CMF and these two dedicated public servants.

Madam Speaker, we all know that Congress wouldn't function without the invaluable work done every day by the staff who support us. Kathy Goldschmidt and Nicole Folk Cooper have been vital advisors and guides to Members and staff for decades and have worked diligently to enhance the performance of congressional offices and Congress as an institution. It's hard to quantify every contribution or influence they've had on the Congress. But it's easy to conclude that Congress, congressional staff, and democracy are better because of their work. I congratulate them both on these milestones in their long history of public service and I look forward to continuing to work with them and their colleagues at CMF for years to come.

REMEMBERING THE LIFE OF OCTAVIA GREEN ROBINSON

HON. TROY A. CARTER

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 7, 2022

Mr. CARTER of Louisiana. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Octavia Green Robinson.

Octavia Green Robinson was born March 19, 1947, in New Orleans, Louisiana to Myrtle August Green and Oliver Daniel Green, Sr. Affectionately known to all as "Tay" and "Big Momma" Robinson, she left this life on February 6, 2022, at the age of 74. She was surrounded by her family, just like she would have wanted.

Octavia grew up in New Orleans' Historic 7th Ward. She is a graduate of Joseph S. Clark Senior High School, Dillard University, and Tulane University School of Social Work where she received her master's degree.

She was a decorated Sergeant with the New Orleans Police Department where in her early years she was part of the all-women's team who created Community Relations which became a source of refuge and hope for the people of New Orleans. Octavia moved through the ranks of departments such as Juvenile Division, and others and retired following 45 years of service.

Octavia was a proud member of Beautiful Zion Baptist Church, the First District Baptist Association, and Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. Octavia leaves her legacy of love for all in the hands of her beloved husband of 47 years Edward J. Robinson, Sr., and her children she so

adored, Nicole Robinson (Jafar), and Edris Robinson-Dupard (Joseph), Kimberly Robinson, and Eddie Robinson, Jr. Octavia is also survived by 10 grandchildren, and one great grandchild.

Octavia's legacy will forever be "No One Left Behind". Octavia was all about family. She took in and cared for many around the world. Her love and caring ways for all will forever live on.

NAIARAH VELASQUEZ

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 7, 2022

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Naiarah Velasquez for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Naiarah Velasquez is a student at Arvada West High School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Naiarah Velasquez is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Naiarah Velasquez for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassador for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

RECOGNIZING COLLEGE SETTLEMENT SUMMER CAMP

HON. BRIAN K. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 7, 2022

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize a remarkable non-profit organization in my district, the College Settlement Summer Camp. Founded in Horsham, Pennsylvania, College Settlement works to shape the lives of underserved young people and instill in them a respect for self, others, and the natural world. Their mission to deliver a unique, growth-focused camp experience has improved the lives of countless boys and girls. In neighborhoods and communities that are often divided, College Settlement offers an invaluable sense of belonging. The camp's commitment to public service, inclusion, and affordable programming is admirable, and this year, as they celebrate 100 years of connecting our children to the outdoors, we express our appreciation for the impact that College Settlement Summer Camp has had on Bucks and Montgomery counties and the greater Philadelphia area.

ENCOURAGING SECURE SUPPLY CHAINS FOR CRITICAL MINERALS

HON. MICHAEL K. SIMPSON

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 7, 2022

Mr. SIMPSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today on behalf of myself and Congressman RUSS FULCHER to express grave concern with the vulnerability of supply chains and the long-term implications if we do not act now to develop a secure supply chain of critical minerals. In light of the aggression shown by our adversaries, supply chain security is more important than ever.

Our Nation is at a crossroads—Russia has invaded Ukraine. At the same time, China continues to use economic coercion to control global markets and shape countries' political decisions. With Congress' support, this Administration must take drastic and targeted measures to ensure our nation takes the right path to advance U.S. competitiveness and maintain a strong position in domestic and foreign markets, including critical minerals production.

Critical minerals are vital to the emerging technologies that will underpin the future economic well-being and prosperity of this Nation. In recognition of these important minerals, under President Trump, the Department of Interior developed a list of 35 critical minerals, a process that Congress later codified. That list, just last week, expanded to 50. Our home state of Idaho is rich in many of these minerals—some of which are fundamental to energy and national security applications—such as antimony and cobalt.

Antimony and cobalt serve as critical components in grid storage batteries, and other electrification implements essential to providing reliable energy sources to American homes and businesses. In addition to its energy contribution, antimony serves as a critical component of ammunition, armaments, and other national security platforms. Although these minerals serve as essential components in highly utilized U.S. products, 53 percent of antimony comes from China, and another 23 percent comes from Russia. Most cobalt is sourced from the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), where the Chinese government has subsidized companies that engage in non-transparent practices, dominate the industry, and undermine the prosperity and rights of the Congolese.

Aside from mineral production, Idaho is responsible for cutting-edge mineral research. We are proud to be the home of the Idaho National Lab, the nation's premier nuclear energy laboratory, whose research is paramount to any future clean energy strategy. Unfortunately, the Biden Administration chose to remove uranium from the critical minerals list, which leaves the nation's nuclear fleet even more reliant on Russian fuel.

As tensions rise with Russia and the potential of additional sanctions loom, China will look to take advantage of the void left by Russia's isolation in the market. While we need to take strong actions on Russia, the reality is that we source many of our raw minerals from them. As we tighten our grip on their financial system and exports, we must prioritize domestic sourcing and reduce our reliance on countries like Russia and China.

The time is now for this Administration to take real action to prioritize a strong domestic supply chain for these essential minerals. We do not want to compromise any of our environmental or other standards. We are simply calling on the Administration to prioritize the timely completion of the permits of currently proposed projects so we may take back control of a fundamental piece of many of our essential industries: critical minerals production.

HONORING THE CAREER OF DEB SCHULTZ

HON. JIM BANKS

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 7, 2022

Mr. BANKS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Deb Schultz of Noble County, who is retiring this week from the Noble County clerk's office after 22 years of service.

Deb has served Noble County with excellence. As Deputy Clerk, Deb's primary responsibility was helping oversee elections. Processing new voter registration, communicating with state election officials, monitoring poll workers, and more, she's been the resident expert to which many have looked up and relied on in Noble County for the last two-plus decades.

Deb deserves special praise for her efforts in Fall 2020, which she described as having been "very difficult." Tasked with having to approve and process hundreds of mail-in ballots and navigating the upending of other standard operating procedures, Deb nonetheless successfully oversaw the election's administration which Noble County residents agree was safe and secure.

During her tenure as Deputy Clerk, many county clerks came and went, all of whom relied heavily on Deb's expertise and ability. She leaves behind a legacy that will not soon be forgotten and which has left an indelible mark on the community. As she closes this chapter of her life and begins a new one, I wish Deb the best and thank her for her commitment to Noble County and to the continuity of American democracy.

VAN HMUNG

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 7, 2022

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Van Hmung for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Van Hmung is a student at Arvada West High School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Van Hmung is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Van Hmung for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassador for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication

and character in all of his future accomplishments.

HONORING UNITED STATES NAVY MASTER CHIEF PETTY OFFICER FERDINAND ''FERDIE'' GARCIA FOR THIRTY YEARS OF TREMENDOUS SERVICE

HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 7, 2022

Ms. STEFANIK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor U.S. Navy Master Chief Ferdinand ''Ferdie'' Garcia for his unwavering service to our country and its leaders.

Master Chief Ferdinand Garcia was born in the Philippines on November 29, 1961. In 1990, Mr. Garcia immigrated to the United States and enlisted in the U.S. Navy just two years later. Ferdie graduated from recruit training and then attended Mess Management Specialist School, where he graduated in the top ten percent of his class and was promoted to Petty Officer, Third Class. After Basic Training School, Mr. Garcia worked in various food service positions on board the USS *Saipan* (LHA 2) stationed out of Norfolk, Virginia. In 1996, Mr. Garcia began working as a Mess Management Specialist School Instructor at Lackland Airforce Base in San Antonio, Texas.

In July 2000, Mr. Garcia was recruited into the Presidential Food Service and served as a Petty Officer, First Class in the White House. He served as an Oval Office Enlisted Aide under three U.S. Presidents, including Bill Clinton, George W. Bush, and Barack Obama. Throughout his service at the White House, Mr. Garcia advanced to Chief, Senior Chief, and was finally meritoriously promoted to Master Chief Petty Officer in 2008. For ten more years, he continued to serve as an Enlisted Aide to five different U.S. Navy Admirals.

Master Chief Petty Officer Garcia's thirty years of selfless service in the U.S. Navy are marked with many medals and decorations, including the Meritorious Service Medal with Gold Star Device, numerous Navy Commendation Medals, and many Achievement Medals from the Navy, Marine Corps, and the Air Force.

As Mr. Garcia closes his decades of service in the U.S. Navy ending his time at Walter Reed National Medical Center, I want to ensure he knows his country is extremely grateful for his service. On behalf of New York's 21st Congressional District, I am honored to congratulate an incredible public servant and my friend, Master Chief Petty Officer Ferdinand Garcia, on his retirement and wish him the best in his future endeavor.

COMMEMORATING THE 31ST ANNIVERSARY OF OPERATION DESERT STORM

HON. JERRY McNERNEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 7, 2022

Mr. McNERNEY. Madam Speaker, this past week we commemorated the 31st anniversary of Operation Desert Storm and paid tribute to the men and women who served in the final effort to liberate Kuwait from invading Iraqi troops. The service members who carried out Operation Desert Storm were instrumental in bringing the Gulf War to an end. Their courage and sacrifice are a symbol of our nation's values and commitment to our allies around the world.

That's why I introduced House Resolution 172, to designate February 28th as ''Desert Storm Veterans Day'' and to advocate for fair compensation and the highest quality medical treatment for veterans suffering from ailments associated with their Desert Storm service—some of which stem from exposure to chemical, biological, and environmental toxins.

I want to thank my constituent, Michael Emerson, for his fervent support of this effort. I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the tremendous contributions of those who served in Operation Desert Storm.

INTRODUCTION OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA CODE RETURNING CITIZENS COORDINATION ACT

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 7, 2022

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, today, I rise to introduce the District of Columbia Code Returning Citizens Coordination Act. This bill would require the Federal Bureau of Prisons (BOP) to provide information to the District of Columbia government on individuals convicted of D.C. Code felonies under BOP jurisdiction to help ensure the District has services ready when such individuals return home.

Individuals convicted of D.C. Code felonies face significant hurdles in preparing to return to society because most are in BOP facilities hundreds or even thousands of miles from the District, their families and their loved ones. Because they are frequently housed so far away from the District, coordinating returning citizens' reentry into society is difficult.

Under this bill, the District government would know the health and other needs of individuals convicted of D.C. Code felonies before they are released from BOP custody. Individuals convicted of D.C. Code felonies are the only individuals required to be housed by BOP for violations of non-federal laws.

Currently, under federal privacy laws, BOP is allowed to share information on individuals convicted of D.C. Code felonies with the Court Services and Offender Supervision Agency for the District of Columbia (CSOSA), since CSOSA is also a federal agency, but not with the D.C. government. This bill would require BOP to treat the D.C. government as they do other federal agencies for the purposes of—but only for the purposes of—federal privacy laws, such as the Privacy Act, so that the District government can obtain the necessary information to provide appropriate services to returning citizens.

Specifically, the bill would require BOP, on an annual basis, to provide the District government the following information on individuals convicted of D.C. Code felonies under BOP jurisdiction: the name, date of birth and Federal Register number, the facility where housed and the scheduled release date. In addition, upon the request of the D.C. government, BOP would have to provide the D.C. government with the same information it provides CSOSA on such individuals.

I strongly urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

ANGEL LEIBELT

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 7, 2022

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Angel Liebelt for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Angel Liebelt is a student at Arvada West High School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Angel Liebelt is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Angel Liebelt for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassador for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

RECOGNIZING FRANCES MAURO MASTERS ON HER 100TH BIRTHDAY AND FOR HER SERVICE AS A ROSIE THE RIVETER DURING WORLD WAR II

HON. LISA C. McCLAIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 7, 2022

Mrs. McCLAIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Frances Mauro Masters for her service to this country as a Rosie the Riveter, and to celebrate her 100th birthday.

The daughter of Italian immigrants, Frances was born on March 7, 1922. Determined to serve her country, provide for her family and support her two brothers in the service, Frances rode the bus with her two sisters to and from the east side of Detroit to Ypsilanti, Michigan every day where she worked as a Riveter at the town's Bomber Plant. A shy, quiet and hard-working young woman, Frances continued her work as a Riveter throughout the duration of World War II. The war sadly had enormous personal cost to Frances, as her brother lost his life.

Madam Speaker, Frances Mauro Masters is a true American hero, the embodiment of the 'greatest generation' and a role model for all Americans today, especially young women. As the years go by, it becomes even more important to recognize humble and outstanding members of our greatest generation like Frances. I thank Frances for her service to this country and the selfless example she has set for all of us, and congratulate her on 100 years of life well-lived.

HONORING THE LIFE & ACHIEVEMENTS OF REV. H.D. DARBY

HON. BRADLEY SCOTT SCHNEIDER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 7, 2022

Mr. SCHNEIDER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the selfless leadership and advocacy of Waukegan resident Reverend Henderson ''H.D.'' Darby, who was instrumental in securing the right to vote for Black people in the Jim Crow South.

Rev. Darby first tried to cast his vote in Jefferson Davis County, Mississippi in the early 1950s. As NAACP records show, before he could register he was required to pass an oral examination where he was asked obscure questions about the Mississippi and Federal constitutions. Although Rev. Darby answered these unfair questions to the best of his ability, but was simply told, ''You did not qualify.''

Rev. Darby did not give up. Instead, he sued the county circuit clerk, James Daniel, for access to the ballot box in the 1958 case, Darby v. Daniel. His case was among the first federal court attempts to secure voting rights for Black voters. During the suit he was called ''extremely radical. if not dangerous'' and ''bitter for trying to exercise his constitutional right. With help from lawyers from the NAACP's Legal Defense Fund—including future Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall—Rev. Darby prevailed with his case.

Rev. Darby's landmark win granted all African Americans the right to vote without obstruction, such as having to take an oral examination. His lawsuit is estimated to have helped secure voting rights for approximately 1,300 African American voters in Jefferson Davis County, according to Jet Magazine. Thanks to the fearlessness of civil rights leaders like Rev. Darby, millions of African Americans have the right to vote today.

At a time when voting rights are once again under attack across the country, we are all served well by learning the stories and honoring the sacrifices of civil rights figures like Rev. Darby. The legacy of these great American heroes, such as Rep. John Lewis, Fannie Lou Hamer, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and so many others must be protected with unwavering commitment to protecting the right to vote.

Rev. Darby's pioneering activism made him a leader before his time. I am honored that he came to call Waukegan, Illinois his adopted home later in life. He lived in our community until he passed away in 1993.

Today, his legacy lives on through his loved ones, including his grandson, Christopher ''Brotha'' Blanks, who is known in Waukegan for his moving poetry, social activism and advocacy, and the work he does through his nonprofit, Black Abolition Movement for the Mind.

It is my privilege to recognize Rev. Henderson ''H.D.'' Darby for his fearlessness, strength and patriotism. I know that his legacy will continue to live on through his family, friends and all those who learn and are inspired by his shining example.

RECOGNIZING THE WORK OF MR. BRUCE THOMPSON

HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 7, 2022

Mr. WITTMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Bruce Thompson for his achievement on being selected as the 2021 Virginia Business Person of the Year. One of Hampton Roads' most prominent developers and hoteliers, this accomplishment comes after nearly four decades of investing in Virginia Beach and Hampton Roads.

A long-time businessman in Virginia Beach, Bruce opened his first hotel, Ocean House Hotel, around 1982. His overwhelming success led to the founding of Professional Hospitality Resources, Gold Key, a timeshare company, and significant achievements in the restaurant business. Bruce played a major role in establishing high-end hotel and amenities at the Oceanfront and was crucial in the revitalization of the once condemned Cavalier Hotel, turning it into the centerpiece of the Cavalier Resort.

Bruce's dedication and commitment have not been limited solely to the business sphere. He is also very active in politics and philanthropy. Over the years, Bruce has sat on numerous boards and commissions, namely, serving as Hampton Roads' regional finance chair. After his son Josh lost his battle with amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS), his family founded a nonprofit that has raised more than $20 million for stem cell research and other ALS-related causes.

Madam Speaker, I am thankful for Bruce's hard work and service to the entire Virginia Beach community. It is my honor to recognize Mr. Bruce Thompson today and I have full confidence that he will continue to be an integral contributor to the Virginia Beach and Hampton Road community.

BILL KILPATRICK

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 7, 2022

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the City of Golden's Chief of Police Bill Kilpatrick for his incredible, 42 year-long career in law enforcement and to congratulate him on his upcoming retirement.

Chief Kilpatrick began his career with 10 years on the police force in Englewood, Colorado, during which he was promoted to the rank of Sergeant and earned his Juris Doctor from the University of Denver. His commitment to public safety led him to the Golden Police Department in 1989, where he became chief in 2002.

During his tenure, he guided the force through an unprecedented period of growth and achievement, raising the bar for what it means to be a public servant. Among his many accomplishments, he established Crisis Intervention Training programs in Jefferson County, helped found Colorado Crisis Services—the largest emergency mental health service hotline in the state, and was honored with the Colorado Association of Police Chiefs President's Award in 2011 in recognition of his tireless dedication to his community.

Chief Kilpatrick will be dearly missed on the force, and I wish him the best in his retirement. I thank him for his service and commitment to our community and our state.

RECOGNIZING MRS. BEVERLY CAMP

HON. DAVID G. VALADAO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 7, 2022

Mr. VALADAO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Mrs. Beverly Camp, who tragically passed away just a few weeks ago.

A New York City native, Mrs. Camp and her family moved to the Central Valley when she was just 17 years old. She found a new home in Bakersfield, California, and graduated from West High School in 1979.

Mrs. Camp spent most of her adult life giving back to others. Her philanthropic work in the Central Valley supported countless groups of people. Throughout her life she was able to raise millions of dollars for charity. Together with her husband, Jim, the Camps selflessly served their community and helped lift people out of the most challenging of circumstances.

Mrs. Camp's charitable work was recognized by many different groups throughout her philanthropic career. She was awarded the Community Service Person of the Year Award from the Kern County Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, the Humanitarian of the Year Award by the Community Action Partnership, and the Woman of the Year Award for California's 16th Senate District after being personally nominated by Senator Shannon Grover. Additionally, many Catholic charities recognized the work of Mrs. Camp, a dedicated Catholic herself, through their naming of the Beverly Camp Career and Education Center.

Mrs. Camp was a valued member of our local community, and it is with great pride that I recognize her for her life of service in the Central Valley community.

Madam Speaker, I ask all my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in honoring the life of Mrs. Beverly Camp.

IN HONOR OF 40 YEARS OF ZINGERMAN'S

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 7, 2022

Mrs. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Zingerman's Delicatessen in Ann Arbor, Michigan as they celebrate four decades in business. Their significant contributions to our community and their 40 years spent as an Ann Arbor institution are worthy of commendation.

Zingerman's started off as an idea, sparked by a conversation between Ari Weinzweig and Paul Saginaw noting that Ann Arbor was lacking the traditional Jewish deli that they had back home in Chicago and Detroit, and just a few short years after that idea became reality. On March 15, 1982, they opened their doors

in a former grocery store on the corner of Kingsley and Detroit Streets in Kerrytown. In the coming years they expanded their deli, adding dry goods, cheeses, pastries, breads, and desserts. What started as a conversation between friends has grown into a world-famous business providing legendary sandwiches and other delicacies to hungry customers.

Since first opening in 1982, Zingerman's has expanded. growing into a family of businesses, but they've kept their promise to remain close to home in Washtenaw County, where they employ over 700 full-time and part-time staff. From the hand-crafted cheeses of Zingerman's Creamery to the sweet treats of Zingerman's Candy Manufactory, they have something for everyone. In addition to their food offerings and event spaces, Zingerman's ZingTrain shares their unique business model with clients from all sections of industry, training them in topics like leadership and customer service. The stellar team is what makes Zingerman's so special. No matter their position, every employee has a say in how the business makes decisions due to their open-book management system, cultivating a family environment and making it a great place to work.

In addition to their successful businesses, Zingerman's has done their part to better our community. In 1988 they founded Food Gatherers, a food rescue program that feeds the hungry in Washtenaw County. They started off collecting produce and other goods from grocery stores and restaurants and redistributed it to hot meal programs in Ann Arbor and Ypsilanti. Now Food Gatherers has grown to operate food pantries, provide support services for those looking to take advantage of food benefits, and running food distributions. Zingerman's has never forgotten to give back to the place they call home.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Zingerman's Delicatessen, Paul Saginaw, Ari Weinzweig, and the entire Zingerman's team on this special day. We are grateful for their four decades spent nourishing and enriching our community in Ann Arbor. We wish them the very best in the years to come.

CHRIS COALMAN-ANGELO

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 7, 2022

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Chris Coalman-Angelo (Angelo) for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Angelo is a student at Arvada High School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Angelo is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Angelo for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassador for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of his future accomplishments.

''SIX TRIPLE EIGHT'' CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL ACT OF 2021

SPEECH OF

HON. KWEISI MFUME

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 28, 2022

Mr. MFUME. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the legacy of the 6888th Central Postal Directory Battalion, known as the "Six Triple Eight." I also rise to support S. 321, the legislation to award a Congressional Gold Medal in honor of the Battalion's patriotism, valor, and achievements.

Since its first mission in 1945, the Six Triple Eight was comprised of 855 Black women including 824 enlisted personnel and 31 officers. Groundbreaking for the time, the Six Triple Eight was the only African American women's unit of its size to serve overseas during World War II. Most of the 6888th worked as postal clerks, but others were cooks, mechanics, and held support positions so that the 6888th was a self-sufficient unit.

The Six Triple Eight was led by Major Charity Edna Adams and trained for their overseas mission at Fort Oglethorpe in Georgia. In practice, the Battalion's assignment entailed more than ensuring the swift delivery of mail. Rather, the Battalion was also trained to identify enemies by air and sea, meet the physical demands of military service, and evacuate targeted ships.

Amid war, the tenacity of these brave women never wavered. Rain or shine, day in and day out, the Six Triple Eight worked around the clock, operating under their motto, "no mail, low morale." These women sacrificed despite knowing their return home would be to an America that still denied their basic rights and liberties.

I am proud to support this measure that honors such a courageously driven Battalion of women and bestows them the highest expression of national appreciation Congress can grant.

I urge swift passage of S. 321, the "Six Triple Eight" Congressional Gold Medal Act of 2021.

FOOTBALL STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS

HON. J. FRENCH HILL

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 7, 2022

Mr. HILL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Harding Academy in Searcy and Robinson High School in Little Rock as Arkansas State Football Champions.

Harding Academy defeated Prescott with a score of 47 to 25 to come the 3A Football State Champions, marking the third year in a row they have won the state championship with a grand total of 9 championships.

Robinson High School defeated the reigning State Champions, Shiloh Christian, 41 to 14 to become the 4A Football State Champions. This marked Robinson High School's fourth state championship victory.

I am proud of the hard work and dedication from the players, coaches, and administrators who made these accomplishments possible.

Keep making central Arkansas proud.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

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

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

Meetings scheduled for Tuesday, March 8, 2022 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

MARCH 10

8 a.m.

Committee on Armed Services

To hold closed hearings to examine the posture of United States Indo-Pacific Command and United States Forces Korea; to be followed by an open session at 9:30 a.m. in SD–G50.

SVC–217

9 a.m.

Committee on the Judiciary

Business meeting to consider the nominations of Kenly Kiya Kato, Sunshine Suzanne Sykes, and Sherilyn Peace Garnett, each to be a United States District Judge for the Central District of California, Jennifer Louise Rochon, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of New York, Nina Morrison, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of New York, Trina L. Thompson, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of California, and Paul Monteiro, of Maryland, to be Director, Community Relations Service, Trina A. Higgins, to be United States Attorney for the District of Utah, and Jane E. Young, to be United States Attorney for the District of New Hampshire, all of the Department of Justice.

SR–325

9:30 a.m.

Committee on Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine U.S. security cooperation and assistance.

SD–106/VTC

10 a.m.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

To hold hearings to examine the use of energy as a tool and a weapon, and ensuring energy security for the United States and its allies.

SD–366

Select Committee on Intelligence
To hold hearings to examine worldwide threats.
SH–216

10:15 a.m.
Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs
To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Krista Anne Boyd, of Florida, to be Inspector General, Office of Personnel Management, and Dana Katherine Bilyeu, of Nevada, Leona M. Bridges, of California, Michael F. Gerber, of Pennsylvania, Stacie Olivares, of California, and Javier E. Saade, of the District of Columbia, each to be a Member of the Federal Retirement Thrift Investment Board.
SD–342/VTC

12 noon
Select Committee on Intelligence
To hold closed hearings to examine worldwide threats.
SH–219

MARCH 15

10 a.m.
Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions
Business meeting to consider an original bill entitled, ''PREVENT Pandemics Act'', and other pending calendar business.
SD–106

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs
To hold hearings to examine reforming Federal and Presidential records management.
SD–342/VTC

MARCH 16

10 a.m.
Committee on Environment and Public Works
To hold an oversight hearing to examine the Clean Water State Revolving Loan Fund formula.
SD–406

MARCH 17

10 a.m.
Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe
To hold hearings to examine the Baltics under pressure.
SD–106

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S1001–S1021

Measures Introduced: Eight bills and two resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 3764–3771, and S. Res. 536–537. **Pages S1015–16**

Measures Passed:

Emmett Till Antilynching Act: Senate passed H.R. 55, to amend section 249 of title 18, United States Code, to specify lynching as a hate crime act. **Pages S1012–13**

Burial Equity for Guards and Reserves Act: Senate passed 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, after agreeing to the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute. **Page S1013**

Doctors of podiatric medicine: Committee on Veterans' Affairs was discharged from further consideration of H.R. 2545, to amend title 38, United States Code, to clarify the role of doctors of podiatric medicine in the Department of Veterans Affairs, and the bill was then passed. **Page S1013**

National Women's History Month: Senate agreed to S. Res. 537, designating March 2022 as "National Women's History Month". **Pages S1013–14**

Measures Considered:

Postal Service Reform Act—Agreement: Senate resumed consideration of H.R. 3076, to provide stability to and enhance the services of the United States Postal Service, taking action on the following amendment proposed thereto: **Pages S1001–12**

Pending:

Schumer (for Peters) Amendment No. 4955, to modify the deadline for the initial report on the operations and financial condition of the United States Postal Service. **Page S1001**

During consideration of this measure today, Senate also took the following action:

By 74 yeas to 17 nays (Vote No. 69), three-fifths of those Senators duly chosen and sworn, having voted in the affirmative, Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the bill. **Page S1011**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that all time during adjournment, recess, Morning Business, and Leader remarks count post-cloture on the bill. **Page S1020**

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

Denis Udall, of California, to be a Member of the Board of Trustees of the Morris K. Udall and Stewart L. Udall Foundation for a term expiring April 15, 2023.

Teresa Arrington Fox Udall, of Colorado, to be a Member of the Board of Trustees of the Morris K. Udall and Stewart L. Udall Foundation for a term expiring October 6, 2022.

Jay Curtis Shambaugh, of Maryland, to be an Under Secretary of the Treasury.

William H. Duncan, of Texas, to be Ambassador to the Republic of El Salvador.

Lesslie Viguerie, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Kyrgyz Republic.

Routine lists in the Army, Coast Guard, and Space Force. **Pages S1020–21**

Measures Placed on the Calendar: **Pages S1014, S1015**

Executive Communications: **Page S1015**

Petitions and Memorials: **Page S1015**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S1016–17**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: **Pages S1017–19**

Additional Statements: **Pages S1014–15**

Amendments Submitted: **Pages S1019–20**

Authorities for Committees to Meet: **Page S1020**

Record Votes: One record vote was taken today. (Total—69) **Page S1011**

Recess: Senate convened at 3 p.m. and recessed at 7:03 p.m., until 10:30 a.m. on Tuesday, March 8, 2022. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on page S1020.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

RUSSIAN INVASION OF UKRAINE

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee received a closed briefing on the Russian invasion of Ukraine, after receiving testimony from Victoria Nuland, Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 26 public bills, H.R. 6941–6966; and 6 resolutions, H.J. Res. 74; and H. Res. 963–967, were introduced. **Pages H1328–29**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages H1330–31**

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows:

H.R. 4877, to amend the Small Business Act to require the Small Business and Agriculture Regulatory Enforcement Ombudsman to create a centralized website for compliance guides, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 117–255);

H.R. 6454, to clarify the primary functions and duties of the Office of Advocacy of the Small Business Administration, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 117–256);

H.R. 6450, to amend the Small Business Act to reauthorize the SCORE program, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 117–257); and

H.R. 6441, to amend the Small Business Act to improve the women's business center program, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 117–258). **Pages H1327–28**

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein she appointed Representative Butterfield to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. **Page H1305**

Recess: The House recessed at 12:05 p.m. and reconvened at 2 p.m. **Page H1306**

Communication from the Committee on Ethics: Read a communication from the Committee on Ethics regarding a fine imposed upon Representative Weber pursuant to H. Res. 38, for which he did not file an appeal. **Page H1307**

Communication from the Committee on Ethics: Read a communication from the Committee on Ethics regarding an appeal received from Representative Clyde of fines imposed pursuant to H. Res. 38, which was received after the Committee adopted its written rules. A majority of the Committee did not agree to the appeal. **Page H1307**

Communication from the Committee on Ethics: Read a communication from the Committee on Ethics regarding fines imposed upon Representative Green (GA) pursuant to H. Res. 38, for which she did not file appeals. **Page H1307**

Recess: The House recessed at 2:12 p.m. and reconvened at 4 p.m. **Page H1307**

Suspensions: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures: Homeland Security Capabilities Preservation Act: H.R. 5615, to direct the Secretary of Homeland Security to submit a plan to make Federal assistance available to certain urban areas that previously received Urban Area Security Initiative funding to preserve homeland security capabilities; **Pages H1307–08**

DHS Basic Training Accreditation Improvement Act: H.R. 5616, amended, to require reporting regarding accreditation of basic training programs of the Department of Homeland Security, by a ⅔ yea-and-nay vote of 390 yeas to 33 nays, Roll No. 58; and **Pages H1308–10, H1313–14**

National Cybersecurity Preparedness Consortium Act: S. 658, amended, to authorize the Secretary of Homeland Security to work with cybersecurity consortia for training, by a ⅔ yea-and-nay vote of 403 yeas to 19 nays, Roll No. 59. **Pages H1312–13, H1314–15**

Recess: The House recessed at 4:29 p.m. and reconvened at 6:30 p.m. **Page H1313**

Suspension—Proceedings Postponed: The House debated the following measure under suspension of the rules. Further proceedings were postponed.

Shadow Wolves Enhancement Act: H.R. 5681, to authorize the reclassification of the tactical enforcement officers (commonly known as the "Shadow Wolves") in the Homeland Security Investigations

tactical patrol unit operating on the lands of the Tohono O'odham Nation as special agents.

Pages H1310–12

Senate Referrals: S. 198 was held at the desk. S. 2771 was held at the desk. S. 3103 was held at the desk. **Page H1307**

Senate Message: Message received from the Senate by the Clerk and subsequently presented to the House today appears on page H1307.

Quorum Calls—Votes: Two yea-and-nay votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H1313–14 and H1314–15.

Adjournment: The House met at 12 p.m. and adjourned at 8:48 p.m.

Committee Meetings

No hearings were held.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

NEW PUBLIC LAWS

(For last listing of Public Laws, see DAILY DIGEST, *p. D200)*

H.R. 4445, to amend title 9 of the United States Code with respect to arbitration of disputes involving sexual assault and sexual harassment. Signed on March 3, 2022. (Public Law 117–90)

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR TUESDAY, MARCH 8, 2022

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Armed Services: to hold hearings to examine United States Strategic Command and United States Space Command in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2023 and the Future Years Defense Program; to be immediately followed by a closed session in SVC–217, 9:30 a.m., SD–106.

Subcommittee on Cybersecurity, to receive a closed briefing on Department of Defense cyber operations, 2:30 p.m., SVC–217.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: to hold hearings to examine mandatory arbitration in financial service products, 10 a.m., SD–538.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: business meeting to consider the nominations of Shalanda H. Baker, of Texas, to be Director of the Office of Minority Economic Impact, Asmeret Asefaw Berhe, of California, to be Director of the Office of Science, Joseph F. DeCarolis, of North Carolina, to be Administrator of the Energy Information Administration, and Maria Duaime Robinson, of Massachusetts, to be an Assistant Secretary (Office of Electricity), all of the Department of Energy, and Sara C. Bronin, of Connecticut, to be Chairman of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, 10 a.m., SD–366.

Committee on Foreign Relations: business meeting to consider the nominations of C.S. Eliot Kang, of New Jersey, to be an Assistant Secretary (International Security and Non-Proliferation), Sarah H. Cleveland, of New York, to be Legal Adviser, George J. Tsunis, of New York, to be Ambassador to Greece, James C. O'Brien, of Nebraska, to be Head of the Office of Sanctions Coordination, with the rank of Ambassador, Beth Van Schaack, of California, to be Ambassador at Large for Global Criminal Justice, Randi Charno Levine, of New York, to be Ambassador to the Portuguese Republic, Laura Farnsworth Dogu, of Texas, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Honduras, N. Nickolas Perry, of New York, to be Ambassador to Jamaica, Deborah E. Lipstadt, of Georgia, to be Special Envoy to Monitor and Combat Anti-Semitism, with the rank of Ambassador, Barbara A. Leaf, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary (Near Eastern Affairs), and Mallory A. Stewart, of the District of Columbia, to be an Assistant Secretary (Verification and Compliance), all of the Department of State, Adriana Debora Kugler, of Maryland, to be United States Executive Director of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, Erin Elizabeth McKee, of California, to be an Assistant Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development, routine lists in the Foreign Service, and other pending calendar business; to be immediately followed by a hearing to examine Russia's invasion of Ukraine, focusing on assessing the U.S. and international response, 2:30 p.m., SD–106.

Committee on the Judiciary: to hold hearings to examine combating the rise in hate crimes, 10 a.m., SD–226.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: to hold a joint hearing with the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs to examine the legislative presentation of multiple veterans service organizations, 10 a.m., HVC–210/VTC.

Select Committee on Intelligence: closed business meeting to consider pending intelligence matters, 2:30 p.m., S–216, Capitol.

House

Committee on Agriculture, Subcommittee on Commodity Exchanges, Energy, and Credit, hearing entitled "A 2022 Review of the Farm Bill: Rural Development", 10 a.m., 1300 Longworth and Zoom.

Committee on Armed Services, Full Committee, hearing entitled "National Security Challenges and U.S. Military Activity in North and South America", 10 a.m., 2118 Rayburn and Webex.

Committee on Energy and Commerce, Subcommittee on Energy, hearing entitled "Charging Forward: Securing American Manufacturing and Our EV Future", 10:15 a.m., 2123 Rayburn and Webex.

Committee on Financial Services, Full Committee, hearing entitled "The Inflation Equation: Corporate Profiteering, Supply Chain Bottlenecks, and COVID–19", 10 a.m., 2128 Rayburn and Webex.

Committee on Foreign Affairs, Subcommittee on International Development, International Organizations and Global Corporate Social Impact, hearing entitled ''Shifting the Power: USAID's Efforts to Support Locally-Led Development'', 2 p.m., 2172 Rayburn and Webex.

Committee on the Judiciary, Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security, hearing entitled ''Reimagining Public Safety in the COVID–19 Era'', 10 a.m., 2141 Rayburn and Zoom.

Committee on Natural Resources, Full Committee, hearing entitled ''Examining the History of Federal Lands and the Development of Tribal Co-Management'', 10 a.m., Webex.

Subcommittee on Water, Oceans, and Wildlife, hearing entitled ''Klamath River Basin Conditions and Opportunities'', 2 p.m., Webex.

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, Full Committee, hearing entitled ''Federal Climate Adaptation and Resilience for the 21st Century'', 10 a.m., Zoom.

Committee on Small Business, Full Committee, hearing entitled ''Overview of the Small Business Innovation Research and Small Business Technology Transfer Programs'', 10 a.m., 2360 Rayburn and Zoom.

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, Subcommittee on Railroads, Pipelines, and Hazardous Materials, hearing entitled ''Stakeholder Views on Surface Transportation Board Reauthorization'', 10 a.m., 2167 Rayburn and Zoom.

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, Full Committee, hearing entitled ''Worldwide Threats'', 10 a.m., 2175 Rayburn and HVC–304. A portion of this hearing will be closed.

Joint Meetings

Joint Hearing: Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs, to hold a joint hearing with the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs to examine the legislative presentation of multiple veterans service organizations, 10 a.m., HVC–210/VTC.

CONGRESSIONAL PROGRAM AHEAD

Week of March 8 through March 11, 2022

Senate Chamber

On *Tuesday*, Senate expects to continue consideration of H.R. 3076, Postal Service Reform Act, post-cloture.

During the balance of the week, Senate may consider any cleared legislative and executive business.

Senate Committees

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Committee on Armed Services: March 8, to hold hearings to examine United States Strategic Command and United States Space Command in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2023 and the Future Years Defense Program; to be immediately followed by a closed session in SVC–217, 9:30 a.m., SD–106.

March 8, Subcommittee on Cybersecurity, to receive a closed briefing on Department of Defense cyber operations, 2:30 p.m., SVC–217.

March 10, Full Committee, to hold closed hearings to examine the posture of United States Indo-Pacific Command and United States Forces Korea; to be followed by an open session at 9:30 a.m. in SD–G50, 8 a.m., SVC–217.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: March 8, to hold hearings to examine mandatory arbitration in financial service products, 10 a.m., SD–538.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: March 8, business meeting to consider the nominations of Shalanda H. Baker, of Texas, to be Director of the Office of Minority Economic Impact, Asmeret Asefaw Berhe, of California, to be Director of the Office of Science, Joseph F. DeCarolis, of North Carolina, to be Administrator of the Energy Information Administration, and Maria Duaime Robinson, of Massachusetts, to be an Assistant Secretary (Office of Electricity), all of the Department of Energy, and Sara C. Bronin, of Connecticut, to be Chairman of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, 10 a.m., SD–366.

March 10, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the use of energy as a tool and a weapon, and ensuring energy security for the United States and its allies, 10 a.m., SD–366.

Committee on Foreign Relations: March 8, business meeting to consider the nominations of C.S. Eliot Kang, of New Jersey, to be an Assistant Secretary (International Security and Non-Proliferation), Sarah H. Cleveland, of New York, to be Legal Adviser, George J. Tsunis, of New York, to be Ambassador to Greece, James C. O'Brien, of Nebraska, to be Head of the Office of Sanctions Coordination, with the rank of Ambassador, Beth Van Schaack, of California, to be Ambassador at Large for Global Criminal Justice, Randi Charno Levine, of New York, to be Ambassador to the Portuguese Republic, Laura Farnsworth Dogu, of Texas, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Honduras, N. Nickolas Perry, of New York, to be Ambassador to Jamaica, Deborah E. Lipstadt, of Georgia, to be Special Envoy to Monitor and Combat Anti-Semitism, with the rank of Ambassador, Barbara A. Leaf, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary (Near Eastern Affairs), and Mallory A. Stewart, of the District of Columbia, to be an Assistant Secretary (Verification and Compliance), all of the Department of State, Adriana Debora Kugler, of Maryland, to be United States Executive Director of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, Erin Elizabeth McKee, of California, to be an Assistant Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development, routine lists in the Foreign Service, and other pending calendar business; to be immediately followed by a hearing to examine Russia's invasion of Ukraine, focusing on assessing the U.S. and international response, 2:30 p.m., SD–106.

March 10, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine U.S. security cooperation and assistance, 9:30 a.m., SD–106/VTC.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: March 10, to hold hearings to examine the nominations

of Krista Anne Boyd, of Florida, to be Inspector General, Office of Personnel Management, and Dana Katherine Bilyeu, of Nevada, Leona M. Bridges, of California, Michael F. Gerber, of Pennsylvania, Stacie Olivares, of California, and Javier E. Saade, of the District of Columbia, each to be a Member of the Federal Retirement Thrift Investment Board, 10:15 a.m., SD–342/VTC.

Committee on the Judiciary: March 8, to hold hearings to examine combating the rise in hate crimes, 10 a.m., SD–226.

March 10, Full Committee, business meeting to consider the nominations of Kenly Kiya Kato, Sunshine Suzanne Sykes, and Sherilyn Peace Garnett, each to be a United States District Judge for the Central District of California, Jennifer Louise Rochon, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of New York, Nina Morrison, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of New York, Trina L. Thompson, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of California, and Paul Monteiro, of Maryland, to be Director, Community Relations Service, Trina A. Higgins, to be United States Attorney for the District of Utah, and Jane E. Young, to be United States Attorney for the District of New Hampshire, all of the Department of Justice, 9 a.m., SR–325.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: March 8, to hold a joint hearing with the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs to examine the legislative presentation of multiple veterans service organizations, 10 a.m., HVC–210/VTC.

Select Committee on Intelligence: March 8, closed business meeting to consider pending intelligence matters, 2:30 p.m., S–216, Capitol.

March 10, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine worldwide threats, 10 a.m., SH–216.

March 10, Full Committee, to hold closed hearings to examine worldwide threats, 12 noon, SH–219.

House Committees

Committee on Appropriations, March 9, Subcommittee on Defense, hearing entitled ''United States European Command'', 10 a.m., HVC–301. This hearing is closed.

Committee on Armed Services, March 9, Full Committee, hearing entitled ''National Security Challenges and U.S. Military Activities in the Indo-Pacific Region'', 9 a.m., 2118 Rayburn and Webex.

Committee on Energy and Commerce, March 9, Subcommittee on Consumer Protection, hearing entitled ''Changing Times: Revisiting Spring Forward, Fall Back'', 9:30 a.m., 2123 Rayburn and Webex.

Committee on Small Business, March 9, Subcommittee on Innovation, Entrepreneurship, and Workforce Development, hearing entitled ''Skill, Upskill, and Reskill: Analyzing New Investments in Workforce Development'', 10 a.m., 2360 Rayburn and Zoom.

Select Committee Climate Crisis, March 9, Full Committee, hearing entitled ''Confronting Climate Impacts: Federal Strategies for Equitable Adaptation and Resilience'', 9:30 a.m., 210 Cannon and Zoom.

Joint Meetings

Joint Hearing: March 8, Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs, to hold a joint hearing with the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs to examine the legislative presentation of multiple veterans service organizations, 10 a.m., HVC–210/VTC.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

10:30 a.m., Tuesday, March 8

Senate Chamber

Program for Tuesday: Senate expects to continue consideration of H.R. 3076, Postal Service Reform Act, post-cloture.

(Senate will recess from 12:30 p.m. until 2:15 p.m. for their respective party conferences.)

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

10:30 a.m., Tuesday, March 8

House Chamber

Program for Tuesday: Consideration of measures under suspension of the Rules.

Extensions of Remarks, as inserted in this issue

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