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House of Representatives

The House was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Friday, May 6, 2022, at 10 a.m.

Senate

WEDNESDAY, MAY 4, 2022

The Senate met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable BEN RAY LUJÁN, a Senator from the State of New Mexico.

PRAYER

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

Let us pray. O God, the strength of all who put their trust in You, remind our lawmakers that we can accomplish little without Your mercy and grace. Give them the wisdom to trust Your power and might in their every endeavor, as You inspire them to live worthy of Your faithfulness.

Lord, we all borrow our daily heartbeats from You, so give us the serenity to accept the things we cannot change, the courage to change the things we can, and the wisdom to know the difference. And Lord, continue to strengthen the Ukrainian people.

We pray in Your powerful Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

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

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, May 4, 2022.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable BEN RAY LUJÁN, a Senator from the State of New Mexico, to perform the duties of the Chair.

PATRICK J. LEAHY,
President pro tempore.

Mr. LUJÁN thereupon assumed the Chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Morning business is closed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate will proceed to executive session.

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

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

LAW ENFORCEMENT

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, the week before last, it was my honor to sit down with a number of law enforcement officials in my hometown of Louisville, but I wish we could have met under happier circumstances.

Our city is contending with a tragic and record-setting jump in crime. Last year, Louisville saw 188 homicides—the most in any year on record. In the last 2 years, carjackings have tripled, and deadly drugs are becoming so prevalent on our streets that Jefferson County saw 500 overdose deaths in 2021.

Unfortunately, the historic wave of crime that has swept my hometown is challenging communities all across America. The murder rates of at least a dozen other major cities set alltime records last year. Chicago saw its most carjackings in 20 years, and in the first quarter of 2022, New York's crime rate was already up—listen to this—44 percent.

Needless to say, this is a time for strong law enforcement. Studies show that fewer police and less active policing make crime worse and leave the most vulnerable communities particularly worse off.

But our Nation's police officers aren't just facing higher volumes of crime; they are facing more direct, personal risks to confront it. Last year, as overall homicide counts continued to climb past 2020's record total, killings of police officers saw a staggering 59-percent spike of their own: 73—73—men and women sworn to protect and serve their communities were killed in 2021 while trying to do exactly that, and, already, 2022 has seen more than 100 more officers shot in the line of duty.

The surge in anti-police violence that boiled over in the summer of 2020 has taken its toll on the men and women of law enforcement. An exhaustive report

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

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compiled by the city of Louisville last year found that morale—morale—among our officers is alarmingly low. A full 75 percent would leave for another police department. Not surprisingly, this has led to a severe staffing shortage on the force. Our police chief even took out billboard ads in Atlanta—in Atlanta—to try to recruit officers from other cities.

Now more than ever, we need to fund law enforcement, support police officers, and back the blue, but too many Democrats are apparently bent on doing just the opposite. The far left's call to defund the police has taken root at every level of government. Elected officials—sworn to preserve, protect, and defend the Constitution—have chosen instead to amplify distrust of the men and women who work every day to enforce our laws.

So let's just consider whom the Biden administration has prioritized for confirmation to top jobs in the Justice Department.

There is the new U.S. attorney with a reputation for pushing to cancel entire categories of the Criminal Code and the assistant attorneys general who have advocated for efforts to ''decrease police budgets'' and ''invest less in police.''

There is the newly minted Supreme Court Justice who advocated in her last job that the COVID pandemic was an appropriate reason to let inmates out of jail right here in Washington.

Just last week, our colleagues on the Judiciary Committee considered a nominee to the circuit court with an unapologetic record of hostility toward law enforcement. Without any basis in fact, Nusrat Choudhury suggested that police murdering unarmed Black men ''happens every day.'' Happens every day?

When our colleague the junior Senator from Louisiana called her out on it, the nominee tried to claim that she had only made the statement as an act of ''rhetorical advocacy''—''rhetorical advocacy''—on behalf of a client.

Unsurprisingly, that answer hasn't done much to ease the concerns of America's law enforcement community. Major organizations representing officers—from the Sergeants Benevolent Association to the National Sheriffs' Association, to the Fraternal Order of Police—have voiced strong, strong opposition and called on President Biden to ''take a stand against this dangerous and absurdly''—absurdly—''divisive rhetoric.''

Well, needless to say, the President and his administration need to do a lot more than that to prove to the men and women of law enforcement that they have their backs.

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Now, Mr. President, on another matter, last week, President Biden offered a particularly candid look at his view of education in America. In speaking at an awards ceremony for public school teachers, he remarked:

> They're not somebody else's children. They're like yours when they're in the classroom.

Unfortunately, this wasn't a mistake. It was actually a rather accurate summary of the increasingly radical way he and his party think of children in America.

When it comes to the respective roles of parents and teachers, Democrats have used the past 2 years of the pandemic disruptions to show their true colors. They have shoveled money into woke training, like the North Carolina program to help preschool teachers ''deconstruct whiteness''—''deconstruct whiteness.'' They have torn up time-tested procedures as in one California district's move to institute an equity lottery for admissions. Last fall, the former chair of the Democratic National Committee ran a gubernatorial campaign, saying:

> I don't think parents should be telling schools what they should teach. Suffice it to say, parents in Virginia saw things differently.

Across America, parents have rejected the radical liberal campaign to make education a ''one size fits all government knows best'' proposition. From coast to coast—even in deep-blue bastions like San Francisco—they have sent rogue local administrators packing and asserted their rights and responsibilities as the first and most important teachers of their children.

Yesterday, Senate Republicans made clear once again that we stand with the parents of America. A bipartisan majority adopted Senator THUNE's resolution of disapproval on one of the Biden administration's most egregious violations of parents' rights and kids' well-being.

Masking children as young as 2 in Head Start Programs across the country, including outside on the playground—including outside on the playground—flies in the face of what even the World Health Organization considers settled science. And it has seriously damaged parents' confidence in the systems to which they entrust their children for hours every day.

So I was proud to join a majority of my colleagues last night to express the Senate's opposition to this unconscionable policy. Ah, but make no mistake: This is not the last we will hear about the far left's efforts to grab more control over how America raises its kids.

As we speak, Senate Democrats are trying to resurrect portions of the failed reckless taxing-and-spending spree they spent most of last year trying to ram through on party lines. That proposal includes the Toddler Takeover that would stick American families with dramatically higher costs and dramatically less choice in the market for childcare.

More redtape for independent providers, special subsidies for bureaucracies' preferred one-size-fits-all systems, outright hostility toward the faith-based options that are preferred by a majority of families who use outside-the-home childcare, and nothing—nothing at all—for families who choose to have a full-time parent or another family member look after their kids; just the latest example of a massive overreach the American people never asked for.

The Biden administration is having a hard enough time with basic governing responsibilities like national security, energy independence, and controlling inflation. American families, and especially children, will be a whole lot better off the sooner the Democrats stop looking for even more ways to fail them.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

U.S. SUPREME COURT

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, I have taken this time to talk about National Small Business Week, but because of the events of the last 48 hours, I need to comment on the Justice Alito draft opinion that, if it were adopted by the Supreme Court, would overturn Roe v. Wade.

I find this draft opinion to be outrageous. It puts the health, well-being, and constitutional rights of women across the Nation in great jeopardy, particularly those low-income women.

Thirty-six million women of reproductive age would be at risk if the Alito opinion became the ruling of the Supreme Court.

We look to our courts to protect and expand our constitutional protections, not to contract and weaken the constitutional protections, reversing nearly 50 years of legal precedent of Roe v. Wade.

What we need to do is to make sure that this body does everything we can to protect women's rights and to protect their healthcare right to make their own decision.

I am pleased that 16 States, including the District of Columbia, have taken action to protect women's rights, including my own State of Maryland, but we need to do more. We need to pass the Women's Health Protection Act. I am a cosponsor of that—proud to be a cosponsor of it—which would codify Roe v. Wade to protect reproductive rights for women. I hope we will have the opportunity to do that. I think we all recognize that we have a responsibility to act before the Supreme Court makes its ruling that could jeopardize the constitutional rights.

NATIONAL SMALL BUSINESS WEEK

Now, Mr. President, I do want to speak about National Small Business Week, which is this week, May 1 through 7.

I have the honor of chairing the Small Business and Entrepreneurship

Committee here in the U.S. Senate, and I have the opportunity as chair to talk about small businesses 52 weeks a year and to brag about what small businesses are doing.

This week gives us the opportunity to highlight for every American the incredible contributions small businesses make to our economy.

National Small Business Week is an annual reminder of how important small businesses are to the success of America. Small businesses are the lifeblood of our national economy and our local communities. There are more than 32 million small businesses across the Nation, and they support more than 61 million jobs.

As Congress works to address the myriad of challenges facing our country from climate change to foreign conflicts, the issues facing small business owners can be drowned out. That is why I asked to be a member of the Small Business Committee when I first entered the U.S. Senate in 2007.

The committee is one of the smaller committees in terms of resources and staff, but I know that it was going to be a place where I could support entrepreneurs, those in my home State of Maryland and nationwide, who are focused on creating the companies, products, services, and technologies of the future.

That is where job growth will take place in this country. More jobs are created through small business than through larger companies. That is where innovation takes place in this country, where we find ways to deal with challenges, as we saw during COVID–19. But it is also where small businesses do not have the same resiliency to deal with downturns in our economy. That is why it was so important for us to act in regard to the COVID–19 pandemic.

Two years ago, as our Nation faced a threat of a once-in-a-century global pandemic, supporting our small business owners was one of my top priorities. I will always be proud of the swift, bipartisan action this body took to ensure that our vibrant small business sector would not be a casualty of the COVID–19 pandemic.

Since the beginning of the pandemic, Congress has created several new programs to support small businesses, including the Paycheck Protection Program that was there to protect the workforce in small business; the EIDL Advance Grant Program, which provided some capital for small businesses during the pandemic and provided, through its loan program, the longer term capital that was needed during this period of time; the Shuttered Venue Operators Grant Program that dealt with businesses that were basically ordered to close during the pandemic because of the public health risk; the Restaurant Revitalization Fund that was aimed at an industry that was so badly devastated as a result of COVID–19 when people would not go out to restaurants; and several other initiatives that we passed during that period of time.

We have appropriated more than $1 trillion to the Small Business Administration to fund these initiatives and others, and it has been critical to the survival of small businesses and now to our own economic recovery.

Several independent studies have confirmed that the SBA's implementation of these programs was largely successful and improved over time, especially in terms of equity reaching the underserved communities. The improvement is the result of thoughtful policies Congress has implemented, as well as the Biden administration's efforts to invest in underserved entrepreneurs.

Americans registered a record-setting 5.4 million new small businesses this last year, which was a 1-million increase over the prior record of 4.4 million. So we are responding. The small business community is vibrant. Even better, this increase is occurring in some of our most underserved communities with minorities—specifically minority women—driving the entrepreneurial surge.

So this year's theme for National Small Business Week, ''Building a Better America Through Entrepreneurship,'' could not be more fitting, and it should serve as a clarion call for every Member of Congress.

We simply cannot let this opportunity pass us by. Instead, we in Congress must tap into and bolster the entrepreneurial spirit that is sweeping our Nation to build a fairer and more just economy for all.

The good news: We already know how we can do this because that is what we did during the pandemic. Several independent studies have confirmed that small business relief programs we created over the past 2 years improved over time. The improvement was the result of policies, many of which were bipartisan, that directly addressed the structural barriers that make it more difficult for women, minorities, and other underserved entrepreneurs to start and grow successful businesses.

In the years ahead, Congress must leverage the inroads that the SBA has made into these previously underserved communities so that critical services and business loan products can better reach entrepreneurs who need them the most.

The most immediate action we can take is to replenish the Restaurant Revitalization Fund. This is a matter of basic fairness. There are still more than 177,000 outstanding applications for the Restaurant Revitalization Fund. These are restaurants that qualified for the relief but, because there were not enough funds in the program appropriated by Congress and because of the original confusion on application priorities, they were not able to get the funds even though they were eligible and they needed the funds. In some States, as many as 6 in 10 requests for grants remain unmet.

So Congress cannot mistake the hopeful indicators of recovery for a sign that restaurants and bars are back to where they were prior to the pandemic. They are not. Many bars and restaurants are still months behind on rent and other bills, and they also must deal with increased supply costs as a result of supply chain issues and labor costs. They still need our support. The need is still there, and fairness requires us to act.

I want to thank Senator WICKER for working with me to introduce bipartisan legislation that will replenish this critical program and provide support to other hard-hit industries.

In the longer term, there are three policies that Congress should enact to better support the surge of interest in entrepreneurship and make our economy more diverse and resilient in the future.

First, Congress should create a direct lending program at the SBA that will allow for another avenue for access to capital, filling the current gaps in our financial ecosystem. A reimagined direct lending program would allow entrepreneurs to apply directly to the SBA or through community lenders for small Federal loans.

We know that many underserved entrepreneurs are discouraged even from applying for a business loan because of the high rates of rejection. Commercial banks tend to deal with their existing customers. They also tend to want larger loans or the larger of the small businesses, not the smaller, the startups of the small businesses. A direct lending program from the SBA could help.

Second, Congress should codify the Community Advantage loan program. The loan program is particularly successful in getting capital to underserved entrepreneurs. We have a track record under the Community Advantage Program. It works. It reaches those communities that have been left out in the past.

I am grateful for the Biden administration's recent announcement that it will extend the program for 2 years and implement changes to make the program more helpful to underserved small businesses. For example, the administration will increase the maximum loan size and expand the number of lenders in the program to provide loans to more underserved entrepreneurs.

Third, Congress should give SBA the tools and resources to nurture the next generation of entrepreneurs by creating a network of incubators and accelerators on the campuses of our Nation's historically Black colleges and universities, minority-serving institutions, and community colleges.

In Maryland, our State HBCUs and community colleges play a key role in the entrepreneurial ecosystem. They are resource partners for the SBA. They host business incubators and accelerators, and they leverage their relationship with the underserved communities to lift up the entrepreneurs in

those communities. We need to do the same on a national scale and support our resource partners.

These are commonsense policies that will unlock the growth potential of our Nation's entrepreneurs and help us to recover from the COVID–19 pandemic in a stronger, fairer way.

As we celebrate National Small Business Week, let us also double down on the investments we have made in our entrepreneurs over the past 2 years. Let us once again put partisanship aside and pass thoughtful legislation that addresses the root causes of the issues that our Nation's entrepreneurs face on a daily basis.

We can do this. During this week, let us rededicate ourselves to help America's small businesses, help fairness and opportunity in this country, and help our economy grow even stronger.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

U.S. SUPREME COURT

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, Monday's leak of a draft opinion in the Dobbs Supreme Court case was an unprecedented and deeply disturbing breach of confidentiality that almost always surrounds Supreme Court deliberations. It is difficult to think this was anything but an escalation in the radical left's campaign to bully the Supreme Court into delivering decisions in line with the priorities of the Democratic Party. From Court-packing threats to threats from the Democratic leader himself that were directed to specific Justices, attempting to intimidate the Supreme Court has become par for the course for liberals, but Monday's leak represents a new low.

Almost as disturbing as the leak has been the reaction from my Democratic colleagues. Their hysterical comments have been focused almost entirely on the prospect of their getting an outcome they don't want in the Dobbs case. I have seen almost no concern about how the leak will affect the integrity of the Supreme Court as an institution, and their activist base has gone out of its way to praise the leaker.

More than one Democrat has actually called for undermining the integrity of the Supreme Court by packing the Court with additional Justices. Yes, that is the result of what happened yesterday among Democrats. More than one Democratic Senator believes that the proper response to a Supreme Court decision you don't like is to add additional Justices to the Court until you can be confident that you will get the outcomes you want.

Other Democratic Senators have proposed undermining the integrity of the U.S. Senate by abolishing the Senate filibuster rule—again, in order to be sure that they can get the legislative outcome they want in response to this possible decision in the Dobbs case.

Mr. President, regardless of what side you are on in this debate, you should be willing to stand up for the rule of law and the integrity of our institutions. That shouldn't be a partisan issue. Our system of government depends upon the rule of law, which is based upon an independent judiciary, free of political pressure or partisan influence.

Do Democrats really want a future in which Supreme Court decisions are made based on political pressure or bullying rather than on the Justices' impartial application of the law and the Constitution to the case before them? Maybe they do. But if they continue to push in that direction, they will end up sacrificing our system of government in the process.

Mr. President, I have strong beliefs in any number of issues, including abortion, but above all, I believe in our system of government and in the rule of law. While I will fight passionately in support of the causes I believe in, I will not sacrifice the integrity of our institutions for what would ultimately be nothing but temporary political gain. It is starting to seem like most of my Democratic colleagues disagree with that position. That may possibly be a recipe for political success, but it is also a recipe for destroying free government.

I am glad that Chief Justice Roberts has taken steps to investigate this unprecedented breach of trust at the Court, and I hope that he will receive the full support of the Department of Justice should this turn out to be a criminal matter. It is difficult to overstate how much this breach could erode trust among Justices and Supreme Court staff, and I hope the damage is minimized by a quick identification of the party responsible. I hope every one of the Justices will continue to feel free to do their jobs and follow the facts, the law, and the Constitution.

At least one Democrat has suggested Republicans are spending more time commenting on the leak than on the content of Justice Alito's draft because we are somehow scared to talk about our pro-life decision. Let me be perfectly clear: We are not. I am proud to defend the right to life, and I know my colleagues are as well.

I think most of us have refrained from commenting because we don't yet truly know the outcome. But I will say this. I hope Justice Alito's opinion ends up being the majority opinion. As I have long believed, Roe v. Wade was a terrible decision by an activist Court that reached far beyond the Constitution and the Court's interpretive role to impose a new abortion regime on the entire country. I hope the Supreme Court overturns Roe and returns the question of abortion to the American people and their elected representatives, where it belongs.

The fight to defend life is in keeping with our highest ideals, our passion for justice, our dedication to human rights, and our compassion for the innocent and the vulnerable. I am grateful for all the Americans who have fought to make sure the right to life of vulnerable human beings is protected and have spent their time and their resources helping moms in need. I look forward to a day, which I hope is soon approaching, when innocent, unborn Americans will enjoy the full protection of the law.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

ENERGY

Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, I come to the floor today to talk about the need that we have here in this country for more energy—and specifically, more American energy.

On Thursday, Leader SCHUMER and NANCY PELOSI held a press conference, and they announced they had finally come up with an energy plan. After nearly a year—a year of Joe Biden's energy crisis where he killed the Keystone XL Pipeline, struck down leasing—it is good to see they finally have a plan.

It turns out this official Democrat energy plan is not going to create one more drop of American energy. So what will the plan do? Well, if you look at it, you will see it sends bureaucrats—unelected, unaccountable, heavy-handed bureaucrats—to shake down energy companies. Instead of producing more American energy, they want more Federal investigations into American energy.

It won't lower the price of energy—no, not by a single penny. If anything, it might actually increase energy costs across our country. People in Wyoming this past weekend were paying $4 a gallon for gasoline. It doesn't take a Federal investigation to figure out what is wrong here with energy in America. We know why prices are up: supply and demand. Very simple. Demand for energy is up, and supply is not. Supply is actually down.

Yet, after a year of high prices, Democrats still refuse to admit it, ignoring inflation, not facing the facts that we have the American energy in the ground here and they won't let us get it out.

But now the Democrats are coming up with election-year conspiracy theories. They say high prices aren't happening because of the law of economics. They are saying it is happening because of secret backroom deals. Democrats claim it is an international conspiracy rigged by a global oil market.

Instead of producing American energy, Democrats want to produce excuses, one after another.

At the Democrat press conference, the majority leader said: ''The American people didn't send us here to point fingers and blame each other.'' They ought to point fingers at themselves. That is exactly what the Democrat leader and the President have done for the last 15 months since the day Joe Biden took office. They blamed inflation on coronavirus, then they blamed it on economic growth, then they blamed it on corporations, they blamed it on ports and shipping companies, they blamed it on Vladimir Putin, everyone except themselves who are the cause of the problem.

They will blame anyone, as long as they don't have to change their radical and reckless policies. But they won't deal with the problem. Right now, Democrats basically point to the fact that they are determined to give the American people more of the same, and it is the same things that have brought Joe Biden's approval numbers to an alltime low—on the inflation, on economy, on the cost of energy—alltime historic lows, for a President who should know better but is following the lead of the liberal radical left.

So people are going to be facing more inflation, more high energy costs. And it now costs so much to fill up a tank of gasoline; it is over a hundred dollars to fill up, and I saw that repeatedly across Wyoming last weekend.

This is the same level of anxiety for hard-working families at the end of every month when the paychecks don't keep up. On Sunday, just this past Sunday, the cost of diesel hit an alltime high. Not just a 40-year high like we have for inflation, an alltime high for diesel fuel.

Diesel prices have doubled since Joe Biden took office. Higher diesel prices means it will cost more to transport goods to market. Food prices are up; everything that one buys at the market is up. No matter how bad it gets, Democrats refuse to change course.

Joe Biden continues to attack American energy and American energy workers. Right now, Joe Biden's administration are blocking oil and gas leases at 80 percent of the available Federal lands. There are thousands of drilling requests that are in limbo, which is where Joe Biden has put them.

He has done everything possible, you would think, to undermine investment in American energy. Told the banks, don't lend. Told businesses, don't invest. An attack on direct—on jobs and affordable energy.

If Democrats were really serious about lowering energy prices, they would stop their war on American energy. We need to unleash American energy, not keep it in the ground. Look, Democrats remain the party of higher costs, the party of expensive regulations, the party of high taxes, and the party of greater reliance on foreign countries.

Working families cannot afford the Democratic agenda. People feel stuck or stressed. They are squeezed by inflation. They are squeezed by high energy prices. They have to make decisions about how they drive and how they eat and what they eat and how they live.

The Democratic policies have brought us all of this. We need to replace the Democratic policies; and come November, we are going to replace the Democrats in the House and in the Senate.

I yield the floor.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Pennsylvania.

Mr. CASEY. I ask unanimous consent to speak as if in morning business.

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

UKRAINE

Mr. CASEY. Mr. President, I rise this morning to express concern for the people of Ukraine and the hundreds of millions who are going to bed hungry across the globe.

Every day since that terrible day, February 24, we have watched in horror as Vladimir Putin and his army, his forces, killed innocent Ukrainians, over and over and over again like nothing—nothing—we have seen since World War II.

Russian forces continue to besiege and shell Ukrainian cities like Mariupol, where over the last two months, civilians have lived in bunkers under perpetual fire. These are civilians in those bunkers.

Only yesterday, 130 civilians managed to escape the battered Azovstal steel plant. Describing the last several months, one evacuee said:

> You can't imagine how scary it is when you sit in the shelter, in a wet and damp basement which is bouncing, shaking. We were praying to God that missiles fly over our shelter, because if it hit the shelter, all of us would be done.

Sadly, 200 more Ukrainian civilians have been unable to evacuate, even as Russian forces began storming the steel mill just yesterday. So our prayers are with them and the remaining brave Ukrainian fighters continuing to hold on to this plant.

But atrocities continue across all of Ukraine. In Donetsk yesterday, three civilians were killed on their way to collecting water—collecting water—for their families.

The United States, of course, must continue to help Ukraine fight against Mr. Putin and his forces. Mr. Putin is the incarnation of evil. It is as clear as any debate could be.

The good news is, countries all over the world are unified against him. But we have a long way to go. Now, I and so many others across the House and the Senate strongly supported the appropriation that Congress made back in March—$13.6 billion in emergency appropriations to support Ukraine, and I stand by President Biden's recent $33 billion request to help Ukraine defend itself over the long term.

Unfortunately, in that first number, the $13.6 billion, the good news is we had support for that in both parties. But I have to say for the record: Not enough support on the Republican side. Here in the Senate, 31 Republicans voted against the $13.6 billion. And when you add up the Senate Republicans voting against the $13.6 billion in the spending bill and add them to the House Republicans, which is, obviously, a much bigger number, it is more than 200 Members of the Republican Party in the U.S. Congress voted against every single penny of the $13.6 billion for Ukraine.

So I hope—I hope—when it comes to the $33 billion that I hope we will be able to pass—but I am sure it will be a number at least comparable to that. But whatever the number is for the people of Ukraine, I hope that we will get unanimous support in the U.S. Congress.

I hope we won't see more than 200 Members of Republicans in the Congress voting against the people of Ukraine. This is not a difficult choice. You are either on one side or the other.

I said Mr. Putin is the incarnation of evil—he is. The good news is, we have another choice. The other choice is Mr. Zelenskyy, the people of Ukraine, and those brave fighters in Ukraine. They are the personification of all that we claim to stand for when we talk about democracy.

This isn't a moment to theorize or to talk about democracy in glowing terms without taking actions. They are doing the fighting on the battlefield. The least that we can do is vote the right way. That is the power you have as a Member of Congress. House, Senate, Democrat, Republican or Independent, you have the power to vote. And I hope that we will have unanimous support for the $33 billion that the President has asked for.

Now, what will that funding entail? I won't go through all of it, but this funding will include $20.4 billion in additional security and military assistance for Ukraine. It is important to put that into context, so it is basically 20 of the 33 will be for security and military assistance. That is on top of what has already been appropriated just since the battle—the war in Ukraine started when Russia invaded.

With President Biden's leadership and with a lot of support in the Congress, we have been able to provide billions of dollars just on the military and security assistance, not to mention the humanitarian support, the sanctions, and the unified approach that so many countries around the world have taken.

But we have a lot more to do, and in my judgment, the $33 billion won't be enough. We are going to be back at it probably in a few months providing more. But at a minimum, we have got to get this done for the people of Ukraine. Part of that appropriation will be the replenishing of donated NATO weapons and equipment.

This help, in total—all of this security assistance and other humanitarian support—will be critical to Ukraine's

ability to prevail—to prevail—over Russian forces through the summer and the fall. We must continue to provide all of the artillery, the anti-tank, the anti-air weapons, and air defense systems and other capabilities that Ukraine can use to block Russian authoritarianism and support the Ukrainian people. However, regardless of how much support the United States, NATO, and other allies and partners provide, we must remember that nothing we do—nothing we do—is comparable to the awesome sacrifice for freedom and democracy that Ukrainians are now making every day when they give their lives—they give their lives in this war—and have their own families shattered in the process.

They are upholding—the people of Ukraine, those brave fighters on the battlefield every day, every week, every month now, those Ukrainians are upholding democracy, not just for themselves, not just for our country, but for the entire free world.

There are, of course, other consequences to this war. The war has already driven over 13 million Ukrainians from their homes. These Ukrainians, who are either refugees going to another country or internally displaced within Ukraine but are outside of their homes, that number is equal to the entire population—roughly equivalent, 13 million, to the entire population of my home State of Pennsylvania. Just imagine that, 13 million people being displaced. And, unfortunately, it doesn't seem like that will be the end.

So I want to commend the European Union and Ukrainian neighbors in the region for their warm welcome to such an unprecedented refugee flow from Ukraine. Now, recently, just two weeks ago, traveling through Italy, Georgia, and France, I saw everyday Italians, Georgians, Frenchmen and Frenchwomen opening their hearts and their homes to Ukrainian refugees, not to mention the people of Poland, who have done so much, and so many others.

Just one example, in Italy, faith-based nonprofits like Sant'Egidio that we had time to meet with on our trip have led the way in providing support to those in need.

I also commend the administration's work to support these refugees across Europe and those remaining in Ukraine, much of that work funded by part of the $13.6 billion that Congress appropriated in March.

FOOD SECURITY

Mr. President, let me move to another topic, but it is directly related to what we just talked about: food security. Our work on the overall strategy, as it relates to the people of Ukraine and protecting democracy, is far from complete.

The world has not yet felt the full effect—the full brunt—of the global effects of Mr. Putin's unprovoked, unlawful, and certainly unjustified war. While millions of Ukrainians have already become refugees, or internally displaced people, there are food shortages in more than one-third of the country. By the end of the year, tens of millions across the globe also will face immediate danger from hunger.

So this is a crisis for the people of Ukraine on a whole host of fronts, obviously, but it is also a food security crisis for the world at the same time.

The reason for that immediate danger that people face right now being unable to find the food that they need to survive is because of this invasion, as well as, obviously, the terrible impact the pandemic has had.

As a breadbasket of the world, before the war, Ukraine fed over 400 million people across the globe, and the greater Black Sea area exported more than 12 percent of the food calories that are traded worldwide. The war has cut off, cut off, these supplies while also raising fuel and transportation costs.

There is less food to go around, and it costs more to get food to those who need it the most.

This comes on top of the COVID–19 pandemic, as I mentioned, which increased hunger and complicated supply chains and climate change effects like severe droughts and floods.

It also costs more to grow food, as Russia previously dominated the world's fertilizer markets. Today, both food and fertilizer prices have skyrocketed to higher than ever before, and the World Food Programme estimates that 878 million people across 92 countries of the world do not have adequate food on their table—878 million people.

Over 276 million people now face acute food insecurity, meaning that they are in immediate danger of not being able to find their next meal. So they are the ones in the most trouble right now all across the world—276 million. It is not all the folks who are hungry and have a food security crisis but those who are in immediate danger.

Due to Putin's horrific war, by the end of 2022, another 47 million people will likely face those same dangers—47 million people. That will mean that around the world, almost as many people as live in the entire United States will face immediate danger from hunger. Most of these people live outside of Ukraine in the Middle East, Africa, Latin America, where any further price shock may put entire communities at risk.

I see the distinguished majority leader. Does he want me to suspend?

I yield the floor.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

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

U.S. SUPREME COURT

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I thank the always gracious, always thoughtful, always perspicacious, always persistent—and many other good adjectives—Senator from Pennsylvania for yielding.

Now, Mr. President, there is only one way—only one way—to describe the Supreme Court's reported decision to overturn Roe v. Wade: an abomination.

Such a decision, if it comes to pass, would be an utter abomination. Women across America would suffer irreparable harm to their rights, their health, and their dignity. It would go down as one of the worst and most damaging opinions that the Court has handed down in modern history, and the Court would suffer a mortal blow to its reputation that I fear will last forever.

Yesterday, I pledged that Senate Democrats will act on legislation to codify Roe into law. It is vital that we act quickly because this is no longer an abstract exercise. This is as real as it gets, America—as real as it gets.

Every single American is going to see where every single Senator stands on protecting a woman's right to choose. And rest assured, Americans will be watching.

Now, we must be clear. This week's draft decision didn't come out of nowhere. It didn't materialize in a vacuum. Indeed, the blame for the end of Roe lies primarily right across the aisle here with Senate Republicans.

The Supreme Court's decision to overturn Roe would never have been possible without Leader MCCONNELL and Senate Republicans spending years packing our courts with hard-right judges, judges who came from a list under the Trump years that the Federalist Society approved. And the Federalist Society's purpose, when it was put into action, from what I have read, is to repeal Roe. And the Republicans on this side of the aisle, right there, were willing—willing—accomplices in that deed.

Let me say it again. The Supreme Court's decision to overturn Roe would have never been possible without Leader MCCONNELL and Senate Republicans spending years packing our courts with hard-right judges.

Now, Republicans are twisting themselves into pretzels, trying to distract from this truth. Yesterday, Leader MCCONNELL said that the real story was somehow the leaks and not the end of Roe.

Can you believe that? The leaks are more important than the rights of 100 million American women? Give me a break.

And when Leader MCCONNELL evidently was asked at his press conference yesterday: Are you glad Roe would be repealed, he wouldn't even answer that, even though he had worked years to do it, because they know where history is going. They know where the American people are. They know they are on the wrong side of both so they are trying to ''low key'' it.

Republicans have spent decades trying to achieve the end of Roe, and now that they are about to succeed, they are flailing around, talking about a leak instead of owning up to their own actions. We won't let them. We know, all of us, why Republicans are spending

all their focus on the leak. It is because they don't want to focus on Roe, where, again, they are on the wrong side of history and the wrong side of the American people.

Their hypocrisy and refusal to own this decision is utterly shameful. The end of a constitutional right to choose is not some small or inconsequential subject; it is huge. It touches on one of the most personal, most private, most important decisions a woman can make regarding her body.

So it is worth saying again: Without Senate Republicans working years to pack our courts, without them changing the rules of the Senate to confirm three ideological Justices, Roe would not—would not—be on the brink of being overturned.

And don't take my word for it. Leader MCCONNELL himself expected and hoped for this outcome. When asked in 2019 what confirming President Trump's Justices meant for the anti-abortion movement, he said:

There are a number of [States] who have enacted new legislation [that] would be winding its way up through the courts and [it] gives us an opportunity to begin to pick away at Roe v. Wade.

''Pick away at Roe v. Wade.''

So what the Court did was not an aberration; it was a plan, a plan by Senate Republicans, a plan by Leader MCCONNELL.

Senate Republicans spent years rubberstamping one radical Trump judge after another onto the Federal bench in order to ''pick away at Roe.''

Many of these judges were wildly unqualified. Many of them were out of step—far out of step—from the American mainstream.

What is more, every single Republican also changed Senate rules to confirm not one, not two, but three Trump Justices to the U.S. Supreme Court, assuring a 6-to-3 conservative majority. Some of these Justices lied to the Senate by misrepresenting their views on respecting precedent when it came to decisions like Roe.

And, of course, after the death of Justice Scalia, Leader MCCONNELL took the unprecedented and truly destructive step of preventing the Senate from considering the nomination of Merrick Garland.

So nobody here should be fooled. Nobody in America should be fooled. The Republican leader might not say it, but the end of Roe is a culmination of actions taken by the Republican leader and the Republican Party writ large to skew our courts with hard-right, ideological, vehemently anti-choice judges.

And now that they are close to succeeding, they can't even bring themselves to own up to their own actions because they know—they know—just how strongly the American people oppose restricting the right to choose.

But this is not the end of the story. Republicans cannot hide from the American people and cannot hide their role in bringing Roe to an end. They will have to answer to the people this month, this year, and especially this November, when American voters go to the polls. And we are going to vote here in the Senate to make clear where every single Member stands on the right to choose.

Few issues—few issues—are as personal, as private, and as important to Americans as whether or not to have an abortion. The Nation will be watching to see who in this Chamber will defend this precious right to choose and who will stand with the Roberts Court to destroy this right in one fell swoop.

BUSINESS BEFORE THE SENATE

Mr. President, now, on another subject—on a very different subject—tonight, the Senate—or, this afternoon, the Senate will begin holding votes on as many as 28 motions to instruct before the conference committee begins the work of finalizing our jobs and competition bill.

Twenty of those motions to instruct come from Republicans, a sign of the immense good faith Democrats have shown Republicans in getting this bill over the finish line.

For the information of all Members, we are going to be voting late into the night to get through as many of the motions to instruct as we can. I ask Members to vote quickly, to stay near the floor, so we can keep the process moving smoothly and as quickly as we can on the floor of the Senate.

Once again, I thank my dear colleague from Pennsylvania for yielding.

I yield the floor.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Pennsylvania.

FOOD SECURITY

Mr. CASEY. Mr. President, I thank the majority leader.

I will resume my comments about food security.

As I mentioned earlier, across the world now, we not only have 276 million people who now face acute food insecurity—as I said, meaning that they are in immediate danger of not being able to find their next meal—but what is ahead is an exacerbation of that problem. Another 47 million people will likely face these same dangers by the end of this year.

So a food security problem, which was a substantial problem before the pandemic, made ever worse by the pandemic, has gotten much worse because of the war in Ukraine—all caused by an attack on a sovereign country by a brutal dictator, Mr. Putin.

So this is one of the many reasons why this war in Ukraine—or why all of us, I should say, across the free world have a stake in what happens in Ukraine.

I wanted to also highlight what the United States is doing in the midst of this terrible food insecurity crisis.

We can't afford to forget and should not forget about the tens of millions who are struggling to survive as a result of this invasion. To feed all of those in need, the World Food Programme, which does such good work all across the globe—goes into conflict zones to provide food to people—that program estimates it will take more than $18 billion.

The United States must not share this burden alone, but if we don't lead the way, no one will. That is true in so many instances. It is true with regard to the President's leadership against Mr. Putin by helping the people of Ukraine; it is also true in terms of American leadership on food security.

President Biden's request for $33 billion for all aspects of the challenge in Ukraine doesn't include enough, in my judgment. It includes $1.6 billion for food security and humanitarian assistance. Now, that sounds like a lot of money, but it is not enough to meet the moment.

And despite my consistent urging, Congress has appropriated flat funding for the U.S. food security program, Feed the Future, over the last 10 years. Adjusting for inflation, the program has been cut by almost a third of its total programming, from almost $1.5 billion in today's dollars to just over $1 billion.

So, today, we face the same global food crisis which the Feed the Future Program was originally created to address after the 2008 recession. So after a recession, we had a global food security challenge, and now after a pandemic, and exacerbated by the war in Ukraine, we have potentially an even greater challenge.

So we must again rise to the challenge. When I say ''we,'' I mean the U.S. Government, the Congress, the branch of our government that appropriates money, has to rise to the challenge by providing the resources that are necessary to feed those who face famine—not just missing a meal here and there, famine itself.

We have got to support these smallholder farmers, who are the backbone of the world's food supply, and sustainably strengthen food systems to protect against the next war, the next pandemic, the next drought, or the next flood.

So that is why I am leading a letter to appropriators urging robust funding of all—all—global food security accounts in the fiscal year 2023 budget, specifically calling for an almost $200 million increase just for the Feed the Future Program, not to mention those other global food security programs and accounts.

This funding will only put a dent in the growing food security crisis, but it will inspire our allies and our partners to follow us. America leads the world in so many ways, and, fortunately, most of the time on food security we have led the world as well.

We need to do that again. We need to lay the groundwork for a more secure food future and save tens and tens of thousands of lives—potentially a lot more than that—in the immediate future.

NATIONAL CRITICAL CAPABILITIES DEFENSE ACT

Mr. President, I will move to one final topic before I conclude. This is a

topic we are hearing more about because of the pandemic and because of legislation we are working on right now.

Today and tomorrow, as the majority leader made reference to, we are going to be voting here in the Senate on measures ahead of a conference—kind of a coming together of the House and Senate—to work out differences on landmark legislation aimed at addressing U.S. economic competition with the Chinese Communist Party and investing in American workers.

As the House and Senate proceed to this conference on the Senate-passed U.S. Innovation and Competition Act and the House version, which is called the COMPETES Act, I urge bipartisan leadership in both the House and the Senate to negotiate in good faith and ensure substantive provisions that support the interests of American workers, supply chains, and security.

Key among these provisions in the trade title is the House COMPETES Act and within it, the bipartisan, bicameral National Critical Capabilities Defense Act, which both Senator CORNYN and I wrote and have led the effort on to pass this legislation. In the House, Representatives PASCRELL and DELAURO have worked on this as well.

The pandemic exacerbated a problem that has been decades in the making. Here it is: The United States has ceded its manufacturing power to other countries—especially countries like China—that don't play by the rules. From the PPE shortages that we all know so much about at the beginning of the pandemic—I mean, we couldn't even provide enough masks, gloves, and gowns for our own people. That was an American failure that was long in the making. We cannot—cannot—allow that to happen. But, of course, PPE doesn't end the story; we have ceded our manufacturing power to other parts of the world in so many other ways.

For too long, corporations have prioritized their profits over anything else. They have prioritized those profits by offshoring their manufacturing to countries with low labor standards that undercut American workers, thereby lowering the cost of design and production all across the board. So offshoring our manufacturing capabilities—the best in the world, I would argue—why would we offshore it like we have over a generation? Offshoring our supply chain has gotten so bad that it is now putting our economic security at risk, but it is also putting our national security at risk.

The issue is that we don't even know how bad the problem is. At its core, this bill, the National Critical Capabilities Defense Act, is a transparency effort. We need to know how much we are relying on foreign adversaries for both the design and manufacturing of goods that are critical to our economic and national security interests. Once we know that, we can start investing in domestic manufacturing strategically, which will lower costs for families, provide good-paying jobs to American workers, and ensure that we are no longer relying on adversaries for the basic functions of our economy.

This is a commonsense policy, and that is why this bill has bipartisan support in the House and the Senate. Members of the Senate are coming together on this who often don't agree on much but agree that we have to protect our manufacturing base. We cannot be at the mercy of other countries in a pandemic or more generally when it comes to our economic interests but also our security interests.

That is why Biden administration officials, from the National Security Advisor to the Secretary of Commerce, have acknowledged a need to review outbound investment. Even former National Security Advisor H.R. McMaster proposed some form of a government outbound investment review mechanism.

I recognize that this is not an easy problem to solve. It is not an easy mechanism to create within the bureaucracy of the Federal Government. But this critical moment calls for having to do the hard work to ensure that we are meeting the economic and national security challenges of the day.

This is a moment to do the work to set our government and the American people up for success in a world where the Chinese Communist Party will continue to incentivize American investment into that country and away from the United States, thereby eroding the foundation of American power, which is leveraging our economic might to uphold liberal Democratic norms—the same norms that are being challenged every day in places like Ukraine.

So this is why I urge my colleagues in leadership to work with me and to work with others in a bipartisan, bicameral effort to negotiate and hammer out the details of this legislation and to ensure the inclusion of this critical legislation in a final competitiveness package.

If a company is outsourcing technology, outsourcing a product that compromises or has the potential to compromise our national security, we not only should know about that, but we should have the opportunity as a government whose first duty is to protect our national security. That same Government, the U.S. Government, should be able to review those transactions and make a determination about whether or not that outsourcing will put us at a disadvantage. That is a reasonable request for people in both parties, both Houses, and the administration, and it is about time we did this. It is long overdue.

So this isn't simply that we couldn't make enough masks and had to rely upon other countries in a pandemic. That was bad enough. That was embarrassing enough. This is a lot more than PPE; this is about our economic security and our national security.

There is no reason why those kinds of investments that companies make every day—sometimes without any thought about what it will do to our security—there is no reason why that shouldn't be the subject of an appropriate review to protect our national security.

With that, I would yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

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

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Oklahoma.

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

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

REMEMBERING ORRIN G. HATCH

Mr. INHOFE. Mr. President, much has already been said on this floor as we express our love and admiration for our friend and former colleague, Senator Orrin Hatch of Utah. He was not like any other Senator. Orrin was the best of all of us, and our household is very sad to hear of his passing.

I will never forget the time he took to answer calls from an obscure State senator from Oklahoma. If you haven't figured it out, that was me. He had a way about him with everyone he met, an unwavering kindness and gentle nature that Kay and I will miss deeply. You don't see a lot of that in the U.S. Senate. We were close long before I was even in the House. Orrin was the one whom I would go to for wisdom. We had the same love for Jesus and everything that we hold dear.

I will always remember his humor, but he also gave his best advice. He was not just a friend but a confidante. Whether he was talking about Scripture or history, he had a way of saying things that brought people together. You don't see that today. You see people fighting each other, and that is what people always say. When I go back home to Oklahoma, people talk about, why don't you guys get along? Well, we do. It just doesn't come across that way. But it did with him.

I think back fondly on everything that we did while Orrin was in office. Despite strong opposition at the time, myself and Senators Hatch, Chambliss, and THUNE were able to pass an amendment permitting the Air Force to enter into a multiyear procurement for a total of 60 F–22s during the 2007 NDAA. The NDAA is something we pass every year. It is the National Defense Authorization Act. And that happened that year. Now, that turned out to be one-third of our total force in one effort, one NDAA effort.

The argument against the amendment at the time was that we didn't need such an air-dominant fighter, but we knew we were making an investment in the future of our defense. Orrin had that foresight. He was always looking to the future. In advancing years,

people would joke around about it because he was looking at the next generation. He showed that foresight always when others didn't.

Not only that, but together we worked very closely to ensure the future of our Air Force depots. I remember the codel. A codel is a group of Members who go someplace to examine things. I led a group codel, along with Senator Hatch and Senator Chambliss, which toured each one of our depots as part of the initiative to restore their funding. This is something that we had to do at that time because our previous administration had not done an adequate job.

Now, Orrin—you know, you think of him as always a serious person. He wasn't. Most of the time, he was poking fun at himself. I remember laughing often when he was around. Together, we supported funding for these Air Force depots that continue to be vital to our home States of Oklahoma, Utah, and Georgia, but we had fun while doing it. That was Orrin's way of doing it. He always had fun.

For those of you who are not familiar with our Nation's depots, they are state-of-the-art maintenance and repair facilities for the Air Force's aircraft. We do this ourselves because we can't trust anyone else to get them done. Simply put, our Nation would not be able to rule the skies without the critical maintenance and repair work that is performed on our incredibly complex aircraft.

To ensure our Nation will always have our Nation's depots, there are laws commonly called core and 50/50 laws which preserve the depots' maintenance. I know that a lot of people are not familiar with the term ''depot,'' but it is critically important for our survival.

Throughout my tenure on the Senate Armed Services Committee, I greatly appreciated the legal analysis that Senator Hatch provided my staff and me when the executive branch would send over suggested changes to these critical laws.

Now, there were many times when, after reading those proposals, Senator Hatch would raise the alarm, and my colleagues on the Senate Armed Services Committee and I would then turn to do battle, and sometimes we had to do what was necessary, but we did it together.

After the Obama administration canceled the NASA project Constellation, which was supposed to replace the space shuttle, there was a real question whether the civilian solid rocket motor industry, which employs thousands of people in Utah, was going to survive. Obviously it did survive, and that was due to Orrin Hatch. Using his considerable legislative skills, Senator Hatch was able to insert language in the fiscal year 2010 National Defense Authorization Act that directed the new heavy-lift Space Launch System be built to lift, from inception, 130 tons—an objective which at the time could only be accomplished by using solid rocket motors.

And he did it. He did it. He looked out into the future. This is back when he was actually in advanced years himself. As a result, a few weeks ago, NASA rolled the SLS out to the launch pad for testing before it carries the astronauts to the Moon in what is projected to be 2025.

I was also very impressed by how Senator Hatch used his prominence to promote the use of Hill Air Force Base. Whenever there was an Air Force official within hearing distance, Senator Hatch would espouse the strength and capabilities of the Hill, Ogden Air Logistics Complex, and he did so very persuasively. The results were there, and he was the guy who did it. In fact, I honestly believe that one of the reasons Hill was chosen to receive the first three squadrons of F–35s is that Orrin Hatch was always advocating for Hill with the Air Force senior leadership.

Now, one of the things that I loved about Orrin Hatch was his placement of obscure words into many of his speeches. He would say things that were so obscure that no one would know what he was talking about. No one in the Senate wanted to believe that they didn't understand what he was talking about, but they didn't. He would use words that no one really had any idea what they meant. I actually wrote these down some time ago.

''Bovarism.'' That was defined, by him, as having an exaggerated, especially glamorized, estimate of oneself. I think we know what we are talking about there.

''Cockalorum'' is a small man with a big opinion of himself. We know that.

''Furphy'' is a false report or a rumor.

When asked why he insisted on using that kind of vocabulary, Senator Hatch would beam his boyish grin and chuckle and respond:

I like confusing the Democrats.

He had a very peculiar way of trying to get to know volunteers. He would get people who had no status in life. He would have people who were driving cars. Many of them were young people who were escorting him to different places just to make speeches or something. He had a peculiar way of trying to get to know volunteers—people who no one else paid any attention to. If they were driving him to events, without fail, he would always compliment the volunteer about his car. It could be an old junker car, but, nonetheless, he would talk about it because he knew young people were proud of their cars. I am talking about the young volunteer could have been driving a 50-year-old Yugo, with the floor rusted through, but I can assure you that Senator Hatch would find something nice to say about the volunteer's car.

My personal opinion is that one of the best ways to know someone is to listen to him pray. When we address our Creator, we reveal who we really are. Many of us waited around and listened and waited for Orrin to give one of his prayers. He had that kind of a love that everyone enjoyed. For those who have listened to this or who have read this record, I want to present the genuine Orrin Hatch to you—a person whom we all came to know and love.

In 2010, Senator Hatch was chosen to say the main prayer at the 57th National Prayer Breakfast here in Washington. It has been going on for 60 years, and we have had our 60th now. This is something that will last forever.

I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD, at the conclusion of my remarks, the full text of Senator Hatch's prayer for peace and tranquility in front of that crowd of 4,000 people on that February morning 12 years ago.

Today, I believe Orrin Hatch fully enjoys the peace and tranquility that he prayed for. All of that is to say, Orrin Hatch will be missed dearly by me and by the many friends of Orrin Hatch's. We have lost a true hero and one of my closest personal friends. Kay and I are praying for Elaine and their family and loved ones as they go through this difficult time.

So today is goodbye to my friend.

God bless you, Orrin Hatch.

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

''Let us pray. As we bow our heads this morning before Thee, we are so grateful for this great nation, and for the nations of the world and especially for the opportunities we have as a nation to bring peace and contentment and tranquility throughout this world. We are grateful for our great leaders and pray Thou will bless them. We pray that Thou will bless our President and our Vice President and their cabinet. And all the leaders throughout the federal government, that they might be inspired to lead us to do the things that are righteous in Thy sight. That we might be able to be good followers and that we might be able to bind together to do what is right. As Moses' father-in-law told him, let's share the responsibility and let's work together in the best interests of our country. Let's have bipartisanship reborn again in this great nation. We are so grateful for those who serve in the military, who are represented here today and throughout this country. We are grateful for all the sacrifices that they undertake on our behalf. We are grateful for those who are in harm's way and we pray Thou will pour out Thy special blessing upon them, that they may be blessed and protected. And we pray that we might be a nation that will help bring peace and tranquility throughout the world. We are grateful for all the food, clothing and shelter that Thou hast provided for us. We are grateful for those who serve in governments throughout the states and the respective state legislatures. And last but not least, we are grateful for the Congress of the United States and pray that the Congress might be able to work together, as Democrats and Republicans and Independents, to serve Thee and serve our country and to serve our fellow men and women. And bring peace and content to this great nation and throughout the world. We pray at this time for those who are suffering in Haiti and elsewhere throughout the world and ask you to bless them and help them and help us to do

our share in helping throughout this world. We are grateful for leaders from other countries who are here and pray Thy blessing upon them. Once again, we ask you to bless our President and Vice President and the leaders of this country. In the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.''

Mr. INHOFE. I yield the floor.

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

RUSSIA AND CHINA

Mr. SASSE. Mr. President, Ukraine's struggle against Russia's invasion has reminded Americans that, sometimes, the world divides into good and evil and into heroes and villains. Not always. There are many fights that are not like that, and we just stupidly talk like it. Debates about marginal tax policy are not good versus evil or heroes versus villains; but, sometimes, fights are heroes versus villains.

Heroes are men and women who love their country and who love their freedom and who want to pass along freedom to the next generation, but they are also people who believe in freedom more broadly. Heroes are people who believe that we were created in the image of God and that everyone has unalienable rights: the rights to life, liberty, speech, religion, assembly, protest. These are pre-governmental rights. Governments don't give us these rights; we are endowed with these rights by nature and nature's Creator. Heroes recognize this not only about themselves and their own countrymen and -women but about everybody. Zelenskyy is such a hero.

The villains are tyrants. They are people who want to oppress others, who want to hold them down. They want to take freedom from their countrymen but also from their neighbors. They are people who seek power at the expense of the weak. Putin is such a villain.

But there is another villain in this drama, a villain who isn't getting nearly enough attention, and he is Chairman Xi, the dictator in China. His Chinese Communist Party has enabled him to do all sorts of oppressive things against men and women in his country. We know what is happening in Xinjiang—there is actually a genocide happening against the Uighurs in our time—but Xi is doing more than just oppressing people at home.

A hundred years from now, when the history of the Russian invasion of Ukraine is written, assuming that it isn't written as Chinese propaganda, I am confident that the public will have a much clearer understanding of the way that Xi and Putin have worked together and have worked together closely. We can't talk here about everything we know in the Intelligence Committee, but I am confident that, when the history is written, the American people and the people of the world will see Xi and Putin as having worked hand in hand, side by side.

Americans should understand this today: Chairman Xi is not indifferent about Ukraine. He is on Putin's side, and he has supported Putin's unprovoked war.

The situation in Ukraine reminds us of a pretty good rule for 21st century foreign policy, and it is this: The Chinese Communist Party is almost always on the wrong side of freedom and human dignity.

The CCP and the United States are in the middle of a global conflict of visions. It is important for us in this Chamber not to say ''the United States and China'' as if we mean 330 million Americans and 1.4 billion Chinese are locked in a battle; but the U.S. vision, the American idea, is in conflict with the vision of the Chinese Communist Party and the ways that they want to oppress not just their neighbors but their own citizens. The CCP and the U.S. are locked in a global conflict of visions, and that is true whether DC politicians want to admit it every day or not, and sometimes it seems convenient for folks not to admit it.

It is the free peoples of the world—NATO allies, Ukrainians, and other freedom lovers—who are fighting against a handful of totalitarian regimes—chiefly, Putin's Russia and Xi's Chinese Communist Party. These are the folks who are terrorizing not just their own people but their neighbors. This contest is a contest between liberty and tyranny. Not every fight is, but this one is; and you had damned well better believe that the tyrants are working together strategically and intentionally to undermine freedom.

So let's back up to February 4.

The Winter Olympics had just begun, and Vladimir Putin was in China to visit Chairman Xi. Together, they released what they called a ''joint statement'' announcing a new partnership with ''no limits.'' The Xi-Putin statement said there would be no limits in their partnership against the United States. They promised that they would work together to promote each other's economic and national security interests even as Putin was amassing forces on the border of Ukraine and preparing for his invasion. Xi was not unaware of what Putin was planning when he released and signed the ''no limits'' statement.

Here is why this is strange: Historically, Russia and China have not been friends. For centuries, these two countries have clashed with one another. During the Cold War, not even shared communist ideology could unite China and Russia for very long. The CCP studied the collapse of the Soviet Union to learn how to keep a communist regime afloat, and they have been very adept at using new technologies not to advance human freedom but to squash human freedom. Now, though, the historic rivals have found something they have in common. Both Putin and Xi hate the United States and hate, most fundamentally, our ideas of the dignity of every individual having been created in the image of God.

Let's do a little geography.

Russia and China share nearly 3,000 miles of common border. Russia is a giant. It has 11 time zones. Think about that. If you look at your globe of the world and spin it all the way around, you will get 24 time zones. Russia spans 11 of them. Russia is about 11 percent of the area of land on Earth. There are 5 countries that have about 6 percent: China is one; the U.S. is one; Canada is one—and India. So Russia has 11 percent, and 5 countries have about 6 percent. No other country has more than about 2 percent of the land mass of Earth.

The Russian-Chinese border has historically been complicated because they haven't gotten along, but as he planned to launch his wicked invasion of Ukraine, Putin needed to move troops and materiel all the way from the border with China in the East back into Europe in the West. And he couldn't do that—he couldn't leave this giant border unguarded—unless Chairman Xi said: We don't have any problems right now. And that is exactly what happened. Xi agreed that he would be on the same page with Putin as Putin took all of his troops and all of his materiel back from this historically contested border to use against the free people of Ukraine.

From the beginning of this crisis, Chairman Xi has been in lockstep with Putin. The New York Times writes in some impressive reporting that Xi even asked Putin to delay the invasion until after the Olympics ended, which Putin ultimately did.

One of the biggest ways China has supported Russia through all of this is by amplifying Russian lies and propaganda about the war. Chinese Communist Party propagandists, such as Wang Yi, have done everything from blaming the United States and NATO for the war to playing up Russia's unrealistic security demands, to echoing lies about Ukrainian biolabs.

Xi's henchmen and CCP-controlled state media have always been there to amplify Putin's falsehoods. Some of the stuff Putin is saying at home is laughably absurd even to the hosts of state TV, who are paid to read these scripts. Yet Xi has been willing to take all of it, translate it into Mandarin, and pump it into China to make sure the people in China don't have an accurate understanding of what is happening between Russia and Ukraine. The CCP's state media have been trying to tell the world repeated untrue stories about Russia, and they now cover up the atrocities and horrors that have been committed by Russian troops against Ukrainian civilians.

The propagandizing is obviously despicable, but the diplomatic support the CCP is providing Russia is even more dangerous. Through the COVID pandemic, we saw how China tried to manipulate international organizations like the WHO to promote their own narrative and to bully other countries. During the invasion of Ukraine, they have done the same thing on behalf of Putin.

The Chinese foreign ministry has participated in the consistent spreading of lies about the war through and to other international organizations.

At the U.N., Chinese diplomats have worked tirelessly to provide cover for Russian crimes and to enable Putin's invasion. They have spurned the pleas of Ukraine and other European countries to try to help restore the peace.

And just a couple of weeks ago, China's vice minister met with the Russian Ambassador to announce the regimes will ''continue to strengthen strategic coordination with Russia.'' Statements like these have become characteristic of the twisted friendship that has developed between these two aggressor nations and what they call their ''no-limits friendship.''

China has also attempted to bail out Russia and to save their economy from the crippling sanctions that we and our allies have imposed since the beginning of this invasion. As soon as the sanctions were imposed, Chinese banks were looking for work-arounds so they could keep doing business with Russia, partly for their own interests but largely to help stabilize and subsidize Russia.

Russian banks issued Chinese UnionPay cards, after Visa and Mastercard pulled out of the country, and ordered Chinese currency savings accounts. China was already in the currency manipulation business, but since February, they have been using their talents not just to prop up their own currency but also to keep the ruble from flaming out. And while other free countries have begun shunning Russia's energy sector, China's state-owned energy companies have continued to conduct what they call ''normal trading cooperation'' with Russia, looking for ways to expand and eat up more of the Russian supply.

But China hasn't only been supporting Putin indirectly. Chairman Xi has also aided Putin's invasion of Ukraine directly. The Times of London reported at the beginning of April that China launched a massive cyber attack on Kyiv mere days before Putin invaded. Think about that. The Chinese Government was involved in a cyber attack against free Ukraine to help Russia.

As the Russian army has struggled, Putin has asked Xi for direct military assistance, and Xi is reportedly deliberating about how he can do more, hoping the international community won't notice. We should notice. We should amplify what Xi is doing. He is aiding and abetting Russia's war crimes against civilians.

Here is the fact: Putin and Xi are tied at the hip. China regularly claims that it stands for the principles of state sovereignty, territorial integrity, and noninterference in domestic affairs. Yet China has supported and provided diplomatic cover for Russia's illegal, immoral, and unprovoked war against Ukraine every step of the way. Now there is the chance that Team Zelenskyy could win, and so what has Xi done in response? He has decided to convene meetings to figure out how he can amp up support for Putin.

We should be asking ourselves: Why is Chairman Xi so supportive of this invasion? Part of the reason is because Vladimir Putin is running a scout team offense for Chairman Xi's eventual planned invasion of Taiwan. Xi wants to learn everything he can about how democracies and free peoples will respond and how democracies defend themselves so that he can try to develop strategies to beat us and to beat our allies.

Xi also wants Putin to win because he thinks this will demoralize Taiwan and the rest of the free world. He wants to be able to tell a story where the age of America, where the age of freedom is over. Xi wants to plunge the globe into a new dark age—an age of surveillance state totalitarianism. And step one at this moment is destroying the friends of Ukraine.

We shouldn't deceive ourselves. What we are seeing in Ukraine is a contest between freedom and tyranny. It is not in our national interest to see the tyrants triumph. We need to show the world that the forces arrayed by Putin and Xi cannot defeat the bravery of men and women who want to live free and who believe in freedom.

Zelenskyy and Ukraine's heroes have a chance to smash the new Russia-China axis, but they need our support. Standing up to Putin and helping Ukraine is important for its own sake, but it is also important because this is the opening skirmish in a larger confrontation between tyranny and liberty, between Chinese communists and the American idea.

Will the United States continue to lead the world toward peace and freedom, or will tyrant Xi and his CCP have the chance to impose their totalitarianism on weaker countries around the Pacific?

Today in Ukraine, it is easy to see the line between good and evil, and that is why it is time for us to step up, to help Ukraine, but also to tell the world who Chairman Xi is, what he believes, what he has done on Putin's behalf, and why he is on Putin's side.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Utah.

U.S. SUPREME COURT

Mr. LEE. Mr. President, Justice Alito's draft opinion in Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health is a masterpiece of jurisprudence, and it is a long overdue victory for the preborn. It is also a vindication of nearly 50 years of tireless efforts by the pro-life movement, the conservative legal movement, by textualists and originalists, and by President Trump's recent judicial appointments.

I am proud to say that this decision vindicates the efforts of people like my late father, who wrote an amicus brief in City of Akron v. Akron Center for Reproductive Health.

Incidentally, it was in that context when I first had an encounter with individuals on the opposite side of this issue. I was 11 years old when my father submitted that amicus brief while serving as President Reagan's Solicitor General.

One morning, a busload of pro-abortion rights protesters showed up outside of our home. My parents and my siblings were out running errands, going about various activities. I found myself alone that morning. I went outside to talk to the people who had shown up in our quiet suburban neighborhood in a Greyhound-size bus carrying signs and shouting slogans of one sort or another.

I introduced myself to the woman who appeared to be in charge. Her first words startled me. She said: Well, hello, little boy. We are not here to hurt you.

I thought that was strange. It ought to go without saying. It is a little alarming when that is the first thing someone says to you. I asked her what she was doing. She told me that they were there because they disagreed with some things that my father had submitted to the Supreme Court of the United States in that amicus brief to which I referred.

I then asked the question: Why do you have to do it on my lawn? She responded in a way that I found curious. She said: Well, we are trying very hard not to step on your lawn. We are actually staying on the sidewalk.

I didn't yet understand the difference between an easement and a walkway and whether they had entered onto the curtilage of our home. All I knew was that it seemed like a strange place to be doing this, in front of a private residence, a home where a public official lived and slept and raised his children.

I think about the tireless efforts of people like my late father to stand up for the rights of unborn human beings and for the injustice brought about by Roe v. Wade—a 1973 decision by the Supreme Court that stripped power away from the American people, stripped their opportunity to make decisions regarding abortion at the appropriate level of government, to have those decisions made by their own elected lawmakers rather than by unelected, unaccountable Judges who had arrogated to themselves the almost exclusive prerogative to decide how, when, whether, to what extent abortions may be regulated.

What lies before the Supreme Court is the test of weathering the storm of political opinion. The line has been drawn, and Roe v. Wade appears to be on the verge of being overturned. Should this draft opinion become the official holding of the Court, Americans will, once again, have the opportunity to debate and discuss these issues with the American people each deciding, within their respective State, what terms and conditions ought to apply, what restrictions ought to be imposed to protect human life.

This should give us all hope that America is not doomed to decline. All

it takes is persistence, even in the face of daunting odds and decades of setbacks by those who love God and love our country. For once, good men and women did not do nothing, and this evil will triumph no more.

I was thinking recently about a monument that was placed on the Mall upon the hill where the Washington Monument stands. A few months ago, people placed white flags, each memorializing those who had died with COVID–19. I believe at the time there were 6 or 700,000 people in America who had died with this illness, and so there were 6 or 700,000 little white flags, each standing only a few inches tall on that hill where the Washington Monument stands. From a distance, it looked like a snowstorm had hit Washington, DC. It hadn't. It was actually quite beautiful.

I started thinking, I started wondering: What if a similar memorial were placed—if only temporarily, like that one was—honoring, memorializing those 63 million babies who had been aborted since Roe v. Wade was decided in 1973, taking away from the American people the ability to make their own laws in their own States pursuant to authority that belongs to the American people and our constitutional system of government—63 million babies. A portion of this came out of my generation. There are an estimated one-fourth of generation X who were never born because they were aborted—63 million. What if we had small red flags, each representing one of those babies? It has occurred to me that there wouldn't be room enough on that hill to accommodate all of those. I seriously wonder whether there would be room enough in the entire Mall, between the Capitol Building to the east and the Lincoln Memorial to the west, to accommodate all of those red flags. And what would that look like? The COVID memorial looked like a snowstorm. This sea of red flags would look like something else.

Now, this moment is not without some sense of loss. When I saw a draft Supreme Court opinion that had been leaked to the news media, I experienced a wave of emotions. As pleased as I was and as encouraged as I am by what appears to be something that will soon become the opinion of the Court, I was also deeply upset that an employee of the Supreme Court of the United States could betray the trust of the Justices.

I recalled from my own time that I spent at the Supreme Court, the time I spent as a law clerk working for Justice Alito, the great lengths to which the Court went to protect the internal deliberations of the Justices. We drafted opinions on separate computers—''separate computers'' meaning we had a computer system that allowed us to handle internal correspondence between the chambers, to transfer draft opinions between the various chambers.

That computer system was completely walled off from the outside world. It was connected only by a local area network, one that was impenetrable from the outside world. If we wanted to do any research, any outside correspondence, anything that would require internet access, we had to go to a separate computer; we couldn't use that one. It was walled off completely, with good reason.

You see, the Court operates in such a way that its ultimate work product in any case will consist of a ruling; and, in fairness to the Justices, you have got to make sure that everything is in order; that the Justices each have decided exactly how they are going to vote, which opinion they are going to join, and what that opinion is going to say before they release their opinions. If those go out too early, then they are not ready. That does a grave injustice to the litigants and to the American people, generally.

That is why the Court goes to great lengths. It is not that they are being secretive about it. The Court is actually quite open and transparent. It is a matter of public record what documents they review in each case. The oral arguments presented to the Court are, likewise, matters of public record. And the documents that they produce that have legal operation are also public documents. It is actually a very open and transparent process.

But during the time period between when argument is heard and an opinion is rendered, the Court needs to be able to deliberate and consider its options confidentially. So that is what this security system does. It is there to make sure that opinions, as they are being drafted and sent back and forth, don't leak out.

In many circumstances, the editing of opinions took place on that same computer system, with drafts going back and forth; redlined, proposed edits between them. In those moments when you did need to print them out, you needed a hard copy, you could do so; but there were conditions attached to them. There was an understanding that they shouldn't leave the building, you can't take them home with you, they shouldn't go outside the Court, they probably shouldn't even go outside of your particular office. And when you are finished with them, you don't just throw it in the wastebasket; you put them in a burn bag.

Each law clerk has next to his or her desk a tall brown paper bag with stripes on it, and at the end of the day someone comes around and collects the contents of those burn bags. And they shred them. My understanding is that they shred them a couple times so that the documents are reduced not just to long, thin ribbons of paper that have been cut apart but they have been cut multiple times so that it is a fine mist of confetti.

It is also my understanding and was at the time that before any of that even left the building, they would take it to an incinerator—that confetti—and they would burn it and they would grind it up into an ashy pulp, perhaps put some water in there, creating a slurry, so that no one could look at what was previously a draft opinion and discern what is going to happen.

You see, lives are at stake. Power is at stake. Sometimes an enormous amount of money is at stake. All these things matter, and the Court wants to make sure that the opinions go out only when they are ready.

Every day was filled with a sense of seriousness and of duty, a seriousness felt by everyone, even and especially when there was disagreement. The ability to deliberate and discuss these complicated legal principles through the process of writing, editing, and sharing opinions with their colleagues is how the Justices are able to distill legal principles and arrive at proper legal conclusions and to do so, moreover, in a way that is respectful of the litigants and of each member of the Court. That is why their work is guarded from public scrutiny at this stage and why a breach of confidentiality such as what we have witnessed this week is so damaging.

And, to be clear, this is unprecedented. I can't think of another instance of this happening over the Court's entire history—certainly in modern history. I can't think of another instance in all of history in which something like this has happened, as the Court and its personnel have had a long history and a proud tradition of taking great care in these matters.

Yet while I am convinced that this leak may have been an attempt to intimidate the Justices and the majority, perhaps an effort to get them to change their position, I am also confident that this attempt will not succeed. And it must not succeed. Chief Justice Roberts said this very thing in his official statement, and he announced that an investigation into the leak will take place. I trust him and the other Justices and the Office of the Marshal at the Supreme Court to steer the Court through this storm and to oversee this investigation.

The overwhelming feelings that I have today really are of joy—joy in the probable outcome of this case—and pride in being a former law clerk to Justice Alito, for whom I clerked twice: once when he was serving on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit and again while he was on the Supreme Court.

The draft opinion overturns Roe v. Wade and Planned Parenthood v. Casey, stating that they ''must be overruled and the authority to regulate abortion must be returned to the people and their elected representatives,'' noting correctly that the Constitution neither explicitly nor implicitly protects a right to abortion.

Every human life, born and unborn, has immeasurable dignity and worth, each unrepeatable and infinitely valuable. The lives of an unborn baby and her mother and her father matter, and

the Court overturning prior precedents such as Roe and Casey is not unprecedented—not at all. In fact, some of the Court's most consequential and lauded decisions overturned prior rulings.

Justice Alito compared the damage wrought by Roe to that of the ''separate but equal'' doctrine created in Plessy v. Ferguson. Now, thankfully, the Supreme Court of the United States in Brown v. Board of Education overturned Plessy, putting an end to racially segregated schools, just as it appears now poised to overturn the erroneous decisions in Roe and in Casey.

The opinion is exceptionally well reasoned, thorough, and grounded in the Constitution. It also means that in States across our country, including in my home State of Utah, hundreds of thousands of unborn children—children who could not be protected by State law due to restrictions placed on them by an invented, nonexistent constitutional doctrine created out of whole cloth in Roe and in Casey—now have some chance at being protected, depending, of course, on which decision makers in which States make which decisions regarding the protection of human life.

As Americans, we must not—we can never forget what is at stake. If this majority decision stands, those who recognize the sanctity of human life—like myself and like a majority of Utahns—will have much to celebrate, but we must also recognize that this is not the end of this chapter in American history. The efforts of the last half century have not been done just simply to overturn Roe.

You see, getting to this point, the point that the Court has apparently reached, means that this discussion can finally begin. It is a discussion that has been closed out. Debatable matters have been rendered beyond debate. This, of course, is the vision of a post-Roe America. This is why overturning Roe matters. What happens next with regard to abortion will be determined by the people of the 50 States through their elected leaders, as our constitutional command of federalism demands.

Now, some States, like Utah, already have laws in place to protect the most vulnerable among us the moment that Roe and Casey are overturned. I hope and pray that many innocent lives will be saved, not just in my State but all throughout our country. And I pray for all nine Justices' safety and for our country.

We all know and we have to remember that the laws adopted in one State will be different than the laws adopted in another. Part of living in a pluralistic society, part of living in our constitutional Republic requires us to accept the idea that people have different opinions; they have different views. Regional differences appear from one State to another. I predict that the laws of Utah with regard to the protection of preborn human life may differ considerably from those of Vermont; that the laws of Massachusetts may differ in meaningful ways from those in Mississippi.

Overturning Roe v. Wade and Casey v. Planned Parenthood does not do almost any of the things that are recited in the parade of horribles that those who are condemning this decision already have recited. Among the more frequent and perplexing arguments is that the overturning of Roe v. Wade and Casey v. Planned Parenthood somehow signals or will result in the demise of democracy.

Nothing could be further from the truth. In fact, it is difficult to understand how anyone could even make this argument with a straight face. I don't mean here—not referring to their underlying position; I am referring to the specific argument that this somehow represents a threat to democracy. Quite the opposite is true.

By overturning Roe v. Wade and Casey v. Planned Parenthood, what the Supreme Court will be doing, the very thing it will be allowing is for the democratic process to unfold, for people to make laws as they deem fit in their respective States.

You see, all powers not granted by the Constitution to the Federal Government and not prohibited by the Constitution to the States remain to be made with the States or with the people themselves. That is what this does. So if we want to talk about democratic principles, this will further democratic principles. It will advance republican democracy, not undermine it.

Another argument that has been made that I find equally perplexing is the suggestion that this somehow amounts to zealots on the Supreme Court of the United States dictating to women across America decisions regarding abortion. That is also not true. There is nothing about overturning Roe v. Wade and Casey v. Planned Parenthood that requires that anyone do anything beyond the fact that it is lifting previously recognized but nonexistent impediments to State governments to protect unborn human life.

To those who have raised these concerns, to those who disagree with my views on the sanctity of unborn human life—and I recognize that there are those who do; many of them, in fact—I would direct them to their respective State-elected officials, specifically their State legislatures. That is where this decision is to be made. It is not to be made by the Supreme Court of the United States. They can't criminalize anything. It is not within their power. They are just deciding who gets to decide what. Different States are going to decide this differently, but that is part of the entire constitutional design.

What Justice Alito wrote in this draft opinion is something that I hope will stand. It is absolutely right. It is unassailable from a constitutional standpoint, and it is absolutely essential to restore the American people to that which is rightfully theirs.

I remain deeply troubled by those who appear, whether by leaking this opinion, characterizing it in ways that are unfair, threatening to pack the Supreme Court of the United States, talking about passing legislation that would increase the number of seats on the Supreme Court—these are all efforts designed to degrade, to denigrate and delegitimize the Supreme Court of the United States.

To those who have any inclination to do such a thing, I would say this: Roe v. Wade has stood in place nearly my entire life. Since I was old enough to understand it throughout my entire life, I have regarded it as a really bad decision, a very wrong decision.

Notwithstanding that, I have always regarded and still regard the Supreme Court of the United States, despite its flaws—flaws stemming from the fact that it is run by fallible, mortal human beings who sometimes make mistakes—despite its flaws, it is the greatest tribunal of its kind anywhere in the world. We would not want to substitute it because there is no better court of last resort anywhere in the world, even with its flaws. We must not risk what would come if we continue to delegitimize the Court.

In the meantime, I am grateful that the Court appears finally to be on the verge of correcting this grave injustice, and I look forward to the debates and the discussions that will occur once and for all by the people's elected representatives. These decisions will now be able to be made by the people's elected lawmakers and not by unelected, unaccountable jurists who lack authority to make that decision on behalf of all Americans.

I continue to pray for the Court and for our country. Heaven knows our Republic needs it.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Illinois.

UKRAINE

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, last week, my staff found a photo from a congressional trip I made to Eastern Europe in 1991. In one of the photos, I was standing in front of a wall. There is a message on the wall painted in big letters. It reads: ''Freedom for Baltic Countries.''

I remember that trip. The trip had special resonance for me and my family. Eight decades earlier, my mother—only 2 years old—she and her family fled one of those Baltic nations—Lithuania—to escape the tyranny of czarist Russia, and they found freedom in America.

Here I was—her son—returning to the Baltics in a remarkable moment in history. You see, 2 years earlier, in August 1989, 2 million people—I will show you the photo of this because it is historic—2 million people in the Baltic States of Lithuania, Latvia, and Estonia joined hands to form a 373-mile-long Baltic chain of freedom. This human chain spanned the three nations and sent a clear message that the Baltic nations wanted to reclaim their

freedom and their independence from the brutal occupation first by czarist Russia, then by Nazi Germany, and finally by the Soviet Union.

Months before the fall of the Berlin Wall, the Baltic chain of freedom forecast the end of the Soviet Union. But who were these countries to defy the Soviet Union? Countries with barely 3 million population in Lithuania, 2 million in Latvia, and 1½ million in Estonia were setting out to defy the superpower of the Soviet Union.

In February 1990, the people of Lithuania had chosen a new Parliament in their first free election. The new Parliament voted to restore their independence and made Lithuania the first Soviet Republic to declare independence. They were followed quickly by their neighbors, Latvia and Estonia.

You could feel at that moment when I visited the Seimas, which is the Parliament of Lithuania, the hope and history in the air, but there was also a feeling of trepidation and uncertainty. Would these small new democracies be able to preserve their freedom?

In January 1991, the blowback that many had feared occurred. Soviet tanks rolled into Lithuania's capital city of Vilnius. They attacked a crowd of protesters who were armed mainly with prayers and a few old hunting rifles, killing 13 innocent protesters and injuring hundreds more. Soviet troops and tanks attacked protesters in Latvia. I remember visiting Riga and seeing flowers and the candles on one of the walkways near downtown where a Latvian lost his life standing up for freedom in their country.

The Soviet troops could not break the determination of the Baltic people.

In February and March of 1991, the people of these three countries voted overwhelmingly in support of restoring independence. The United States recognized the sovereign new democracies later that same year.

Today, these three countries are prosperous, vibrant democracies, proud members of the European Union and NATO, and supporters of their Ukrainian neighbors who are facing Putin's monstrous military wrath.

When I visited Vilnius in January of 1991—a month before Gorbachev attacked with his tanks—I stood with the brave soldiers and ordinary citizens who filled the square outside the Parliament. They showed me their little arsenal of weapons. They took me back very quietly and secretly. It consisted of about 20 old hunting rifles. They were going to take on the Soviets. The situation seemed desperate and even doomed. Yet Baltic freedom prevailed.

I think of those days often now.

When Russia launched its unprovoked, unconscionable war, we were told Kyiv and the Ukrainian Government would fall within weeks or even days. Our military experts gave us their opinion, and that is what they said. Two months later, thank God, Kyiv is still free. Volodymyr Zelenskyy is still Ukraine's President. May God protect him.

Russia has suffered devastating losses on the battlefield and has been forced to retreat. Its forces are demoralized and in disarray. Russia's economy is faltering under the weight of the most punishing sanctions imposed against any nation in modern history.

Just as in the Baltics three decades ago, Russian strongmen have failed to understand the desire of people—even when they are outnumbered, if they are determined to be free and choose their own leaders, they will not be stopped. The Russians have failed to understand the determination of a community of democracy to stand together behind them and defeat the brutality and aggression of Vladimir Putin.

Putin may be able to deceive the people living in Russia for now, but he cannot lie to the world. We know that the Russian military has caused horrible devastation. We see it on the news. And they have committed horrific war crimes against innocent Ukrainian people. One need only look to the barbaric executions and brutality Russia has inflicted on the Kyiv suburb of Bucha. After the Russians fled, Bucha's mayor, Anatolii Fedoruk, described the immediate scenes:

> Corpses of executed people still line the Yabluska street in Bucha. Their hands are tied behind their backs with white ''civilian'' rags, they were shot in the back of their heads.

Putin had the sickening audacity to honor the military unit responsible for these crimes, saying this unit had distinguished itself in the protection of the fatherland.

Russian war crimes have not been limited to this situation. Throughout Ukraine, investigators are reporting that Russian soldiers are using rape as a weapon of war and deliberately shelling schools, hospitals, apartment buildings, emergency food centers, and other civilian targets. There are reports of summary executions of individuals and murders of children.

I agree with President Zelenskyy. In his words, he said it is ''time to do everything possible to make the war crimes of the Russian military the last manifestation of such evil on earth.''

The world can't tolerate this barbarity, and the United States must never ever provide a safe haven for anyone who commits war crimes of this nature or crimes against humanity in Ukraine or anywhere in the world. For that reason, I am introducing legislation that gives our government the authority to prosecute non-U.S. citizens who commit such atrocities in other nations and then seek haven, refuge, or seclusion in our country.

My bill is called the War Crimes Accountability Act. It closes a loophole in our current law that prevents our government from prosecuting war crimes unless they are actually committed in the United States or by or against U.S. citizens or members of our Armed Forces.

My bill would also make crimes against humanity a crime under U.S. law so that such perpetrators cannot find—ever—safe haven in this country. What would this mean in practice? If a Russian soldier committed war crimes such as those we see here or crimes against humanity in Ukraine or a person commits such atrocities anywhere in the world—say in Myanmar or in China—they can be tried under U.S. law and face criminal, civil, and immigration consequences. It builds on previous laws I sponsored to make people who commit acts of genocide or who use child soldiers in war accountable under U.S. law. Those bills passed the Senate unanimously and were both signed into law by President George W. Bush.

Despite the heroic efforts of the Ukrainian people, Russian forces continue to lay siege to the eastern part of that country, bombing civilians and forcing an even greater humanitarian nightmare.

Last week, U.N. Secretary General Antonio Guterres traveled to Kyiv. He witnessed the destruction wrought by Russia, and he said:

> When I see those destroyed buildings, I must say what I feel. I imagined my family in one of those houses that is now destroyed. . . . I see my granddaughters running away in panic, part of the family eventually killed.

He went on to say:

> The war is an absurdity of the 21st century. The war is evil.

So when President Biden announced a substantial new aid package for Ukraine, I said immediately: Count me in. The other day at the Senate Appropriations Committee on Defense, I asked Defense Secretary Austin and General Milley, the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs, about Ukraine's defense capabilities and the President's new request for aid. Both of these military leaders emphasized that continued, substantial support from the United States and its allies will be critical not only for Ukraine's future but also to reassure our allies in the region, in the Baltics, Moldova, Poland.

The $33 billion that Biden has asked for aid in Ukraine will help them withstand the next brutal phase of war and prevent Putin from spreading this malevolent war into other nations.

Let me conclude with a story about another brave soldier in the ranks of civilians, standing up to Putin's menace. Her name is Sviatlana Tsikhanouskaya. She is a leader of the democratic opposition in Belarus, another former Soviet Republic bordering the Baltics and Poland.

Last week, Ms. Tsikhanouskaya was in Washington to meet with the leaders of our government. Senator SHAHEEN hosted a meeting with her. Had Putin's puppets in Belarus not rigged the last election, she might have been elected President—almost certainly would have been. This photo shows Belarusians protesting that rigged election, risking their lives to do it, I might add. For months, thousands of Belarusians protested. Many were arrested and sentenced to long prison

sentences. I had been there before. The last dictator in continental Europe is a man named Lukashenka. He has phony elections from time to time. Anyone with the audacity to run against him is sure to lose by Lukashenka's count and almost certainly to be imprisoned immediately.

He did that to this lady's—Ms. Tsikhanouskaya's—husband who is now in jail in Minsk. This photo shows Belarusians with the courage to protest that rigged election. For months, thousands have protested; many have been arrested and sentenced. Today, Vladimir Putin is using Belarus as a staging ground for Russia's assault on Ukraine, but the Belarusian people have not given up their determination for freedom either. Hundreds of Belarusians, maybe more, are fighting in Ukraine today, and we thank them for that courage. Others have helped to blunt Putin's assault by sabotaging Belarusian train lines and crippling Russian supply lines. The supplemental aid package that President Biden has requested for Ukraine, for the weapons to repel Russia's war of conquest and to give the people of Belarus, the Baltics, Moldova, Poland, the security they need to realize their dreams of freedom, dignity, and independence is a statement of the values of America.

I urge my colleagues to come together, waste no time, pass it quickly, send the Ukrainians what they need to win this war.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. 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.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGREEMENT—H.R. 4521

Mr. SCHUMER. I ask unanimous consent that at 2:30 today, the Senate resume legislative session and resume the House message to accompany H.R. 4521; further, that the previous order be modified to allow Senator MURKOWSKI to offer the motion to instruct that is at the desk in lieu of the motion in the previous order; that Senator BENNET or his designee be permitted to make the Bennet motion; and that the Senate vote on the motions in the order listed without further intervening action or debate, with all other provisions in the previous order remaining in effect, and that all votes after the first be 10-minute votes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there an objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Texas.

U.S. SUPREME COURT

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, just a couple of days ago, we witnessed an unprecedented attack on the independence and integrity of the U.S. Supreme Court, a third coequal branch of government, when some reporters got their hands on a nearly 3-month-old draft of an opinion, setting off a political firestorm, creating a lot of confusion, more than a little hysteria. And all of which is, frankly, beside the point because the Court actually hasn't decided anything.

But this was a stunning breach of confidentiality for an institution that relies on a private, confidential deliberative process.

The Supreme Court was designed to operate, as is our judiciary, free of political and other outside influence and interference. That is why Justices are not elected; they are nominated and confirmed to serve life terms. That is why they don't have term limits. That is why you can't reduce their salary while they are in office, to make sure that politics and outside opinions have nothing to do with the way they do their job because, of course, their job is a limited but important job of saying what the law is, not making it up, not being a policy maker, but saying what the law is.

It is absolutely critical to our form of government and to our separated powers and our three branches of government that the Supreme Court be protected from pressure campaigns from anyone—politicians, political activists. Anyone. But that is exactly what is happening right now, and many of our colleagues on the other side of the aisle are fanning the flames. And they know that this is not a final opinion, but they see a political opportunity to fan the flames of hysteria and mislead the American people about exactly what this all means and what the consequences are.

For example, in the wake of this news, the Democratic leader of the Senate and the Speaker of the House released a statement—an unconscionable statement, in my view. They called it an abomination, one of the worst and most damaging decisions in modern history and one that defiled the Supreme Court's reputation.

That is what they say about a nondecision, a nonjudgment, about a leaked, 3-month-old draft.

We have no idea how the Court will ultimately decide the case, but this was a political opportunity that the Speaker and the majority leader could not resist.

Frankly, I think it is because they would like to change the subject.

The American people's concerns, if you ask them—as public opinion pollsters have—what they are concerned about, they said they are concerned about inflation, they are concerned about crime, they are concerned about the border, they are concerned about the war, the Russian invasion of Ukraine. But this is a grand opportunity to change the subject and to mislead the American people.

For some reason, the Senate majority leader, Senator SCHUMER, and Speaker PELOSI did not criticize the person who actually leaked the opinion, the person who committed a frontal assault on the independence of our judiciary, the Supreme Court.

One of the most powerful institutions in our country experiences an unprecedented breach of confidentiality, and what do our Democratic colleagues, the Speaker and the majority leader, do? They attack the Justices. They attack the Court. They don't attack the leaker, the person who committed this egregious breach of confidentiality.

Nowhere in their joint statement did they even mention the leak or leaker, or reaffirm the importance of an independent judiciary.

No, they took the opportunity to slam the Justices, who have not yet decided the case.

Unfortunately, this is nothing new. In 2019, the Democratic leader went to the Supreme Court steps and threatened two Supreme Court Justices by name if they did not rule in a certain way.

He said:

> You have released the whirlwind, and you will pay the price. You won't know what hit you if you go forward with these awful decisions.

That is our colleague, the senior Senator from New York, the majority leader of the Senate. He threatened two sitting Justices with retribution should they rule in a way he disagreed with.

The top Senate Democrat lobbing threats at Supreme Court Justices is a dangerous, dangerous model for the American people. This is the branch of government that is supposed to be kept free from those pressures and those sorts of threats, that kind of intimidation, or at least attempts at intimidation.

But, here again, the Senator from New York and the Speaker of the House, they know that, but they did it anyway.

It doesn't matter what case is before the Supreme Court or what ruling is ultimately handed down, leaders of Congress, some of the highest elected officials in the U.S. Government, should be a better example and defend the important principle of judicial independence.

Justice Scalia, in one of his speeches that I read a few years back, talked about what is unique about our system of government, and he said it is the independence of the judiciary, which are the crown jewels. He said, you read the Constitution of the old Soviet Union or any one of a number of other countries, they may have a fine written document that pledges allegiance to certain high-minded values, many of which are contained in our Constitution, but they are just words on a paper.

He said what is different in the United States of America is the independence of the judiciary, who will call balls and strikes and who will ultimately decide some of the most contentious and disputed issues in our country based on the Constitution and laws of the United States, not because

they took a public opinion poll to see what was more popular or they were threatened with retribution by some politician.

Unfortunately, our Democratic colleagues and, in particular, their leaders have taken a dangerous approach, and they are not just taking aim at individual Justices; they want to undermine the entire institution of the independent judiciary, particularly the Supreme Court.

A few years ago, five of our colleagues on the Democratic side, including the current chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee, filed an amicus brief—a friend of the court brief—in a case involving gun rights. These Senators made a not-so-subtle threat that unless the Court ruled in a particular way, the entire institution would be, in their words, ''restructured.'' That is nothing more, nothing less than a simple effort to coerce the Justices into deciding a case in a particular way; to threaten them that unless you go our way, the Court will be restructured.

Well, we know that those weren't just idle words, given some of the threats to pack the Court by adding additional Justices to the Court. We heard that threat of Court packing many times. That was one of the agenda items should our Democratic colleagues eliminate the filibuster, the requirement of 60 votes before you close off debate in the Senate. They said they were going to pack the Court. Many of the presidential hopefuls embraced that idea in 2020, and the latest news has it that a number of Democrats are bringing this idea back to center stage. Disagree with what you think the Court might ultimately decide, and we are going to restructure it. We are going to pack it until we get the result that we want. Kiss an independent judiciary goodbye—the crown jewels of our system of government.

Earlier this week, the junior Senator from Massachusetts called the Supreme Court's current majority ''stolen, illegitimate, and far-right.'' These are Justices who were confirmed by the U.S. Senate. It is dangerous and dishonest to suggest that any of their positions are anything less than consistent with the law and the Constitution.

Our colleague went on to say that the Supreme Court should be ''expanded.'' That is another way of saying they should pack the Court with like-minded policymakers. Well, whether you talk about expanding the Court or packing the Court, the result is the same. It is just another effort to try to politicize this independent branch of government—this independent judiciary—which, as I said and will say again, are the crown jewels of our system of government, an independent judiciary.

Well, even Joe Biden knows that is a boneheaded idea. The reason I know that and we know that is because that is what he said in 1983. He called Court packing a ''boneheaded idea.''

Justice Ginsburg was asked about it. She said ''nine seems to be a good number.'' That was her gentle way of saying that if you start adding Justices to the Court or restructuring or packing the Court, basically, you are in pursuit of a political outcome and you undermine the independence of the judiciary and they are transformed into something far different than what our Founding Fathers believed it would be, which is an institution that would decide legal disputes, whether they be constitutional or otherwise, and would be depended on by the American people to present fair opportunities for all sides to be heard and then an outcome that was not tainted by bias or politics or policymaking.

As Justice Breyer has said, the very authority that the Court has depends on ''a trust that the court is guided by legal principle, not politics'' and that these types of changes—packing, restructuring, whatever you want to call it—he said would erode that trust, undermine the public's confidence and trust in the Supreme Court.

But as we have seen the last few days since this draft opinion was leaked in an egregious breach of confidentiality, our friends across the aisle don't want impartial judges. They don't want an independent judiciary. They want judges who will deliver a particular outcome in a case. They want the Court to be an extension of their politics here in the Senate.

Well, politics has its place, but its place is right here and in the White House, where the voters get to vote for us or vote against us every 2 years or 6 years, as the case may be—or 4 years, in the case of the President.

I understand that our colleagues want a specific ruling on abortion rights. Tomorrow, it could be Second Amendment rights. The next day, it might involve the means by which we run our elections. This entire episode highlights just how far the radicals in the other party are willing to go to try to get their way. They don't care about the long-term best interests of the country. They don't care about an independent judiciary. They are looking for an opportunity to score political points and distract the American people from what they are really concerned about, which is their ability to put food on the table and support their families.

The reason why our Founders designed a Federal Government with three separate but equal branches is because they thought the checks and balances that the three branches would impose would be protective of their liberty. And when one branch goes too far, another branch can be a check and a balance on that and, ultimately, the Supreme Court could be the final arbiter on the constitutionality or the legality of what the other branches are trying to do.

But our colleagues across the aisle—by their irresponsible rhetoric undermining public confidence in the Court, jeopardizing the independence of the judiciary—are blurring the lines between the political process and the judicial branch's responsibility. And why? For partisan political gain.

An independent judiciary is essential to our democracy. The parties whose cases are being decided by the Court should never have to worry about outside influencers or whether politics plays into the decision-making process.

How would you feel if you had a case before the U.S. Supreme Court and you knew that your opposing party tried to pressure or coerce or persuade the judge to arrive at a certain outcome regardless of the law or facts? Well, that would be the opposite of an impartial tribunal and independent judiciary; but that is exactly what our Democratic colleagues are trying to do with the U.S. Supreme Court in this instance.

Americans have a constitutional right to due process of law and that precludes any attempt to influence or obstruct an independent judiciary for making a decision in an individual case. I would like to see more of our colleagues on the other side of the aisle fight to protect the integrity and independence of the judiciary. But if they won't, then we will.

One thing is for certain. As Chief Justice Roberts said, the Court needs to get to the bottom of how this draft opinion got into the hands of the press in an unprecedented and egregious breach of confidence. The Supreme Court Chief Justice Roberts has directed the Marshal of the Court to investigate the source of this leak and once that happens, the person responsible will be held accountable. It is a very tight-knit group of people who have access to these draft opinions.

I have every confidence the Marshal of the Court will find the person who leaked this opinion to the press, and they will be held accountable in what will undoubtedly be a life-changing consequence, particularly if it is a law clerk or someone who is working for the Court. It will be a career-ending mistake.

But this is, first and foremost, a matter of protecting the integrity and independence of the judiciary from any force, external or internal, that seeks to chip away at the Court's independence.

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.

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

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

BIDEN ADMINISTRATION

Ms. ERNST. Mr. President, I am really beginning to believe everyone in the White House is clueless. After promising to lead us away from crisis and chaos, President Biden has instead made achieving the American dream

more challenging and, folks, a heck of a lot more expensive while at the same time making the world a much more dangerous place. Then, to cover up the connection between his actions and their disastrous outcomes, the President plays the blame game.

Since Joe Biden was sworn in as President just a little over a year ago, we have experienced record-setting inflation, making everyday essentials unaffordable; an unprecedented number of migrants rushing our southern border; our national debt topping $30 trillion for the first time; the Taliban's retaking control of Afghanistan; and the world being brought to the brink of nuclear war.

Are these events purely the result of chance or are they direct consequences of the choices being made in the White House? You don't need to be a detective to solve this whodunit. Let's go ahead and examine the case.

All right. Over the past year, the cost of nearly everything has increased at the fastest pace in over four decades. A gallon of milk is up nearly 50 cents, and 2 pounds of ground beef costs over $1.50 more than it did a year ago. Add in rising rents and home prices, and these numbers really add up quickly.

While Iowans and the rest of Americans are struggling to adjust their family budgets to the ever increasing cost of living, the Biden administration has repeatedly dismissed concerns about the price problem.

Last summer, the President said:

It's highly unlikely that it's going to be long-term inflation that's going to get out of hand.

Now that the problem can no longer be ignored, he is actually blaming corporate greed.

Get a clue.

The Federal Reserve says the reason prices in the United States have been outpacing inflation in other countries since 2021—when Biden became President—is as a direct result of Washington's unprecedented spending spree. It turns out you can't just print trillions of dollars and hand it out for free.

Republicans in Congress and even some Democrats warned that this would happen when the President began pushing one trillion-dollar spending bill after another. Now hard-working Americans are stuck paying for the Biden binge-spending twice—first with higher taxes and then again with higher bills. When you add it all up, Bidenomics is costing every family almost $500 more a month today than a year ago to buy the same exact items.

So, despite the President's finger-pointing, this problem isn't being caused by corporate greed for profits, and it isn't caused on Wall Street.

The White House is using a similar setup to hide the true cause of higher prices at the pump. President Biden wants us to believe that the skyrocketing costs to fill up your tank are all Vladimir Putin's fault, but gas was on the rise for more than a year before the Russian invasion of Ukraine. In fact, gas prices have steadily increased since the President's first day in office when he signed an Executive order to shut down the Keystone XL Pipeline. On that day, January 20, 2021, a gallon of gas cost less than $2.50. The President then signed an Executive order turning off all new oil and gas leases on public lands.

While the President was shutting down U.S. energy, he was helping to make the world more dependent on Putin for power. In May of last year, the Biden administration waived the sanctions on Russia's Nord Stream 2 gas pipeline. By then, gas here in the United States had reached $3 a gallon. When Putin invaded Ukraine in February, the price was already more than $3.50 per gallon.

So don't be fooled, folks. It is really Biden's war on American energy that has been fueling the soaring costs. While the Russian dictator is guilty of many horrible things, the higher gas prices we have been paying for over the past year and a half did not begin as a result of Putin in Ukraine because of the war.

It is impossible to miss the irony of President Biden's pointing the finger at Putin since the Russian dictator's aggression against Ukraine may have been emboldened by Biden's abrupt abandonment in Afghanistan. The poorly planned evacuation also turned over billions of dollars of weapons and equipment to the Taliban and other terrorists and left countless Americans and our allies behind while costing the lives of 13 of our brave servicemembers.

The President blamed our own military—he blamed our own military—for not warning him of the catastrophe that would occur if he withdrew all U.S. forces, but those claims were contradicted under oath before the Senate Armed Services Committee by his own advisers, who said the President was told Afghanistan would collapse. Try as he might to lay the blame elsewhere, the President singlehandedly made the call to completely withdraw from Afghanistan, which will go down as one of the worst foreign policy decisions in U.S. history.

Now Biden's blunders are threatening to turn the crisis at our southern border into total chaos. The number of illegal crossings last year exceeded 1.7 million—the most ever recorded. To make matters worse, the administration has announced that those attempting to enter our country illegally will soon no longer be turned away under the authority provided by title 42. As a consequence, Homeland Security officials are expecting a record surge of border crossings, which could reach as many as 18,000 people a day.

Just like his other abrupt, poorly thought-out decisions, the President has no plan to deal with the inevitable repercussions. When the predictable disaster occurs, the President will be surprised and confused and look for someone else to blame.

I could go on, but I am all ready to rest my case since the same set of fingerprints is on all of the evidence of these problems.

But, President Biden, if you still haven't figured it out, I will give you a clue. Spoiler alert: The culprit is you.

Whether signing Executive orders to turn off American-made energy or signing budget-busting bills that are fanning the flames of inflation, the source of these problems can all be traced back to President Biden, with the pen, in the Oval Office.

It is right there, folks. Case closed.

That is how all of these crises were created over the past year.

Now, imagine how some of the other policies being proposed by Democrats, like defunding the police, abolishing ICE, or enacting the Green New Deal, could turn out if President Biden is given the chance to sign them into law.

Taxpayers can rest assured that Republicans in Congress will keep doing our part to make sure those bills never make it to the President's desk. And if the President tries to bypass Congress and enact its radical agenda by signing Executive orders behind the closed doors of the White House, Americans can count on Republicans to clue you in.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. ROSEN). The Senator from Tennessee.

BIDEN ADMINISTRATION

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Madam President, it has been over a year since Joe Biden and KAMALA HARRIS and the Democrats took control of all the government here in DC. They like the fact that they have got their hands on the drivers, and they are enacting their policies. But what is so interesting, as my colleague from Iowa was pointing out, is they continue to try to blame Donald Trump and Republicans for the issues that are in front of us.

Just a few years ago, if you would have asked me how I would evaluate a government that spent their way into inflation—recordbreaking inflation—surrendered our border to the drug cartels, and abandoned two Embassies, I would tell you that that sounds like an administration that is in disarray. I think most people would believe that to be a fact.

But here is the problem: We have moved beyond disarray. Tennesseans feel like it is more like a catastrophe.

This is not mere incompetence at work. Joe Biden is earning his disapproval rating that he was joking about at the Correspondents' Dinner last week. He knows that it is, indeed, low—some of the lowest ever.

The fact is that President Biden and Vice President HARRIS have had a terrible, horrible, no good, very bad year, and they did this to themselves. And now their allies in Congress are ready to make things even worse. They are doubling down.

This is what happens when you try to force an agenda filled with pet projects that the American people are telling you they do not want and, as taxpayers are saying, ''You can't afford this.''

This is what happens when you really have no vision for the future of the country. It is all about power, all about control.

Last month, the Harvard Kennedy School Institute of Politics released a poll showing that this distinction between agenda and vision actually matters to people. They found that 56 percent of young Americans, ages 18 to 29, disapprove of Joe Biden's job performance. That is correct; 56 percent disapprove. And just last spring, 59—that is right, 59—percent of young persons were still in his corner.

Look at what is happening. Look at that flip that is taking place.

The measure of success or failure for this administration shouldn't come down to how many boxes they can check off their wish list but how many young Americans look at what they are doing, and they say: I can't support this. This does not give me hope. This does not look good for my future.

Indeed, 56 percent of young Americans, ages 18 to 29, disapprove of the Biden agenda.

Right now, this age group, they are losing hope. That same Harvard poll shows that their top concern isn't the environment; it isn't abortion or Roe v. Wade; it is the economy. And why wouldn't it be? The current inflation rate is 8.5 percent. Last year, it was 2.6 percent.

How can anyone be expected to plan for their future if they are struggling to plan for next week's grocery run? They are paying a premium just to live.

Meanwhile, the President is asking them to sacrifice even more so he can check some more boxes on his to-do list that is all about this leftist agenda. It is not about the people; it is about power; it is about control.

Young Americans—and I would say all Americans, Tennesseans—deserve better than this. They deserve leaders who have a vision for the future of this country, who have the God-given common sense to see it through.

Joe Biden and the Democrats have been in power for more than a year. The window for blame-shifting and excuses is closed. It is shut. It is time for the President to abandon this self-destructive agenda and give the American people a fighting chance at reclaiming their own vision for the future.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Virginia.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUEST—EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. KAINE. Madam President, in a moment, I am going to make a motion by unanimous consent to call up, and hopefully confirm, significant appointments in the Department of Defense.

We are in the midst of a war in Europe right now. It is hard to imagine that, and yet it is the case. Every day we see atrocities committed by Vladimir Putin's illegal invasion of Ukraine, but every day we also see the concerted effort of the United States and NATO allies and other nations to provide dramatic support for the Ukrainian defense force and the Ukrainian people.

We honor the Ukrainians' resolve and heroism, and we feel proud of the role that the United States and other nations are playing in providing defense. And I hope we will take additional defense support up on the floor in the days to come. However, this is not easy work to do.

One of the positions that I am going to be seeking a UC on is the DOD Assistant Secretary for Sustainment, Christopher Lowman, who is a Virginian. He and his family live in Fredericksburg.

Mr. Lowman is, according to the committee, completely noncontroversial and very much desired in this position.

He was born in Germany, in a military family, grew up in Virginia, went to college in New Jersey. He was a U.S. marine beginning in 1984, and then after his Active Marine service, entered the Army civil service as an Army maintenance management intern in 1989. And he has been with the Army ever since.

His specialty is logistics. So this Assistant Secretary of Sustainment is kind of the peak logistics officer in the Pentagon.

He previously was the Acting Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army for Acquisition, Logistics, and Technology. OK. That is a title that is—you know, what does that actually mean? I will tell you what it means. When the United States is trying to get historic amounts of military aid across a contested border from allied countries into a war zone, we need people who know logistics. It may not be the sexiest part of the military mission, but it is part of the mission that is absolutely critical, and it is part of the mission where the U.S. military is second to none in the world.

If you wonder why the Russian military's grand plans to topple Ukraine in just a couple of days came to naught, you first say it is Ukrainian heroism, and you second say it is the support of our allies, but, third, you have to point out the Russian military has demonstrated that they haven't mastered logistics. The inability to maintain supply chains, the inability to do proper maintenance of tanks and other vehicles is one of the reasons that the Russians have not been able to accomplish their aims. So what this war in Europe is demonstrating is militaries that have the capacity to do logistics and provide supplies to people on the front end of the fight are critical to success.

Given the fact that the United States is the key to pulling together the international effort to provide support to the Ukrainian defense force, and given the fact that that mission depends upon having the best logistics in the world, why would we leave the chief logistics official at the Pentagon position vacant in the middle of a war when the United States is playing this heroic role?

For that reason, Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session to consider the following nominations en bloc: Calendar Nos. 477, 599, 777, 779, 780, 781, 861, and 886; that the Senate vote on the nominations en bloc without intervening action or debate; that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table; that any statements related to the nominations be printed in the RECORD; that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action and the Senate resume legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Mr. HAWLEY. Madam President.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Missouri.

Mr. HAWLEY. Madam President, reserving the right to object, I find myself here on the floor again as my friend the Senator from Virginia, whose sincerity and urgency on this issue I don't doubt for a second, tries to move a whole slate of nominees to which multiple Republican Senators have objections. And let me give you a sense of why.

One of the nominees that my friend is attempting to move here, let's be clear, to do this without a vote—we could be voting on these nominees. The majority leader could schedule votes on them any time, but he hasn't done that. He hasn't done it in some of the cases for months.

This is an act—this is a request to suspend the regular order of the Senate and to confirm these nominees without a vote. Well, I, for one, am not going to consent to confirming without a vote people like Ravi Chaudhary. He is being nominated for Assistant Secretary of the Air Force.

Mr. Chaudhary, who appeared before the Armed Services Committee, on which I sit, as does my friend from Virginia—Mr. Chaudhary has proposed using AI technology—artificial intelligence—to track members of the military, identify them as extremists, and then have them expelled.

He said:

The key to disrupting them—

Meaning ''extremists,'' his word, people whose views he doesn't agree with.

The key to disrupting them is uncovering and understanding their initial behaviors, elements that are contained in their electronic footprints.

What Mr. Chaudhary has proposed to do is to use surveillance on members of the U.S. military to determine whether they might, in the future, commit acts that he might disapprove of and then to take action against these members of the military.

In 2015, he wrote this: that the military exhibits a ''culture of xenophobic cronyism.'' And he went on to say that there was a ''xenophobic command climate'' in the U.S. military today.

I said to Mr. Chaudhary, at the time when we had our hearing, that I cannot

believe that he would propose to use surveillance on members of the U.S. military to track their speech, to track their activity online, to track their movements online, all in an effort to decide if they might, in the future, commit acts that he disagrees with.

I submit to you, Madam President, not only is that wrong; it is blatantly unconstitutional—blatantly unconstitutional—and it is frightening. What is further frightening is that he would be nominated for a leadership position in the Department of Defense.

I call on the President of the United States to withdraw this nomination today, just as he should withdraw his unconstitutional disinformation board that he is attempting to force on the American people as we speak. This is the most radically anti-free-speech administration in American history. Their actions are an affront to the basic constitutional values of this Nation, including and especially the First Amendment.

I am appalled—appalled—at what this administration is doing—censoring American citizens, surveilling them—and now advocating it in the U.S. military, to the men and women who put their lives on the line?

So, no, I will not consent to have this individual, who never should have been nominated for this position, fast-tracked to be confirmed without a vote, without a single, solitary vote on the floor of the U.S. Senate.

Mr. KAINE. Madam President, will the Senator yield for a question?

Mr. HAWLEY. I think you have the floor, Senator; so, yes, I think——

Mr. KAINE. Will the Senator yield for a question?

It strikes me that the Senator's objection is you do not want to have this candidate—the bloc of them advanced without a vote. If I can guarantee that you get a vote on these nominations, will you drop your objection?

Mr. HAWLEY. Can I respond to that?

Mr. KAINE. Yeah. I mean, I know you will vote no. You have made it plain. But if I can guarantee you would get a vote, will you drop your objection?

Mr. HAWLEY. On all eight of them, Senator?

Mr. KAINE. Yeah.

Mr. HAWLEY. To have a vote on the floor?

Mr. KAINE. Yes.

Mr. HAWLEY. I would be happy to take a vote on the floor on all eight nominations.

Mr. KAINE. And that is what my point is. We are not fast-tracking these without a vote. This is a motion to allow a vote en bloc on the floor. So you will have an opportunity to vote against Mr. Chaudhary or all of these. This is not a motion to immediately approve them without a vote. It is just a motion to bring them up so that you and others can vote on these nominees. That is all I am seeking.

And so my request, basically, would guarantee you a vote on all of these nominations if you drop your objection.

Mr. HAWLEY. Is this a recorded vote on the floor, Senator?

Mr. KAINE. It would be a—yes. It would be en bloc, but it is a recorded vote, is my understanding.

And, again, Madam President, just to clarify, my motion is only that the Senate be allowed to vote on these nominees: Alex Wagner for Assistant Secretary of the Air Force; Ashish Vazirani for Deputy Under Secretary of Defense; Christopher Lowman, Assistant Secretary of Defense; Lester Martinez-Lopez, Assistant Secretary of Defense; Agnes Schaefer, Assistant Secretary of the Army; Franklin Parker, Assistant Secretary of the Navy; Musetta Tia Johnson, Judge of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Armed Forces; and Ravi Chaudhary, Assistant Secretary of the Air Force.

I understand my colleague will vote no, but all I am moving is for the Senate to be able to have a vote on these nominees.

Mr. HAWLEY. Senator, you want to vote on all eight at one time; you don't want to vote on each one?

Mr. KAINE. My motion is to consider them, yes, en bloc; but it would be a recorded vote, is my understanding.

Mr. HAWLEY. What I propose to do here is—there are multiple Senators on this side of the aisle besides myself who have objections to different multiple of these. What I propose to do is object to this now, but I think we can work something out on this going forward.

So I think—do I have the floor now?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Virginia has the floor, and there is a pending unanimous consent request.

Mr. HAWLEY. OK. So I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

Mr. KAINE. I appreciate the objection being heard, and I would just say to my colleague, I hope we could work out a deal that would enable us to have a floor vote where my colleague could vote as he chooses on these nominees. This was not an attempt to bypass a vote; it was just an effort to have a vote where everybody can be recorded on the nominees. I hope we can work that out.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Missouri.

ISSUES FACING THE NATION

Mr. BLUNT. Madam President, I want to continue to talk about some of the challenges the administration is facing and the country is facing. Let me talk for just a little bit about the border, about the economy, and about our ongoing concerns on COVID.

First of all, the border—we have had a number of people come to the floor and talk about the border, the problems at the border. Many of these problems were really self-inflicted on day 1. The President, on the first day of his Presidency—and I chaired the inauguration on January 20. Hours after that, the President decided to stop building the wall.

I was never an advocate of needing a wall everywhere along the southern border, but we had a wall in lots of places already. It was doing some good, but it wasn't doing as much good as it needed to do. And just the idea that we—with the material on the ground and the old wall torn down—would decide to stop building the wall, I think, started these problems.

And if that wasn't enough, then-President Trump had made arrangements, the State Department had made arrangements—everybody involved—with Mexico to have people who were applying for asylum wait for their court date in Mexico. It was my view at the time that we should do anything we could to help the Mexican Government make that work because the alternative was people would come into the United States and not show up for an asylum date later.

In Mexico, they have learned that they weren't going to qualify for asylum because fewer than—9 out of 10 people, roughly, will not qualify. You found that out before you got into the United States and successfully had entered our country, even though you weren't eligible to. If you were waiting in Mexico and you found a lawyer to talk to and maybe even a way to hear your case in some way there, you would find out that you weren't going to qualify for asylum 8½ times or 9 times out of 10, and that is where you should have found that out.

To come in the country and wait for months to have a court date that you may or may not show up for just simply has not worked, and everybody that understands this system understands it doesn't work. And everybody that understands the obligation of a government understands that a government has some obligation to control its own borders, and you don't control your own borders by having people come into the country that aren't legally eligible to come into the country and then just stay here. So that policy produced real chaos.

And then title 42, under the public health law, was another thing that we put in place, as we put all kinds of other COVID-related protections in place. And now we want to eliminate title 42. The only place, apparently—if you follow the CDC closely right now—that we don't need to up our game on COVID protection is the border of the United States.

None of these things makes sense. We have too many people who have been encouraged wrongly and told: You come to the United States, you ask for asylum, they let you into the United States, and then you don't show up for your asylum hearing.

I am for legal immigration. I am for solving the Dreamer problem. I am for doing a lot of things that we need to do to make our immigration laws work properly.

We need to understand the workforce needs of the country. We need to understand what to do about people who came or stayed illegally. But we also need to understand how to secure the border. And that is where, for any of these other things to work, you have to do that.

The COVID problem, as I said, appears to only be a problem at the CDC—well, actually, it appears to be a problem everywhere but the border. The CDC, just yesterday, had a new rule that even for domestic travel, people should now—their advice is have a test for domestic travel—before you get on an airplane to go domestically, to have that test.

The efforts that we were working on and working hard on to replenish the categories that have been spent for research, particularly for the therapeutics that we need to have a stock of that haven't been fully certified yet—so they have to be the Government is the purchaser of those—we were working on a $10 billion bill. And even this morning again, the Secretary of Commerce, at our appropriations hearing, said: Well, that would just be a start. We need 10 or 20 or 30 billion more before the end of this fiscal year than we currently have, and it is an emergency—10, 20, 30 billion more than we have now.

But at the border, no problem at all. At the border, this is no problem. We need billions of dollars to deal with it internally. We need to not only have fewer tests, which everybody agrees, fewer standards for domestic travel; we now need a new standard, they say, for domestic travel. Surely they will think about that. And while we are negotiating, again, spending, this issue comes out simultaneously that the border is a problem.

And then, of course, everybody knows the economy is a problem. All you have got to do to find out the economy is a problem is go to the gas station or go to the grocery store, and most Americans do that and do it a lot. And when gas prices go up, when food prices go up, every family knows it.

What we are seeing now is inflation that I think it is 8.5 percent. It may be settling in at 8.5 percent. But wherever it settles in, it is a whole lot higher than it was at any time during the Obama administration. The highest month in the entire Obama administration of inflation—that is not a year average—the highest single month was 3.4 percent. Under President Trump, the highest single month was 2.9 percent. We are now at 8.5 percent, and the Producer Price Index has been in double digits since December. That is usually a sign that the other index is going to follow that double-digit, scary number that is out there.

So energy policies that produced exactly the result you would think they would: higher energy prices; spending policies: the American Rescue Plan. I thought, at the time, it was a final COVID bill, but when you looked at the bill before we had a chance to vote on it and saw it, it really didn't have very much to do with COVID. Maybe 6 percent of the $1.9 trillion went to COVID. The rest of it went to things that put money in people's pockets to help them recover in an economy that was already recovering.

You can't spend $1.9 trillion in a short period of time, even in the biggest and most vibrant economy in the world, and not drive up prices. So whether it is inflation, whether it is the economic stress—I talked to a group of Missouri realtors today, and, of course, they are beginning to see people wonder if they can afford a house at the interest rates that are out in front of us. It makes a big difference if the interest payment is based on 3.5 percent interest or 5.5 or 6.5 or 7.5 or, as it was in the mid 1980s, 11 to 15 percent interest.

These are issues we need to get under control. Most of these issues have an explanation that is rooted in confused policy decisions in the administration.

I look forward to those confused policy decisions heading in a different direction. Let's look at the information. Let's be realistic. Let's not continue to see all of these things headed in a direction that makes no common sense in America today.

I yield the floor.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

AMERICA CREATING OPPORTUNITIES FOR MANUFACTURING, PRE-EMINENCE IN TECHNOLOGY, AND ECONOMIC STRENGTH ACT OF 2022

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will resume legislative session and resume consideration of the House message to accompany H.R. 4521, which the clerk will report.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

House message to accompany H.R. 4521, a bill to provide for a coordinated Federal research initiative to ensure continued United States leadership in engineering biology.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Kentucky.

MOTION TO INSTRUCT

Mr. PAUL. Madam President, I call up my motion to instruct conferees, which is at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the motion.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Kentucky [Mr. PAUL] moves that the managers on the part of the Senate at the conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the Senate amendment to the bill H.R. 4521 be instructed to insist that the final conference report include the provisions contained in section 6107 of the Senate amendment (relating to prohibiting funds made available to any Federal agency from being used for gain-of-function research conducted in China).

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, there will now be 2 minutes of debate equally divided prior to a vote on the Paul motion to instruct.

Mr. PAUL. Last year, the Senate unanimously adopted my amendment to prevent taxpayer dollars from being used to finance gain-of-function research conducted in China. My motion to instruct asks that this language be incorporated into the final bill.

Gain-of-function research enhances the severity or transmissibility of existing viruses that may infect humans. The dangers are so acute that from 2014 to 2017, the NIH suspended funding for all gain-of-function research projects.

While we may never know whether the pandemic arose from a lab in Wuhan or occurred naturally, the emergence of COVID serves as a reminder that dangerous research conducted in a secret and totalitarian country is simply too risky to fund. Congress must ensure that taxpayer dollars will not be used to fund gain-of-function research in China.

I urge a ''yes'' vote.

Mr. KAINE. I yield back all time on the Democrats' side.

VOTE ON MOTION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. All time is yielded back.

The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

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

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

MOTION TO INSTRUCT

Mr. BARRASSO. Madam President, please call up my motion to instruct conferees, which is at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the motion.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Wyoming [Mr. BARRASSO] moves that the managers on the part of the Senate at the conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the Senate amendment to the bill H.R. 4521 be instructed to insist that the final conference report include provisions that require immediate development of a 2022–2027 Federal oil and gas leasing program on the outer Continental Shelf, which shall be finalized not later than June 30, 2022, and which shall provide for a minimum of 10 regionwide oil and gas lease sales in the Gulf of Mexico and Alaska Regions of the outer Continental Shelf, with a minimum of 2 oil and gas lease sales per calendar year, not fewer than 1 of which shall be in the Gulf of Mexico Region each calendar year.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, there will now be 2 minutes of debate equally divided prior to a vote on the Barrasso motion to instruct.

Mr. BARRASSO. Madam President, I rise in support of the motion to instruct conferees to require the Department of Interior to finalize a 5-year offshore oil and gas leasing plan no later than June 30, 2022. It would require at least 10 sales in the Gulf of Mexico and Alaska. In consultation with both Senators RUBIO and SCOTT, it does not impact any moratoriums, including Florida's.

The Biden administration has failed to develop a 5-year plan. Gina McCarthy has told us why. Last week, she said President Biden is absolutely committed, she said, to blocking additional drilling. Jen Psaki confirmed it at the White House.

Instead of begging for oil from our enemies, like Iran and Venezuela, we should produce more American energy.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Massachusetts.

Mr. MARKEY. Madam President, I rise to urge my colleagues to vote no on this motion to instruct from Senator BARRASSO.

If we want to talk solutions to the energy price crisis, if we want to talk solutions to the climate crisis, we have bills to do that.

Our Federal oil and gas leasing programs include critical State and public involvement that this amendment is attempting to undercut and sabotage and to try to weaponize this bill in order to have the hope of prompting yet another giveaway for oil and gas companies, which is not going to do a thing to help the American people or the American economy.

Oil and gas companies already have more than 1,500 offshore leases that they are not currently using, encompassing a swath of ocean larger than the entire State of Maryland. The top 25 oil and gas companies posted $237 billion in record profits last year, which they should be using, if they want, to drill there, but they are not doing it.

So we need to focus on delivering clean energy, efficient solutions to communities, not undercutting Federal processes and giving more handouts to Big Oil.

I urge my colleagues to reject this amendment.

VOTE ON MOTION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion to instruct conferees.

Mr. BARRASSO. Madam President, I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The yeas and nays are ordered.

The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant executive clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET) and the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) are necessarily absent.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senator is necessarily absent: the Senator from Alabama (Mr. SHELBY).

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. BALDWIN). Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote or change their vote?

The result was announced—yeas 53, nays 44, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 148 Leg.]

YEAS—53

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

NAYS—44

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

NOT VOTING—3

Bennet	Klobuchar	Shelby

The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The junior Senator from Texas.

MOTION TO INSTRUCT

Mr. CRUZ. Madam President, I call up my motion to instruct conferees, which is at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the motion.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Texas [Mr. CRUZ] moves that the managers on the part of the Senate at the conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the Senate amendment to the bill H.R. 4521 be instructed to insist that the final conference report include section 3258 of the Senate amendment, which requires a report identifying ''major areas of diplomatic, energy, infrastructure, banking, financial, economic, military, and space cooperation . . . between the People's Republic of China and the Islamic Republic of Iran'', regarding the policy of the United States to limit such cooperation through terrorism-related sanctions imposed on the Central Bank of Iran and the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps, as such sanctions are necessary to limit such cooperation.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, there will now be 2 minutes of debate, equally divided, prior to a vote on the Cruz motion to instruct.

Mr. CRUZ. Madam President, China and Iran are two of the most dangerous enemies of the United States. China is our most significant geopolitical foe for the next 100 years. Iran is the world's leading state sponsor of terrorism.

The Biden administration, unfortunately, has been dealing with both from a position of weakness. Specifically, the Biden administration has refused to enforce oil sanctions against Iran, allowing Iran to sell more than a million barrels a day of oil primarily to China.

At the same time, the Biden administration is negotiating to lift terrorism sanctions on the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps and the Central Bank of Iran. The IRGC is responsible for murdering over 600 service men and women. The IRGC, right now, is actively trying to murder the former Secretary of State of the United States and the former National Security Advisor.

If you support terrorism sanctions on the IRGC, you should vote yes, and if you want to lift those sanctions, you should vote no.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The junior Senator from Connecticut.

Mr. MURPHY. Madam President, the provision in the underlying bill that Senator CRUZ's motion argues for is a good one in that we should care about cooperation between China and Iran, but I would encourage my colleagues to oppose this MTI because of another extraneous provision in the motion.

The motion argues that the United States should tie our Iran terrorism sanctions to our China policy, and that, frankly, is a bad idea. Terrorism-related sanctions are about punishing and deterring support for terrorism. If we want to use sanctions to deter cooperation between Iran and China, then we should craft those tailored sanctions; but to tie our Iran terrorism sanctions to our China policy would have the effect, really, of muddying the waters about the purpose of terrorism sanctions. Terrorism sanctions should be about stopping terrorism—period, stop. If we start applying terrorism sanctions for other purposes, it weakens our entire anti-terror strategy.

For that reason, I would urge opposition to the motion.

VOTE ON MOTION

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

Mr. CRUZ. Madam President, I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET) is necessarily absent.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senator is necessarily absent: the Senator from Alabama (Mr. SHELBY).

The result was announced—yeas 86, nays 12, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 149 Leg.]

YEAS—86

Baldwin	Blackburn	Blunt
Barrasso	Blumenthal	Booker

Boozman	Hawley	Risch
Braun	Heinrich	Romney
Burr	Hickenlooper	Rosen
Cantwell	Hoeven	Rounds
Capito	Hyde-Smith	Rubio
Cardin	Inhofe	Sasse
Casey	Johnson	Schumer
Cassidy	Kaine	Scott (FL)
Collins	Kelly	Scott (SC)
Coons	Kennedy	Shaheen
Cornyn	King	Sinema
Cortez Masto	Klobuchar	Smith
Cotton	Lankford	Stabenow
Cramer	Leahy	Sullivan
Crapo	Lee	Tester
Cruz	Luján	Thune
Daines	Lummis	Tillis
Duckworth	Manchin	Toomey
Durbin	Marshall	Tuberville
Ernst	McConnell	Van Hollen
Feinstein	Menendez	Warner
Fischer	Moran	Warnock
Gillibrand	Murkowski	Whitehouse
Graham	Murray	Wicker
Grassley	Ossoff	Wyden
Hagerty	Peters	Young
Hassan	Portman	

NAYS—12

Brown	Merkley	Reed
Carper	Murphy	Sanders
Hirono	Padilla	Schatz
Markey	Paul	Warren

NOT VOTING—2

Bennet	Shelby

The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. HICKENLOOPER). The Senator from New Jersey.

MOTION TO INSTRUCT

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. President, I call up my motion to instruct, which is at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the motion.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from New Jersey [Mr. MENENDEZ] moves that the managers on the part of the Senate at the conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the Senate amendment to the bill H.R. 4521 be instructed to insist upon the provisions contained in section 73003 of the Senate amendment (relating to establishment of an Inspector General of the Office of the United States Trade Representative).

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, there will be 2 minutes of debate equally divided prior to the vote on the Menendez motion to instruct.

The Senator from New Jersey.

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. President, this motion would establish an inspector general at the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative.

As we have seen over the past several years, inspectors general are a key way that Congress conducts oversight over our Federal Government. Through these independent watchdogs, we prevent waste, fraud, and abuse, increasing transparency while ensuring Federal Agencies remain accountable to the American people. It is a model that most of the Federal bureaucracy has adopted because it works.

When it comes to the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative, it remains an outlier—one of the only Cabinet-level Agencies without this key oversight tool. An Agency led by a Senate-confirmed appointee, tasked with carrying out decisions affecting every worker, business, and consumer in this country, is currently operating without one of the most effective guardrails we have against overreach. Just a few years ago, Congress saw how two negotiators for USMCA were using their positions to solicit consulting work on the regulations they had written. We saw how the Agency's opaque tariff exclusion process was beset by inconsistent decision making and political favoritism.

This is an amendment that has been sponsored by over 53 Senators, Republicans and Democrats alike. It passed in USICA originally with a 91-to-4 vote. I urge my colleagues to support it. I am happy to take a voice vote.

VOTE ON MOTION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. If there is no further debate, the question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Idaho.

MOTION TO INSTRUCT

Mr. RISCH. Mr. President, I call up my motion to instruct conferees, which is at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the motion.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Idaho [Mr. RISCH] moves that the managers on the part of the Senate at the conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the Senate amendment to the bill H.R. 4521 be instructed to insist that the final conference report include provisions that take actionable steps to address the risks of and counter malign or undue influence and activities in the United States and abroad by the Chinese Communist Party, the Government of the People's Republic of China, or individuals or entities acting on their behalf.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, there will now be 2 minutes of debate equally divided prior to a vote on the Risch motion to instruct.

The Senator from Idaho.

Mr. RISCH. Mr. President, I didn't stop the reading because it is pretty self-explanatory what this is.

There was language in S. 1260 when it left here and went over to the House, under division C, that would have strengthened the ability of the United States to counter Chinese influence abroad. Specifically, the influence we are talking about here in one particular case especially is what is going on in colleges and universities around the country.

What this does is put some very clear windows into what the Chinese Communist Party is doing on college campuses, particularly as it relates to grants and money that they are putting into the colleges and universities. We are asking and directing the negotiators to see that there is such language in the final bill that comes out.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there further debate on the motion?

Mr. RISCH. Mr. President, I will accept a voice vote.

VOTE ON MOTION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Hearing no further debate, the question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Arizona.

MOTION TO INSTRUCT

Mr. KELLY. Mr. President, I call up my motion to instruct, which is at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the motion.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Arizona [Mr. KELLY] moves that the managers on the part of the Senate at the conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the Senate amendment to the bill H.R. 4521 be instructed to insist that the final conference report include incentives to support investments in semiconductor manufacturing and innovation in the United States, including investments in the fabrication, assembly, testing, advanced packaging, and research and development of semiconductors.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, there will now be 2 minutes of debate equally divided prior to the vote on the Kelly motion to instruct.

Mr. KELLY. Mr. President, microchips are in everything from household vacuums to the most advanced fighter jets. A resilient domestic microchip supply chain is important to our national security and to our economy, but we have two problems. We are facing a shortage of microchips, and we do not have the capacity to produce enough of them here in the United States. That is why we have worked together, Republicans and Democrats, to pass a plan in the Senate competitiveness bill that will boost American microchip manufacturing capacity, create thousands of jobs, and help lower costs for families.

I ask my colleagues to support this motion to show the continued bipartisan momentum behind our plan so we can get this across the finish line.

I am OK with a voice vote.

VOTE ON MOTION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Hearing no further debate on the motion, the question is on agreeing to the motion to instruct.

The motion was agreed to.

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

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

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

MOTION TO INSTRUCT

Mr. LEE. Mr. President, I call up my motion to instruct conferees, which is at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the motion.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Utah [Mr. LEE] moves that the managers on the part of the Senate at the conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the Senate amendment to

the bill H.R. 4521 be instructed to insist that the final conference report not include the provisions contained in the following sections of the bill (as passed by the House of Representatives):

(1) Section 30609 (relating to building United States economic growth and technological innovation through the Green Climate Fund).

(2) Section 30607 (relating to addressing international climate change mitigation, adaptation, and security).

(3) Section 30601(b)(7)(E) (relating to the sense of Congress on implementing the Paris Agreement).

(4) Section 30610 (relating to ensuring a whole-of-government response to climate action).

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, there will now be 2 minutes of debate equally divided prior to a vote on the Lee motion to instruct.

Mr. LEE. Mr. President, Americans are facing an affordability crisis. In my home State of Utah, the average household is having to pay an additional $702 every month just for basic living expenses relative to what they paid every month at the beginning of last year.

Inflation is unsustainable. Energy is one primary driver of inflation, and this administration's senseless energy policies are largely to blame. The House's version of this bill contains more of these damaging policies that will hurt Americans, and hurt Utahns in particular, while they can least afford it.

My motion instructs conferees not to include the House provisions, including one sending $2 billion per year indefinitely to developing countries to support their supply of zero emissions vehicles; another provision that would send $8 billion to the U.N.'s green climate fund, which has historically given money to China; as well as another provision expressing the sense of Congress that the United States should implement the Paris Agreement, which is estimated to lead to a 20 percent increase in the costs for the average American family's electric bill and shrink our national GDP by $2.5 trillion.

Americans can't afford these energy policies. My motion will make sure that they don't have to pay for them.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Rhode Island.

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Mr. President, if we want friends overseas and if we want a robust world economy, it is important that America plays fair with the rest of the world on climate. Participating in the international climate fund, participating in the Paris accord and the COP agreements, and having a robust national strategy on climate change are all distinctly in our national security and economic interests.

I urge voting no on the Lee motion to instruct, and I further urge that if we want to protect the American consumer, get the heck off of fossil fuel before it drives us into ruin with high prices set by international cartels and massive pollution.

VOTE ON MOTION

Mr. LEE. I call for the yeas and nays.

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

Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET) is necessarily absent.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Missouri (Mr. HAWLEY) and the Senator from Alabama (Mr. SHELBY).

Further, if present and voting, the Senator from Missouri (Mr. HAWLEY) would have voted ''yea.''

The result was announced—yeas 48, nays 49, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 150 Leg.]

YEAS—48

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

NAYS—49

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

NOT VOTING—3

Bennet	Hawley	Shelby

The motion was rejected.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. SMITH). The Senator from Tennessee.

MOTION TO INSTRUCT

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Madam President, I call up my motion to instruct conferees which is at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the motion.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Tennessee [Mrs. BLACKBURN] moves that the managers on the part of the Senate at the conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the Senate amendment to the bill H.R. 4521 be instructed to insist that the final conference report include a provision that requires the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, in consultation with the Administrator of General Services, the Director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology, the Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency, the Director of National Intelligence, the Secretary of Defense, the Secretary of State, the Secretary of the Treasury, and the Chairman of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, and consistent with information security requirements designed to address any national security risks, to develop guidance for executive agencies requiring adequate security measures for any transfer, storage, or use of digital yuan on information technology.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, there will now be 2 minutes of debate, equally divided, prior to the vote on the Blackburn motion to instruct.

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Madam President, if we continue to ignore the threat posed by the digital yuan, Beijing will use this technology to increase its surveillance capacity, avoid U.S. sanctions, and threaten the dominance of the U.S. dollar in the global trade.

This is the reason for this motion. This motion would require the managers to include a simple provision that will require OMB to work with our executive Agencies to put some much needed security measures in place.

We cannot afford to look the other way while the CCP increases its own global power at the expense of the free world and is looking for opportunities to use the digital yuan to increase surveillance.

I urge a ''yes'' vote on the motion.

VOTE ON MOTION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there further debate on the motion?

If not, the question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

MOTION TO INSTRUCT

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Arkansas.

Mr. COTTON. Madam President, I call up my motion to instruct conferees, which is at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Arkansas [Mr. COTTON] moves that the managers on the part of the Senate at the conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the Senate amendment to the bill H.R. 4521 be instructed to insist upon rejecting the authorization of appropriations for contributions to the Green Climate Fund under section 30609(b) of the text of the bill as engrossed by the House of Representatives and insisting upon including an authorization of appropriations of $8,000,000,000 within section 2118 of division A of the Senate amendment (relating to funding for the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency) for Department of Defense research, development, production, and procurement of weapon systems needed to compete with China.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, there will now be 2 minutes of debate, equally divided, prior to the vote on the Cotton motion to instruct.

The Senator from Arkansas.

Mr. COTTON. Madam President, the United States is in a new cold war with China, but Joe Biden doesn't seem to be up to the fight. China's military is growing while ours is shrinking. The President's Defense budget can't even

keep up with the Democrats' own rate of inflation. The President even denies that China is waging a cold war against us.

And while we are shortchanging our own military against a dangerous communist adversary, the Government wants to send $8 billion of your money to a U.N. boondoggle called the Green Climate Fund.

If anyone should be paying for a Green Climate Fund, it should be the Chinese communists, the world's worst polluters—not American taxpayers.

My proposal is simple. Instead of giving that $8 billion to the United Nations to waste on climate schemes and corruption, we should send it to our troops and help rebuild our military.

The U.N. or the U.S. military? It is an easy choice. I urge my colleagues to support the motion.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Rhode Island.

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Madam President, this is the second shot that has been taken this afternoon at the international climate fund by our friends on the other side.

America is a great and powerful nation, and it is usually good for great and powerful nations not to be a jerk, and therefore sticking up for the countries that are suffering because of climate pollution is something that a great and powerful nation ought to do.

Don't be a jerk and clean up your own messes are two things that I learned as a child. And I think that our national security and our economic advantage are both served by actually supporting the international climate fund and helping the world work its way through the predicament that the fossil fuel industry has foisted on us. I urge a ''no'' vote on this.

VOTE ON MOTION

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

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET), the Senator from Nevada (Ms. CORTEZ MASTO), the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. LUJÁN), the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ), and the Senator from California (Mr. PADILLA) are necessarily absent.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senator is necessarily absent: the Senator from Alabama (Mr. SHELBY).

The result was announced—yeas 50, nays 44, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 151 Leg.]

YEAS—50

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

NAYS—44

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

NOT VOTING—6

Bennet	Luján	Padilla
Cortez Masto	Menendez	Shelby

The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Alaska.

MOTION TO INSTRUCT

Ms. MURKOWSKI. Madam President, I call up my motion to instruct conferees, which is at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the motion.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Alaska [Ms. MURKOWSKI] moves that the managers on the part of the Senate at the conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the Senate amendment to the bill H.R. 4521 be instructed to insist that the final conference report include the text of S. 140, 117th Congress, as reported to the Senate on December 17, 2021.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, there will be now 2 minutes of debate equally divided prior to a vote on the Murkowski motion to instruct.

Ms. MURKOWSKI. Madam President, the Senator from Rhode Island and I have offered a motion related to our bipartisan BLUE GLOBE Act. This is legislation that focuses on our oceans. They are a key source of food for us. They produce most of the oxygen we need to breathe. They help us maintain our global climate. But we largely ignore them, unfortunately.

We haven't done nearly enough to address overfishing, pollution, and acidification. According to NOAA, we have actually mapped more of the moon than we have our oceans. So BLUE GLOBE will help change that by improving data collection, accelerating ocean-focused innovation, and taking other important steps. It will help strengthen our economy, protect against China's illegal fishing, and bolster our national security along the coasts.

It received unanimous consent support from the Commerce Committee. It is a perfect fit for a bill on competitiveness, so I would urge the Senate to support this motion to instruct conferees to include BLUE GLOBE in the final bill.

VOTE ON MOTION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there further debate?

Hearing none, the question is on agreeing to the motion to instruct.

The motion was agreed to.

Ms. MURKOWSKI. Thank you, Madam President.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from North Carolina.

Mr. TILLIS. 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. SULLIVAN. I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

MOTION TO INSTRUCT

Mr. SULLIVAN. Madam President, I call up my motion to instruct conferees, which is at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the motion.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Alaska [Mr. SULLIVAN] moves that the managers on the part of the Senate at the conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the Senate amendment to the bill H.R. 4521 be instructed to insist that the final conference report include provisions that prohibit a renewable energy project receiving Federal financial assistance, a subsidy, or any other financing mechanism authorized under the final conference report, such as a grant or tax credit, from purchasing materials, technology, or critical minerals mined, produced, processed, or refined in the People's Republic of China or the Russian Federation.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, there will now be 2 minutes of debate equally divided prior to a vote on the Sullivan motion to instruct.

Mr. SULLIVAN. Madam President, as recently as the early 1980s, our Nation produced the vast majority of the critical minerals and renewable energy technology we use in America but not anymore. Unfortunately, Russia and particularly China have a stranglehold on most of these critical minerals and clean energy technology that our Nation needs.

To make matters worse, Madam President, some of these critical minerals and materials we are importing, like solar panels and EV batteries, are processed and manufactured in China using forced labor in some of the worst environmental standards in the world.

Madam President, may I have 30 seconds to complete my statement?

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

Mr. SULLIVAN. We can change this, Madam President. We must change this.

My motion to instruct is simple. Any renewable energy project receiving Federal funds cannot use materials, technologies, or critical minerals from

China or Russia—simple, commonsense, humane, and in the interest of America's workers and our national defense.

I urge my colleagues to vote yes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Oregon.

Mr. WYDEN. Madam President, this Congress and the Clean Energy for America legislation, which passed the Senate Finance Committee, is the best opportunity in the past decade for bold action that deals not just with the threat of climate change but gives us a chance to get those big investments here in the United States with domestic manufacturing and good jobs—an economic win-win.

Our country should be doing everything possible to invest in a technology-neutral, private-sector-driven approach to promote a clean energy future, including investing in renewable energy projects, including the manufacturing of solar, wind, and other technologies here at home.

Further, I would note that our country has a clear prohibition on products made with forced labor that is restricting and will continue to restrict renewable energy products produced with forced labor in China from entering the United States.

My friend, whom I always like working with, introduces a new, vague restriction that would unfortunately tie our hands, limit our businesses' ability to source necessary materials for their products with vague and overly broad restrictions.

I urge my colleagues to oppose the motion.

VOTE ON MOTION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there further debate?

If not, the question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Florida.

MOTION TO INSTRUCT

Mr. RUBIO. Madam President, I call up my motion to instruct conferees, which is at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the motion.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Florida [Mr. RUBIO] moves that the managers on the part of the Senate at the conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the Senate amendment to the bill H.R. 4521 be instructed to insist that the final conference report include a Federal Government-based counterintelligence review to certify recipients of grants, funding, awards, or other resources provided, and intellectual property developed, as a result of the conference report, have national security protections in place to prohibit misappropriation and theft of Federal resources.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, there will now be 2 minutes of debate equally divided prior to a vote on the Rubio motion to instruct.

The Senator from Florida.

Mr. RUBIO. Madam President, this will not take long.

I don't think anybody at this point is unaware that China steals the things that we in America innovate: our research, our ingenuity, our products, our secrets. They steal it. So we are about to spend tens of billions of dollars on research, and if we are going to do that, I think we should take steps to make sure that the tens of billions aren't also stolen.

It doesn't make a lot of sense—and most people would agree—to spend all of this public money on research without enough protections to keep the Chinese from stealing it. So what this motion to instruct would do is it would ensure that the government undertakes a counterintelligence review to certify that the entities that are getting this public money—either through direct funding or through intellectual property developed as a result—have national security protections against the theft of American research and resources.

What this would ensure is that there are protections in place to strengthen the bill's research funding accounting requirements in section 2307 and to ensure review of the funding for university technology centers.

If this bill is to truly be the America COMPETES Act, we need to make sure that America's funding and grants and other taxpayer resources are not going to be stolen by our adversaries to beat us using our own money.

I ask my colleagues to vote yes on the motion to instruct.

VOTE ON MOTION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there further debate?

If not, the question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

The Senator from Michigan.

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

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

MOTION TO INSTRUCT

Mr. JOHNSON. Madam President, I call up my motion to instruct conferees, which is at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the motion.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Wisconsin [Mr. JOHNSON] moves that the managers on the part of the Senate at the conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the Senate amendment to the bill H.R. 4521 be instructed to reject any proposals to prohibit the possession, acquirement, receipt, transportation, sale, or purchase of mink raised in captivity in the United States for fur production.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, there will now be 2 minutes of debate equally divided prior to a vote on the Johnson motion to instruct.

The Senator from Wisconsin.

Mr. JOHNSON. Madam President, this is truly one of the more inappropriate additions that the House made to this bill: to ban the production of farming of mink for the production of fur. I have no idea why they have included it here. It makes no sense to be included. Actually, in Wisconsin, it supports hundreds of jobs and produces exports to China.

So my motion simply instructs the conferees to reject any proposal that would ban mink farming.

I want to thank Senators ROMNEY, DAINES, and BOOZMAN for their support of this amendment, and I urge my colleagues to support American farmers by voting in favor of this motion to instruct.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New Jersey.

Mr. BOOKER. Madam President, the instruction by my colleague from Wisconsin directs conferees to reject bipartisan House language that addresses a serious public health concern related to mink farming.

Mink farms in Europe and the United States have spawned five COVID–19 variants that have collectively infected thousands of people. The next mink variant could infect millions of people. Vaccinations do not prevent infection or transmission in mink, and the risk of virus mutation on mink farms remains significant.

Today, there are only 60 mink farms left in the United States, and they sell their furs to buyers in China, not here. Americans have stopped buying fur because keeping these semiaquatic wild animals in cages and breaking their necks to kill them for fur is inhumane.

More than a dozen European countries have already phased out mink farming because of the serious pandemic risks they present. The United States should immediately follow suit.

I urge my colleagues, for the health of our country, to join me in voting no on this motion to instruct.

VOTE ON MOTION

I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET), the Senator from Nevada (Ms. CORTEZ MASTO), the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. HEINRICH), the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. LUJÁN), the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ), and the Senator from California (Mr. PADILLA) are necessarily absent.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BLUNT) and the Senator from Alabama (Mr. SHELBY).

The result was announced—yeas 59, nays 33, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 152 Leg.]

YEAS—59

Baldwin	Hagerty	Portman
Barrasso	Hawley	Risch
Blackburn	Hoeven	Romney
Boozman	Hyde-Smith	Rounds
Braun	Inhofe	Rubio
Burr	Johnson	Sasse
Capito	Kelly	Scott (FL)
Casey	Kennedy	Scott (SC)
Cassidy	King	Sinema
Collins	Klobuchar	Smith
Cornyn	Lankford	Stabenow
Cotton	Lee	Sullivan
Cramer	Lummis	Tester
Crapo	Manchin	Thune
Cruz	Marshall	Tillis
Daines	McConnell	Toomey
Ernst	Moran	Tuberville
Fischer	Murkowski	Wicker
Graham	Ossoff	Young
Grassley	Paul	

NAYS—33

Blumenthal	Hassan	Rosen
Booker	Hickenlooper	Sanders
Brown	Hirono	Schatz
Cantwell	Kaine	Schumer
Cardin	Leahy	Shaheen
Carper	Markey	Van Hollen
Coons	Merkley	Warner
Duckworth	Murphy	Warnock
Durbin	Murray	Warren
Feinstein	Peters	Whitehouse
Gillibrand	Reed	Wyden

NOT VOTING—8

Bennet	Heinrich	Padilla
Blunt	Luján	Shelby
Cortez Masto	Menendez	

The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. OSSOFF). The Senator from Vermont.

MOTION TO INSTRUCT

Mr. SANDERS. I call up my motion to instruct, which is at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the motion.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Vermont [Mr. SANDERS] moves that the managers on the part of the Senate at the conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the Senate amendment to the bill H.R. 4521 be instructed to insist that the final conference report include provisions that require each beneficiary of Federal financial assistance for semiconductor manufacturing to be banned from purchasing the stock of the beneficiary, from outsourcing employment opportunities of the beneficiary to any country outside of the United States, and from repealing any collective bargaining requirements of the beneficiary, and that require each such beneficiary to issue warrants and equity stakes in the enterprise of the beneficiary to the Federal Government and to remain neutral in any union organizing effort of the employees of the beneficiary.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, there will now be 2 minutes of debate, equally divided, prior to a vote on the Sanders motion to instruct.

Mr. SANDERS. Mr. President, no one disagrees that we need to manufacture more microchips here in the United States, but we should not be providing a $53 billion blank check to the highly profitable microchip industry with no protections for the American taxpayer.

The five companies that will likely receive the lion's share of this funding: Intel, Texas Instruments, Samsung, Micron Technology, and Global Foundries made over $75 billion in profits last year and spent over $18 billion on stock buybacks.

We have strange priorities here in the Senate. We can't extend the child tax credit to combat child poverty. We can't deal with the crisis in childcare. We can't provide dental care to seniors on Medicare. We can't deal with climate change. But somehow we can provide a massive amount of corporate welfare to a handful of corporations.

The motion I am offering today would instruct the conferees to impose the following conditions on companies receiving this assistance: They must agree to issue warrants or equity stakes to the Federal Government.

If private corporations are going to benefit from $53 billion in taxpayer welfare, the financial gains must be shared with the American people—not just wealthy stockholders. Further, these companies must agree to not buy back their own stock, not outsource American jobs, not repeal existing collective bargaining agreements, and remain neutral in union organizing efforts.

What we are talking about here is not a radical idea. These exact conditions, word for word, were included in the bipartisan CARES Act, which passed the Senate 96 to 0.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator's time is expired.

The Senator from Ohio.

Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, I rise in opposition to Senator SANDERS' motion to instruct.

When America invented the semiconductor 40 years ago, we produced nearly half of the world's semiconductors. Today, we produce less than 10 percent.

Look what happened: Plants shut down across Ohio. Whirlpool, Ford, GM—forced to idle plants because of the ''spread out all over the world'' supply chain.

We passed the CHIPS Act 2 years ago. I thank Senator CANTWELL who—what she has done to stop this, encourage more production of these chips at home.

This bill will fund—this legislation will fund the bill Congress already passed. It is not a bailout. It is critical to my State—10,000 good jobs, 5,000 building trades—union building trades jobs paying prevailing wage for the next 10 years. It is an incentive program.

The EU, China, Taiwan, South Korea all provide incentives to make these chips domestically. None of them require stock warrants.

Everybody in this body knows my position in opposition to the financial services industry to stock buybacks. You can count on that.

I yield my final 30 seconds to Senator WICKER.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Mississippi.

Mr. WICKER. Mr. President, there are already significant taxpayer mandates in the bill, as it is limiting award size, prohibiting funds from going to so-called foreign entities, such as China, and clawback provisions.

Why do we need chips?

We need chips for Javelin missiles. We need them for—major weapons systems contain thousands of chips. The Arleigh Burke-class destroyer includes 250,000 chips.

It would make it much harder for Americans to produce these chips if the Sanders amendment were to pass.

I urge a no vote, and I join my friend from Ohio in urging a no vote.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. All time is expired on the motion.

Mr. SANDERS. Mr. President, may I have 30 seconds in response?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Vermont.

Mr. SANDERS. No one debates the need for chips. But to my friend from Ohio, I would say: You are right. We lost tens of thousands of jobs over the last 20 years. You know why? Because the same microchip companies shut down plants in America to go for cheap labor in Asia, and now we are rewarding them with $53 billion in corporate welfare.

For all of my friends who talk about the deficit and how we can't fund the needs of our children or the elderly, $53 billion going to some of the most profitable corporations in America without any taxpayer protection is an absolute outrage.

Let's vote for this proposal.

VOTE ON MOTION

Mr. WICKER. Mr. President, I ask for the yeas and nays.

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

Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET), the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS), the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. HEINRICH), the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. LUJÁN), and the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ) are necessarily absent.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BLUNT) and the Senator from Alabama (Mr. SHELBY).

The result was announced—yeas 6, nays 87, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 153 Leg.]

YEAS—6

Baldwin	Markey	Sanders
Booker	Merkley	Warren

NAYS—87

Barrasso	Collins	Gillibrand
Blackburn	Cornyn	Graham
Blumenthal	Cortez Masto	Grassley
Boozman	Cotton	Hagerty
Braun	Cramer	Hassan
Brown	Crapo	Hawley
Burr	Cruz	Hickenlooper
Cantwell	Daines	Hirono
Capito	Duckworth	Hoeven
Cardin	Durbin	Hyde-Smith
Carper	Ernst	Inhofe
Casey	Feinstein	Johnson
Cassidy	Fischer	Kaine

Kelly	Padilla	Sinema
Kennedy	Paul	Smith
King	Peters	Stabenow
Klobuchar	Portman	Sullivan
Lankford	Reed	Tester
Leahy	Risch	Thune
Lee	Romney	Tillis
Lummis	Rosen	Toomey
Manchin	Rounds	Tuberville
Marshall	Rubio	Van Hollen
McConnell	Sasse	Warner
Moran	Schatz	Warnock
Murkowski	Schumer	Whitehouse
Murphy	Scott (FL)	Wicker
Murray	Scott (SC)	Wyden
Ossoff	Shaheen	Young

NOT VOTING—7

Bennet	Heinrich	Shelby
Blunt	Luján	
Coons	Menendez	

The motion was rejected.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Montana.

MOTION TO INSTRUCT

Mr. DAINES. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that, notwithstanding the previous order, it be in order to offer my motion to instruct at this time.

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

Mr. DAINES. Mr. President, I call up my motion to instruct conferees, which is at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the motion.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Montana [Mr. DAINES] moves that the managers on the part of the Senate at the conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the Senate amendment to the bill H.R. 4521 be instructed to reject provisions that weaken the energy security of the United States, prohibit the development of an all-of-the-above energy portfolio, or direct funds to foreign entities for international climate objectives.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, there will now be 2 minutes of debate, equally divided, prior to a vote on the Daines motion to instruct.

Mr. DAINES. Mr. President, if we have learned anything over the past few months, it is the importance of supporting ''Made in America'' energy.

Since Europe has divested in traditional energy, Vladimir Putin has weaponized it and has Europe over a barrel. This is the path America is headed down if the administration continues to stonewall traditional American energy development.

For the sake of our national security, we must unleash American energy production, which includes an ''all of the above'' energy portfolio with renewables, hydropower, oil, gas, nuclear, and coal. Energy security is national security, and a global, energy-dominant America is a safer world.

We should also not be sending money to China like the House bill does in a package that is meant to help us win the race against China. It just doesn't make sense.

I urge my colleagues to support this motion to instruct and reject the provisions from the House that weaken the energy security of the United States.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Oregon.

Mr. MERKLEY. Mr. President, I rise in opposition to this motion to instruct for one simple reason: It is up to America to lead the world in reducing the use of fossil fuels and in pivoting to renewable energy. Yet this motion to instruct says we cannot do anything to help foreign entities address any aspect of the climate objective: not to fight forest fires that come from climate change, not to address the salinization or the acidification of the sea, not to address reforestation or deforestation.

It is up to America to help make sure that we provide nonfossil fuel energy for the future that will help us all address this huge list of issues. It is important that we lead the world, not neglect the world.

VOTE ON MOTION

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

The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. KELLY). The Senator from New Hampshire.

MOTION TO INSTRUCT

Ms. HASSAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that, notwithstanding the previous order, it be in order to offer my motion to instruct at this time.

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

Ms. HASSAN. Mr. President, I call up my motion to instruct, which is at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the motion.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from New Hampshire [Ms. HASSAN] moves that the managers on the part of the Senate at the conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the Senate amendment to the bill H.R. 4521 be instructed to insist that the final conference report include provisions that expand the research and development tax credit for small businesses and preserve full and immediate expensing for research and development investments.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, there will now be 2 minutes of debate, equally divided, prior to a vote on the Hassan motion to instruct.

Ms. HASSAN. Mr. President, I rise today to offer a bipartisan motion with Senator YOUNG that will help fuel American innovation.

The research and development tax credit gives critical support to small businesses and startups that power our economy. By strengthening the R&D tax credit for startups and preserving other tax incentives for research here in America, we can outcompete countries like China.

I would also like to thank the additional 16 Senators supporting the motion: Senators BALDWIN, MARSHALL, FEINSTEIN, SASSE, WARNOCK, BLUNT, KELLY, PORTMAN, PADILLA, FISCHER, COONS, BOOZMAN, CORTEZ MASTO, CAPITO, ROSEN, and WICKER.

I yield to the Senator from Indiana.

Mr. YOUNG. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to speak for 1 minute.

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

Mr. YOUNG. Mr. President, I thank my colleague from New Hampshire.

This bill is about maintaining our competitiveness with China.

We cannot compete with China without robust domestic R&D. A company investing $100 in R&D in China this year will get a $200 deduction. In America, that company investing $100 would only get to deduct $10 this year.

We must not lose out on innovation and production to China. I ask my colleagues to support this motion and support domestic R&D. Every day we wait is another day we fall behind.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Vermont.

Mr. SANDERS. Mr. President, recent polls suggest that Congress has a 19-percent favorability rating, and I find that shocking. Clearly, if that 19 percent had any inkling as to what goes on here in the Senate, that number would be much lower.

Over and over again, I hear Members of the Senate express their deep concerns about the deficit. ''Oh, my God, our deficit.'' We can't maintain a child tax credit to cut child poverty, and we can't make sure that senior citizens on Medicare have teeth in their mouths—we just can't afford it—but, apparently, we can afford to provide $125 billion in tax breaks over the next 4 years to some of the most profitable corporations in America, including Amazon, Intel, AT&T, Boeing, you name it.

This amendment would repeal—now, this is amazing, and I say this to my Democratic colleagues. This amendment would repeal a modest tax increase on profitable corporations that President Donald Trump pushed to partially offset the cost of his massive tax giveaway to the rich a few years ago. This was Trump's initiative to kind of cover the tax breaks he gave to billionaires and large corporations. If this amendment were enacted, Lockheed Martin and Raytheon would receive a $2 billion tax break each year, and Northrop Grumman would receive a $1 billion tax break.

Is that what we are in the business of doing, telling working families we can't help them but that we are giving huge tax breaks to some of the wealthiest and most profitable corporations in America?

I urge my colleagues to vote against this motion.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New Hampshire.

Ms. HASSAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to speak for 10 more seconds.

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

Ms. HASSAN. Our R&D proposal is critical to helping small businesses and to investing in R&D here at home to help us outcompete countries like China.

There is strong bipartisan support for this measure.

VOTE ON MOTION

I ask for the yeas and nays.

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

Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The yeas and nays are ordered.

The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET), the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. MANCHIN), and the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ) are necessarily absent.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BLUNT) and the Senator from Alabama (Mr. SHELBY).

The result was announced—yeas 90, nays 5, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 154 Leg.]

YEAS—90

Baldwin	Grassley	Peters
Barrasso	Hagerty	Portman
Blackburn	Hassan	Reed
Blumenthal	Hawley	Risch
Boozman	Heinrich	Romney
Braun	Hickenlooper	Rosen
Brown	Hirono	Rounds
Burr	Hoeven	Rubio
Cantwell	Hyde-Smith	Sasse
Capito	Inhofe	Schatz
Cardin	Johnson	Schumer
Carper	Kaine	Scott (FL)
Casey	Kelly	Scott (SC)
Cassidy	Kennedy	Shaheen
Collins	King	Sinema
Coons	Klobuchar	Smith
Cornyn	Lankford	Stabenow
Cortez Masto	Leahy	Sullivan
Cotton	Luján	Tester
Cramer	Lummis	Thune
Crapo	Marshall	Tillis
Cruz	McConnell	Toomey
Daines	Merkley	Tuberville
Duckworth	Moran	Van Hollen
Durbin	Murkowski	Warner
Ernst	Murphy	Warnock
Feinstein	Murray	Whitehouse
Fischer	Ossoff	Wicker
Gillibrand	Padilla	Wyden
Graham	Paul	Young

NAYS—5

Booker	Markey	Warren
Lee	Sanders	

NOT VOTING—5

Bennet	Manchin	Shelby
Blunt	Menendez	

The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Florida.

MOTION TO INSTRUCT

Mr. SCOTT of Florida. I call up my motion, which is at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the motion.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Florida [Mr. SCOTT] moves that the managers on the part of the Senate at the conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the Senate amendment to the bill H.R. 4521 be instructed to insist that the final conference report include provisions that ensure that any taxpayer funds spent in the bill, including those provided to universities and private sector corporations, are subject to comprehensive return on investment analyses and claw back provisions, and corresponding timely reports on the use of such funds to Congress and the American public.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, there will now be 2 minutes of debate equally divided prior to the vote on the Scott motion to instruct.

The Senator from Florida.

Mr. SCOTT of Florida. Mr. President, this government is $30 trillion in debt, and Congress is working every day to spend money like it is burning a hole in our pocket. This bill has billions of spending, billions of taxpayer dollars, and zero mandates for return on investment. That is crazy. It is crazy and illogical. No American would make a deal like this for their business or their family. Congress shouldn't do it with your tax dollars either.

The conferees must ensure this bill makes all taxpayer funds subject to a comprehensive return-on-investment analysis with clawback provisions and mandate a report on how every dollar is spent.

We used taxpayer dollars to incentivize private sector growth when I was Governor of Florida. It helped bring businesses to my State and create jobs. But we always had return-on-investment metrics and clawbacks for when those metrics weren't met. We should be demanding the same here, and I urge my colleagues to join me and support accountability to the taxpayer.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Washington.

Ms. CANTWELL. Mr. President, speaking against my colleague, I am sure he is well-meaning, but the language in this underlying amendment would condition the funds of this bill. Say the taxpayer money provided to universities on research—think about what we do today with universities on a lot of subjects. Just ask yourself, would you ever have an ROI on the COVID vaccine? basic research around lifesaving medicine? It took 60 years to prove the return on that investment. There are underlying DARPA funds in this bill. Do you think that all of those DARPA funds showed return on investment? Say goodbye to those moneys.

This also says that it can be conditioned for a clawback. Who? So nuclear research done by one institution and one administration but not liked by the next administration is clawed back? I think we have trusted our universities to do this research for us, and that is what a research economy is about.

We need to dust off our R&D skills and make these investments and make the commitments. The underlying bill has safeguards on spending in the bill.

I ask my colleagues to vote no on this motion to instruct.

VOTE ON MOTION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Hearing no further debate, the question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Iowa.

MOTION TO INSTRUCT

Ms. ERNST. Mr. President, I call up my motion to instruct conferees, which is at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the motion.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Iowa [Ms. ERNST] moves that the managers on the part of the Senate at the conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the Senate amendment to the bill H.R. 4521 be instructed to reject the provision as agreed to by the House of Representatives that would reauthorize the Small Business Innovation Research and Small Business Technology Transfer programs under section 9 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 638) without authorization to prevent the Russian Federation and the People's Republic of China from acquiring technology critical to national security developed through programs of the Small Business Administration and participating Federal agencies.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, there will now be 2 minutes of debate equally divided prior to the vote on the Ernst motion to instruct.

Ms. ERNST. Mr. President, the Small Business Innovation Research and Small Business Technology Transfer Programs provide critical innovation support to America's small businesses. While this program is celebrating 40 years in business, SBIR continues to be exploited by foreign adversaries due to lack of controls within the programs to prevent the transfer of new American technology to our adversaries.

China has become one of the largest beneficiaries of the SBIR Programs because of the lack of adequate oversight. China and other foreign adversaries, like Putin's Russia, know this and have been establishing shell companies, acquiring beneficial ownership in American enterprises, selecting key awardee personnel for talent recruitment, and other state-directed technology acquisition. China has also infiltrated businesses known as SBIR mills that have won numerous grants.

This is a clear national security threat and is wholly unacceptable. Serious and comprehensive due diligence reforms are needed to combat adversarial foreign influence in these programs and to protect our national security.

I ask my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to support this effort.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Maryland.

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, I agree with my colleague that the SBIR Program and the STTR Program are critical to our American small businesses. It offers them incredible opportunities to develop technology important for our Nation. I also agree with my colleague that it is important we prevent critical national security technology developed by the programs from being acquired by China and Russia.

I do point out that if you look at the COMPETES Act, there are safeguards to prevent our foreign adversaries from acquiring sensitive technology—and not just China and Russia but all foreign countries of concern, including Iran and North Korea. This effort

builds on section 223 of the fiscal year 2021 National Defense Authorization Act that provides protection and requires disclosure to guard against foreign influence on federally funded research and development.

I am going to support the motion to instruct and work with my colleague so we can develop clear language and make it clear that the technology developed by the SBIR Program and STTR Program are protected against being taken into China and Russia. I look forward to working with my colleague.

I support the motion.

VOTE ON MOTION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Hearing no further debate, the question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Oklahoma.

MOTION TO INSTRUCT

Mr. LANKFORD. Mr. President, I call up my motion to instruct, which is at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the motion.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Oklahoma [Mr. LANKFORD] moves that the managers on the part of the Senate at the conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the Senate amendment to the bill H.R. 4521 be instructed to insist that the final conference report include provisions requiring that any agreement negotiated by the United States with the Islamic Republic of Iran addressing Iran's development of nuclear weapons—

(1) also includes provisions addressing the full range of Iran's destabilizing activities, including development of the means of delivery for such weapons (such as ballistic missiles), support for terrorism, and evasion of sanctions by individuals, entities, and vessels in the trade of petroleum products with the People's Republic of China;

(2) does not lift sanctions on the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps; and

(3) does not revoke the designation of the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps as a foreign terrorist organization under section 219 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1189).

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, there will now be 2 minutes of debate equally divided prior to the vote on the Lankford motion to instruct.

The Senator from Oklahoma.

Mr. LANKFORD. Mr. President, we are about to go into conference on what we are basically calling the China bill, but this bill does not address China's practice of purchasing and stockpiling sanctioned Iranian oil on the black market.

This procurement spike by China is directly correlated with the spike in terrorist activities by Iran and its proxies in the Middle East. Iran is laundering these petroleum products and illicitly transferring the oil at sea to Iranian tankers and foreign-flagged vessels. Three-quarters of this oil is ultimately exported to China, which purchased 310 million barrels of oil from Iran last year. All of this is happening while China is actually negotiating directly with Iran on our behalf in Vienna.

This particular motion to instruct goes straight at this illicit activity from Iran that is facilitating the terror activities and also addresses the designation that Iran is asking if they are going to negotiate with the Biden administration on the Iran nuclear deal. Iran is specifically asking that they get a lift of the ''foreign terrorist organization'' on the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps. That is the group that was attacking our troops in Iraq and facilitating their death.

We need to address this and take it off the table so that Iran does not get by with this and the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps does not.

I urge a ''yes'' vote on my motion to instruct.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Connecticut.

Mr. MURPHY. Mr. President, I would urge opposition to this motion.

This motion asks the Senate to endorse President Trump's Iran policy—a policy that, if you didn't notice, was a complete, total failure.

The motion calls for a provision in the underlying bill to prohibit a return to the JCPOA and to keep Trump's ''maximum pressure'' campaign intact until a mythical comprehensive agreement is achieved with Iran, inclusive of all their malevolent behavior. This policy just hasn't worked. To apply it prospectively would be ruinous.

Friends, Iran is weeks away from having enough nuclear material for a weapon. To deny this administration the ability to enter into a nuclear agreement isn't just folly; it is downright dangerous.

I wish a comprehensive agreement with Iran was possible, but 4 years of failure by President Trump was proof that, for the time being, it is not. We should not endorse 4 more years of this failed Iran policy.

I urge opposition.

VOTE ON MOTION

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

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET) and the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ) are necessarily absent.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BLUNT), the Senator from Idaho (Mr. RISCH), and the Senator from Alabama (Mr. SHELBY).

Further, if present and voting, the Senator from Idaho (Mr. RISCH) would have voted ''yea.''

The result was announced—yeas 62, nays 33, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 155 Leg.]

YEAS—62

Barrasso	Gillibrand	Peters
Blackburn	Graham	Portman
Blumenthal	Grassley	Romney
Booker	Hagerty	Rosen
Boozman	Hassan	Rounds
Braun	Hawley	Rubio
Burr	Hoeven	Sasse
Capito	Hyde-Smith	Schumer
Cardin	Inhofe	Scott (FL)
Cassidy	Johnson	Scott (SC)
Collins	Kelly	Sinema
Coons	Kennedy	Sullivan
Cornyn	King	Tester
Cortez Masto	Lankford	Thune
Cotton	Lee	Tillis
Cramer	Lummis	Toomey
Crapo	Manchin	Tuberville
Cruz	Marshall	Wicker
Daines	McConnell	Wyden
Ernst	Moran	Young
Fischer	Murkowski	

NAYS—33

Baldwin	Kaine	Reed
Brown	Klobuchar	Sanders
Cantwell	Leahy	Schatz
Carper	Luján	Shaheen
Casey	Markey	Smith
Duckworth	Merkley	Stabenow
Durbin	Murphy	Van Hollen
Feinstein	Murray	Warner
Heinrich	Ossoff	Warnock
Hickenlooper	Padilla	Warren
Hirono	Paul	Whitehouse

NOT VOTING—5

Bennet	Menendez	Shelby
Blunt	Risch	

The PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote, the yeas are 62, the nays are 33.

Under the previous order requiring 60 votes for the adoption of this motion, the motion is agreed to.

The majority leader.

Mr. SCHUMER. OK. My colleagues, we have seven votes left; three look like they will be voice, so there are four votes. If we stay in our seats and try to stick as close as we can to the 10-minute vote, we can finish very soon. So please do that.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Vermont.

MOTION TO INSTRUCT

Mr. SANDERS. Mr. President, I call up my motion to instruct, which is at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the motion.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Vermont [Mr. SANDERS] moves that the managers on the part of the Senate at the conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the Senate amendment to the bill H.R. 4521 be instructed to recede from the provision contained in section 2614(c) of the Senate amendment (relating to contract redundancy and funding for the human landing system program of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, which would likely go to Blue Origin).

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, there will now be 2 minutes of debate equally divided prior to a vote on the Sanders motion to instruct.

The Senator from Vermont.

Mr. SANDERS. Mr. President, this motion is cosponsored by Senator JOHNSON of Wisconsin, and I have to say that we are on a roll tonight.

We have already voted to give $53 billion in corporate welfare to the microchip industry. We voted to give $125 billion in tax breaks to some of the wealthiest corporations in the country.

But now we have the opportunity to do even better. We can give $10 billion to Jeff Bezos, the second wealthiest person in this country, who is the owner of the space company Blue Origin.

Clearly, Mr. Bezos desperately needs this Federal assistance. He is only worth $150 billion, and with all of his lawyers and accountants, in a given year, he pays nothing in Federal income taxes.

He is the owner of Amazon, which in a given year also pays nothing in Federal income taxes.

Mr. Bezos has enough money to buy a $500 million yacht, $175 million estate in Beverly Hills, and a $23 million mansion here in Washington.

I am sure that your constituents will be very excited to hear that you are going to give him this $10 billion, which he clearly desperately needs.

Further, for those people here who believe in trade unions, Mr. Bezos has spent millions of dollars at Amazon preventing workers at Amazon from exercising their constitutional right to form a union.

He is part of Amazon, a company that has been fined over and over again for violating the law.

Mr. President, at a time when 70 million are uninsured, when 600,000 people are homeless in this country, when we are seeing a growing gap between the very rich and everybody else, it does not make a lot of sense to give $10 billion to the second wealthiest person in this country.

I urge my colleagues to vote yes on this motion.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Alabama.

Mr. TUBERVILLE. Mr. President, NASA recognizes that competition makes us better. That is why they asked Congress to fund a second provider for the lunar lander.

Developing additional designs was NASA's original intent—a type of built-in insurance. It helps foster greater astronaut safety, which you can appreciate, and minimize the impact of delays; in the end, protecting the American taxpayers' investment in the Artemis program.

To continue advancements in American ingenuity and innovation, Congress must embrace competition, safety, and public-private partnerships.

My colleague from Vermont's motion would take a sledgehammer to American ingenuity and the Artemis program.

I urge my colleagues to vote against this motion.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Washington.

Ms. CANTWELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent for an additional 30 seconds.

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

Ms. CANTWELL. I, too, oppose this amendment.

Striking the authorization does strike competition. NASA has asked for continued competition, and there are many defense contractors who have expressed interest—Lockheed Martin, Northrop Grumman, Dynetics.

So I understand my colleague's frustration and what he wants to complain about, but this is about safety, and it is about redundancy, and it is about us authorizing the Artemis program; not just having appropriators make a decision, but having the authorization of safety and redundancy that we expect if we as a Nation are going to take the next woman astronaut all the way to the surface of the Moon.

When I think about what happened with the space shuttle Columbia and the disaster, NASA suffered great consequences. They have said redundancy matters, and that is what we are authorizing, and the competition my colleague just mentioned.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Vermont, 30 seconds.

Mr. SANDERS. Mr. President, you know, I hear this word ''competition,'' but I want everybody to know what the competition is in the space program.

The competition is between Mr. Musk and SpaceX. Musk is the wealthiest guy in the country, and Jeff Bezos and Blue Origin, the second wealthiest guy in this country.

Is that really the kind of space program that the American people want? I think not.

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Madam President, I rise today to explain my position on Senator SANDERS' motion to instruct conferees to remove language from any final conference report of the U.S. Innovation and Competition Act and the America COMPETES Act that would provide $10 billion for NASA to develop a second Human Landing System.

California has long been the epicenter of the global aerospace and commercial space industries, and I am proud of the many technical and scientific advancements made by California scientists and engineers. The bills that the conference committee will consider are intended to ensure that the innovation in aerospace in California and beyond has the support needed to maintain the United States' global competitive edge and lead scientific advancement.

When the Senate passed the U.S. Innovation and Competition Act last summer, I was concerned that section 2614 of the bill would circumvent the competitive process at the heart of Federal procurement and undermined NASA's existing contract for the Artemis Human Landing System.

By that time, NASA had already completed a contract review and award for the Artemis program for the development of a landing system, selecting the proposal by SpaceX. The SpaceX bid not only received the highest rating for its technical aspects and management approach, it also had the lowest price.

Nevertheless, the unsuccessful contractors who did not receive the final contract, Blue Origin and Dynetics, filed a complaint with the Government Accountability Office, alleging violations and unreasonable evaluation practices.

The GAO investigated for 3 months and ultimately denied the claims by the contractors, saying: ''The evaluation of all three proposals was reasonable and consistent with applicable procurement law, regulation, and the announcement's terms.''

Like Senator SANDERS, I had initial concerns that section 2614 of the U.S. Innovation and Competition Act would create an additional Human Landing System contract, thereby providing substantial public funding to contractors who lost a fair competitive contract award. Moreover, the terms of section 2614 threatened to force NASA into a rushed acquisition and could have diverted funds from other important projects to cover the expenses of this second Artemis award.

However, my staff and I have worked with Senator CANTWELL and her staff at the Senate Commerce Committee to address those concerns. I understand that the Commerce Committee will work through the conference process to extend the timeline for the new contract in the bill—previously just 90 days—to ensure that NASA can undertake another fair procurement process.

They have further committed to working with NASA to ensure that the language does not represent an unfunded mandate, forcing NASA to pull funds from other programs.

Lastly, NASA's budget request this year for the landing system was $1.5 billion, a significantly more reasonable amount than the enormous figure included in the original Senate bill. As a member of the Appropriations Subcommittee for Commerce, Justice, and Science, I will continue to observe this program closely to ensure that these Federal funds are spent responsibly and without favoritism.

I want to reiterate that I have long supported NASA's scientific endeavors, including the upcoming Artemis moon mission, and I look forward to seeing the improved language in the final version of the bill. I thank Senator CANTWELL and her staff for working with me to address my concerns, and I respectfully note that I will vote no on the motion by Senator SANDERS.

VOTE ON MOTION

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

Mr. SANDERS. Mr. President, I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET) and the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ) are necessarily absent.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BLUNT), the Senator from Idaho (Mr. RISCH), and the Senator from Alabama (Mr. SHELBY).

The result was announced—yeas 17, nays 78, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 156 Leg.]

YEAS—17

Boozman	Johnson	Rubio
Braun	Klobuchar	Sanders
Cotton	Lee	Scott (FL)
Gillibrand	Markey	Smith
Hawley	Murkowski	Warren
Hirono	Paul	

NAYS—78

Baldwin	Graham	Peters
Barrasso	Grassley	Portman
Blackburn	Hagerty	Reed
Blumenthal	Hassan	Romney
Booker	Heinrich	Rosen
Brown	Hickenlooper	Rounds
Burr	Hoeven	Sasse
Cantwell	Hyde-Smith	Schatz
Capito	Inhofe	Schumer
Cardin	Kaine	Scott (SC)
Carper	Kelly	Shaheen
Casey	Kennedy	Sinema
Cassidy	King	Stabenow
Collins	Lankford	Sullivan
Coons	Leahy	Tester
Cornyn	Luján	Thune
Cortez Masto	Lummis	Tillis
Cramer	Manchin	Toomey
Crapo	Marshall	Tuberville
Cruz	McConnell	Van Hollen
Daines	Merkley	Warner
Duckworth	Moran	Warnock
Durbin	Murphy	Whitehouse
Ernst	Murray	Wicker
Feinstein	Ossoff	Wyden
Fischer	Padilla	Young

NOT VOTING—5

Bennet	Menendez	Shelby
Blunt	Risch	

The motion was rejected.

MOTION TO INSTRUCT

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Louisiana.

Mr. CASSIDY. Mr. President, I call up my motion to instruct conferees, which is at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the motion.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A Senator from Louisiana [Mr. CASSIDY] moves that the managers on the part of the Senate at the conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the Senate amendment to the bill H.R. 4521 be instructed to insist that the final conference report include provisions that require the President to directly address troubling developments in Mexico's energy sector that intentionally cause harm to United States jobs and economic interests, business and investor interests, and climate goals through the use of consultations under the USMCA (as defined in section 3 of the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement Implementation Act (19 U.S.C. 4502)).

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, there will now be 2 minutes of debate, equally divided, prior to the vote on the Cassidy motion to instruct.

Mr. CASSIDY. Mr. President, the importance of trade agreements is that everyone follows the rules they agreed to. Mexico is not following the USMCA.

They have forced the closures or partial closures of dozens of fuel facilities and have canceled permits for the import and export of fuels. They are favoring their national industry, PEMEX, and disadvantaging American companies, including companies building renewable projects. These actions chill foreign direct investment with Mexico, hurt American businesses, and undermine climate goals; but Mexico continues to benefit from the rest of the USMCA.

We wish to be a strong and dependable trade partner with Mexico, but the USMCA should be honored. The role of the USTR is to represent the interests of the United States and hold trade partners to their word. Mexico should respect property rights for U.S. businesses. This should be a priority for the USTR.

I yield back all time.

VOTE ON MOTION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, all time is yielded back.

The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Georgia.

MOTION TO INSTRUCT

Mr. WARNOCK. Mr. President, I call up my motion to instruct, which is at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the motion.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A Senator from Georgia [Mr. WARNOCK] moves that the managers on the part of the Senate at the conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the Senate amendment to the bill H.R. 4521 be instructed to insist that the final conference report include provisions that fully fund programs to build institutional research capacity at historically Black colleges or universities that are developing research institutions.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, there will now be 2 minutes of debate, equally divided, prior to a vote on the Warnock motion to instruct.

Mr. WARNOCK. Mr. President, this legislation will help to lower costs for hard-working families, create jobs, and equip the Nation to compete in a changing economy.

Historically Black colleges and universities have been putting in the work. For years, they have always had to punch above their weight, but they play a critical role in creating those jobs and in ensuring that we have a diverse, trained workforce for new technology, for research, and advanced manufacturing opportunities in Georgia and, indeed, across the country.

That is why we have to invest in their ability to meet tomorrow's challenges. When we invest in all of our young people, we position our economy to be strong for 10 years, 20 years, 30 years into the future.

The purpose of this motion is very simple. It will ensure that our entire higher education sector can contribute to our growing tech and innovation economy. We make good use of all of our talent in creating businesses and good-paying jobs in Georgia and all across the Nation. I hope that we can adopt this motion by voice vote.

VOTE ON MOTION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there further debate on the motion?

If not, the question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from West Virginia.

MOTION TO INSTRUCT

Mrs. CAPITO. Mr. President, I call up my motion to instruct conferees, which is at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the motion.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from West Virginia [Mrs. CAPITO] moves that the managers on the part of the Senate at the conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the Senate amendment to the bill H.R. 4521 be instructed to insist that the final conference report include provisions that—

(1) emphasize that, under current law, the President may not—

(A) declare, on the basis of climate change—

(i) a national emergency under the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1601 et seq.);

(ii) an emergency or major disaster under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5121 et seq.); or

(iii) a public health emergency under section 319 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 247d); or

(B) invoke, on the basis of climate change, the authorities of the Defense Production Act of 1950 (50 U.S.C. 4501 et seq.); and

(2) provide that nothing in H.R. 4521 grants the President the authority to make a declaration or invocation described in paragraph (1).

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, there will now be 2 minutes of debate, equally divided, prior to a vote on the Capito motion to instruct.

Mrs. CAPITO. Mr. President, this motion to instruct emphasizes that climate change cannot be used as a basis for the President to declare an emergency or a major disaster or any other means to expand executive powers.

In the last 2 weeks, Progressives in Congress have renewed their push for the President to claim powers he doesn't have and make it harder to produce energy domestically and export it abroad. This is bad policy, and it sets a bad precedent to encourage expansive executive authority.

Now, of course, I think we should address climate change, but ceding broad authority over to the Executive is not the way to go. I have worked together with my colleagues on numerous pieces of meaningful climate legislation and continue to do so as the ranking member of the Environment and Public Works Committee.

When Congress wants to address climate, as we have in the past, it rolls up its sleeves and does so in a thoughtful, bipartisan manner, with clear, detailed direction to the Executive, not by giving the Executive broad authority to do whatever it sees fit.

I encourage a positive vote on my motion to instruct.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Oregon.

Mr. MERKLEY. Mr. President, when vigorous storms attack the heartland and destroy crops, I hope that the President has emergency powers to assist those farmers. When fires—fiercer fires in a longer fire season—proceed to burn not just one town but six towns to the ground in the State of Oregon in an almost unbelievable, horrendous reduction to ashes, I hope the President has emergency powers to declare a major disaster and assist the good people of my State or your State when these disasters happen. If changing temperatures and changing rain patterns bring the sandfly to Texas and leishmaniasis or some other deadly disease, then, indeed, the President needs to have the power to declare a public health service emergency.

Taking away the ability for the President to declare major disasters or health emergencies or national emergencies when there are disasters striking our people is a terrible idea, and I encourage you to vote no on this motion to instruct.

VOTE ON MOTION

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

Mr. MERKLEY. Mr. President, I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There is a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET) is necessarily absent.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BLUNT), the Senator from Idaho (Mr. RISCH), and the Senator from Alabama (Mr. SHELBY).

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. BALDWIN). Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The result was announced—yeas 49, nays 47, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 157 Leg.]

YEAS—49

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

NAYS—47

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

NOT VOTING—4

Bennet	Risch
Blunt	Shelby

The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Pennsylvania.

MOTION TO INSTRUCT

Mr. TOOMEY. Madam President, I call up my motion to instruct, which is at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the motion.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Pennsylvania [Mr. TOOMEY] moves that the managers on the part of the Senate at the conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the Senate amendment to the bill H.R. 4521 be instructed to insist upon the provisions contained in section 73001 of the Senate amendment (relating to establishing a process for exclusion of articles from duties under section 301 of the Trade Act of 1974).

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, there will now be 2 minutes of debate, equally divided, prior to a vote on the Toomey motion to instruct.

Mr. TOOMEY. Madam President, my motion would simply instruct the Senate conferees to USICA to keep a provision of the Wyden-Crapo trade amendment that passed the Senate 91 to 4. Specifically, it is the provision that requires the administration reestablish an exclusion process for current and future section 301 actions.

This does not repeal 301 tariffs. It doesn't preclude new 301 tariffs. But, remember, when the Trump administration imposed 301 tariffs, they created an exclusion process for the simple reason that it was important to exclude from tariffs those circumstances in which it would do more harm to an American manufacturer and worker than those targeted by the tariffs. But the exclusion process has expired. It has not been fully restarted. So many U.S. manufacturers are not able to get the relief they need.

The USICA language that passed the Senate would reestablish this exclusion process. The language grants considerable flexibility to the U.S. Trade Rep, even to the point where the exclusion process could be waived altogether if the Trade Rep concludes that, otherwise, it would diminish American leverage.

The bipartisan language simply helps ensure that American manufacturers remain competitive. Nearly every one of us submitted letters of request from constituent companies asking for exclusions.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator's time has expired.

Mr. TOOMEY. There is no exclusion if there is no exclusion process.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Ohio.

Mr. BROWN. Madam President, I rise to oppose Senator TOOMEY's motion to instruct against motions that undermine investments in American manufacturing and production.

I urge my colleagues to oppose this motion to instruct. It supports a broad exclusion process for 301 tariffs for goods from China. These tariffs are in place because of Chinese unfair trade practices that target our industrial base and jobs in Pennsylvania and Ohio and New Jersey.

The AFL–CIO opposes this motion. The USTR opposes it. The bipartisan, pro-industry Alliance for American Manufacturing opposes it. They know any exclusions need to be part of a broader strategic approach that we all support to trade policy with China. Creating an overly broad exclusion process that ties our hands would take away leverage we need to pressure China to change its behavior—behavior the steel industry in my State and other industries all over the country know too well.

China cheats. We know this. It subsidizes its steel industry. It props up state-owned enterprises. It steals intellectual property. It pollutes the Earth and exploits our workers. It is costing my State and all over the country jobs year after year. We can't let China's cheating undermine the investments we are making in this bill.

I ask for opposition to the Toomey motion.

VOTE ON MOTION

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

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET) is necessarily absent.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BLUNT), the Senator from Idaho (Mr. RISCH), and the Senator from Alabama (Mr. SHELBY).

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote or change their vote?

The result was announced—yeas 53, nays 43, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 158 Leg.]

YEAS—53

Barrasso	Cruz	Lee
Blackburn	Daines	Lummis
Booker	Ernst	Manchin
Burr	Feinstein	Marshall
Cantwell	Fischer	McConnell
Capito	Hassan	Menendez
Carper	Hickenlooper	Murkowski
Cassidy	Inhofe	Murray
Collins	Kaine	Ossoff
Coons	Kelly	Paul
Cornyn	King	Romney
Cortez Masto	Klobuchar	Rosen
Cramer	Leahy	Rounds

Sasse	Thune	Warnock
Shaheen	Tillis	Wicker
Sinema	Toomey	Wyden
Smith	Tuberville	Young
Sullivan	Warner	

NAYS—43

Baldwin	Hawley	Portman
Blumenthal	Heinrich	Reed
Boozman	Hirono	Rubio
Braun	Hoeven	Sanders
Brown	Hyde-Smith	Schatz
Cardin	Johnson	Schumer
Casey	Kennedy	Scott (FL)
Cotton	Lankford	Scott (SC)
Crapo	Luján	Stabenow
Duckworth	Markey	Tester
Durbin	Merkley	Van Hollen
Gillibrand	Moran	Warren
Graham	Murphy	Whitehouse
Grassley	Padilla	
Hagerty	Peters	

NOT VOTING—4

Bennet	Risch
Blunt	Shelby

The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The junior Senator from New Mexico.

Mr. LUJÁN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that notwithstanding the previous order, it be in order to offer my motion to instruct at this time.

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

MOTION TO INSTRUCT

Mr. LUJÁN. Madam President, I have a motion at the desk to instruct conferees.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the motion.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from New Mexico [Mr. LUJÁN] moves that the managers on the part of the Senate at the conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the Senate amendment to the bill H.R. 4521 be instructed to insist on provisions supporting the work of the Department of Energy, user facilities of the Department of Energy, and National Laboratories, including work in microelectronics and across the key technology focus areas (as defined in section 2002 of the amendment).

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, there will now be 2 minutes of debate, equally divided, prior to a vote on the Luján motion to instruct.

The junior Senator from New Mexico.

Mr. LUJÁN. Thanks to a bipartisan effort in the Commerce Committee, the Senate-passed U.S. Innovation and Competition Act includes nearly $17 billion to support research, development, and supply chain support at the Department of Energy National Laboratories, including key technology areas, such as high-performance computing, advanced energy technologies, artificial intelligence, quantum information science, and advanced manufacturing. The House bill also includes robust support for our National Labs.

This strong investment is critical to maintaining and strengthening U.S. competitiveness and security, especially as global R&D expenditures rise in these transformative industries.

Our National Labs are a research crown jewel, and other countries are taking notice of our progress. In fact, China is working to build out their own national lab network modeled after our own DOE Labs. Inaction would leave the United States at risk of being rapidly outpaced.

New Mexico's own Sandia and Los Alamos National Laboratories are leading the way in developing cutting-edge technologies in key focus areas and driving innovation in critical national priorities, such as next-generation microelectronics.

The Department of Energy's experience working with universities, collaborating with the private sector, and protecting American intellectual property from theft makes it a pillar of the U.S. innovation ecosystem.

VOTE ON MOTION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator's time has expired.

Hearing no further debate, the question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, this is our last vote, and I want to thank Members on both sides of the aisle for their cooperation. If you would have told me at noon today we would finish this by 10:20, I would have said we never could do it.

Thank you. Last vote.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from South Carolina.

MOTION TO INSTRUCT

Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina. I call up my motion to instruct conferees, which is at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the motion.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from South Carolina [Mr. SCOTT] moves that the managers on the part of the Senate at the conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the Senate amendment to the bill H.R. 4521 be instructed to insist that the final conference report include a requirement that any new legislation providing for new mandates on greenhouse gas emissions should not be enacted unless similar mandates are enacted in the People's Republic of China.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, there will now be 2 minutes of debate, equally divided, prior to a vote on the Scott motion to instruct.

The Senator from South Carolina.

Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina. Madam President, this should be simple. The last 20 years, China's emissions have gone from 13 percent globally to 28 percent. At the same time, our emissions have gone from 25 percent down to 14 percent.

I will start over.

The last 20 years, China's emissions have doubled—13 percent to 28 percent. At the exact same time, ours has gone from 25 percent to 14 percent.

Why would we cripple our economy to make it easier for China to prosper? This should be a simple one. Gas in DC is $5 a gallon. We are destroying America's economy, and we are crippling our Nation's energy security. This should be simple.

I yield back the rest of my time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Delaware.

Mr. CARPER. I rise reluctantly in opposition to the motion to instruct offered by our friend from South Carolina. I genuinely enjoy his friendship. And working with him, I agree with him on many issues. This is one where we just disagree.

I have serious concerns with the motion he is offering tonight to prevent U.S. greenhouse gas emission mandates from being enacted unless China enacts similar mandates. Greenhouse gases that drive climate change threaten our planet, threaten our lives. They threaten our livelihood.

They also present an opportunity for the United States to lead on the global stage. We have an opportunity—a now-or-never opportunity—for our country to lead in deploying clean, American-made technologies, to lower greenhouse emissions, create American jobs, and position our economy to compete with and beat competitors, including China, like a drum.

Our ability to provide clean energy leadership or to collect climate change data should not be contingent on the action of our foes, as this motion to instruct recommends. The leadership is keeping out of step when everyone else is marching to the wrong tune, including China.

In conclusion, our country should be leading by example—not from behind—in tackling the climate crisis so that our businesses, our workers, and our planet reap the benefits of a clean economy.

And that is why I will be voting reluctantly on this motion to instruct our colleagues, and I hope you will join with me.

I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from South Carolina.

Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina. I have great respect for Senator CARPER. I think he is a man of integrity. I will simply say that China can't hear the music he is talking about. Our emissions have been going down while theirs is going up.

Clean energy in this footprint is produced cleaner in America than it is in China. So if you care about the environment, produce it here at home. If you care about national security, produce it here at home.

(Applause.)

That is all I am suggesting.

I will reclaim the last 10 seconds of my time.

VOTE ON MOTION

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

Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET) is necessarily absent.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BLUNT), the Senator from Idaho (Mr. RISCH), and the Senator from Alabama (Mr. SHELBY).

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote or change their vote?

The result was announced—yeas 47, nays 49, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 159 Leg.]

YEAS—47

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

NAYS—49

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

NOT VOTING—4

Bennet	Risch
Blunt	Shelby

The motion was rejected.

APPOINTMENT OF CONFEREES

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair appoints the following conferees, which the clerk will report.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the names of: Senators CANTWELL, MENENDEZ, WYDEN, PETERS, MURRAY, BROWN, WARNER, KELLY, WARNOCK, HICKENLOOPER, TESTER, HEINRICH, BALDWIN, WICKER, CRAPO, RISCH, BURR, PORTMAN, GRASSLEY, SHELBY, TOOMEY, BARRASSO, CAPITO, CORNYN, YOUNG, and MORAN.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The junior Senator from Delaware.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. COONS. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session to consider the following nomination: Executive Calendar No. 589, James D. Rodriguez, to be Assistant Secretary of Labor for Veterans' Employment and Training; that the Senate vote on the nomination without intervening action or debate; that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table; that any statements related to the nomination be printed in the RECORD; that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action, and the Senate resume legislative session.

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

The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of James D. Rodriguez, of Texas, to be Assistant Secretary of Labor for Veterans' Employment and Training.

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

The nomination was confirmed.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate will now resume legislative session.

MEASURE PLACED ON THE CALENDAR—S. 4132

Mr. COONS. Madam President, I understand there is a bill at the desk that is due for a second reading.

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 4132) to protect a person's ability to determine whether to continue or end a pregnancy, and to protect a health care provider's ability to provide abortion services.

Mr. COONS. In order to place the bill on the calendar under the provisions of rule XIV, I would object to further proceedings.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection having been heard, the bill will be placed on the calendar.

MORNING BUSINESS

REMEMBERING THOMAS OAKLEY

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, Tom Oakley was a man with a mission. His mission was to put Quincy and Western Illinois on the map. The only sure way to do that was to personally redraw the maps. So he did.

In the late 1950s, there was not a four-lane highway anywhere within 100 miles of Quincy, IL. Critics called the region: ''Forgottonia.'' Thomas Oakley had more than a good memory. He had a vision, and Western Illinois was not about to be forgotten.

Any political candidate who paid a visit to Tom's Herald-Whig editorial board knew what to expect. No complimentary coffee or cool glass of water until Tom asked the question. With a dead serious look and his deep bass voice, he skipped the pleasantries.

''What's your position on completing the four-lane Central Illinois Expressway all the way to Quincy?''

''I am for it,'' I quickly answered as a congressional candidate in 1982.

Tom smiled and asked how I liked my coffee. It was the beginning of a beautiful friendship.

For decades, Quincy and the Tri-States had no greater advocate than Tom. His indefatigable voice for the region rightfully earned him the honor of having a 60-mile stretch of the Chicago to Kansas Expressway highway named after him. From Quincy to Macomb, it is the Thomas A. Oakley Highway now. He also helped grow his family's media company Quincy Media, Inc., into the 13th largest media company in the country. Last month, Tom passed away, and today, we honor the memory and legacy of my friend.

Tom was a member of the fourth generation of his family to work for Quincy Media, which operates the Quincy Herald-Whig, the Hannibal Courier-Post, and WGEM television and radio. Quincy Media has properties in several other markets as well. He was born to Thomas C. and Mary Oakley on June 24, 1932. As a young person, he began his career as a carrier boy for the Quincy Herald-Whig. In summers, he worked for Quincy Broadcasting and the Quincy Herald-Whig.

After graduating from Quincy High School in 1950, Tom earned a bachelor's degree in economics from Duke University and joined the U.S. Air Force in 1954. He served for 3 years, 2 of them flying a B–47 bomber with the Strategic Air Command. Tom was honorably discharged with the rank of first lieutenant in 1957 and was a captain in the Inactive Reserves. In 1958, he returned to Quincy and the family business.

Tom became the president and CEO of Quincy Media in 1969, following the death of his father. Under his leadership, he led the company through decades of growth, adding television stations in several markets and one additional newspaper. Tom also championed efforts to improve the Quincy infrastructure. He used his personal leadership and expanding media outlets to promote improving the quality of life in the region.

For more than 60 years, Tom worked toward developing a highway for the Tri-States, which had been bypassed by the Eisenhower era infrastructure boom. He was on an untold amount of committees throughout his life. Tom helped found the Joint Industrial Development Commission, the first unified effort to build the economy of the Tri-State region. This was a predecessor of the Great River Economic Development Foundation, which remains a driving force to improve Quincy and Adams County.

Tom made things happen. Every Governor since Otto Kerner, who was elected in 1960, heard about the Western Illinois highway needs from Tom. He was instrumental in securing funds to complete the Central Illinois Expressway from Springfield to the Mississippi River at Hannibal, the Chicago to Kansas Expressway, and the Avenue of the Saints from St. Louis to Minneapolis. There is now a four-lane bridge over the Mississippi River at Hannibal, too. He threw his weight behind projects to

improve Amtrak, Baldwin Field, locks and dams, and a port district. Tom worked with elected officials at every level of government, regardless of party, so Illinois and the surrounding States' residents could have a better life.

For his work in media and improving the region, Tom received numerous awards. From the Quincy Chamber of Commerce Hall of Fame to being the first recipient of the annual Boy Scout community service award, he was a deeply honored person. In 2020, he was inducted into the Gold Circle by the Mid-America Chapter of the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences, one of television's highest honors.

Tom also was generous financially. The Oakley family made the single largest philanthropic investment in the history of Quincy University, focusing on scholarships, academic facility improvements, and support programs. Earlier this year, Tom announced a $1 million gift to Culver-Stockton College to establish the Tri-State Development Summit at the school.

Tom inspired a legacy that will continue and channel regional cooperation. He was fiercely loyal to both his family and his community, and I am fortunate to call him a friend. We will miss his leadership. His life was a life well-lived. Tom is survived by his son Ralph, his daughter Mary, his many grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. Tom, like his beloved Western Illinois, will not be forgotten.

(At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the following statement was ordered to be printed in the RECORD.)

VOTE EXPLANATION

● Mr. BENNET. Madam President, I was necessarily absent for rollcall vote No. 148. Had I been present for the vote, I would have voted nay.

I was necessarily absent for rollcall vote No. 149. Had I been present for the vote, I would have voted yea.

I was necessarily absent for rollcall vote No. 150. Had I been present for the vote, I would have voted nay.

I was necessarily absent for rollcall vote No. 151. Had I been present for the vote, I would have voted nay.

I was necessarily absent for rollcall vote No. 152. Had I been present for the vote, I would have voted nay.

I was necessarily absent for rollcall vote No. 153. Had I been present for the vote, I would have voted nay.

I was necessarily absent for rollcall vote No. 154. Had I been present for the vote, I would have voted nay.

I was necessarily absent for rollcall vote No. 155. Had I been present for the vote, I would have voted yea.

I was necessarily absent for rollcall vote No. 156. Had I been present for the vote, I would have voted nay.

I was necessarily absent for rollcall vote No. 157. Had I been present for the vote, I would have voted nay.

I was necessarily absent for rollcall vote No. 158. Had I been present for the vote, I would have voted yea.

I was necessarily absent for rollcall vote No. 159. Had I been present for the vote, I would have voted nay.●

VOTE EXPLANATION

Mr. HAWLEY. Mr. President, had there been a recorded vote, I would have voted no on the Motion to Instruct Conferees from Mr. MENENDEZ that moves that the managers on the part of the Senate at the conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the Senate amendment to the bill H.R. 4521 be instructed to insist upon the provisions contained in section 73003 of the Senate amendment (relating to establishment of an Inspector General of the Office of the United States Trade Representative).

VOTE EXPLANATION

Mr. SCOTT of Florida. Madam President, if there had been a recorded roll call vote on the Menendez motion to instruct conferees in relation to H.R. 4521, USICA, I would have voted no.

If there had been a recorded roll call vote on the Kelly motion to instruct conferees in relation to H.R. 4521, USICA, I would have voted no.

REMEMBERING GERRY FRANK

Mr. WYDEN. Madam President, I speak today to honor the memory of an esteemed and beloved Oregonian who spent his life bettering our State. On March 13, Oregon lost its most devoted citizen and advocate: Gerry Frank.

Gerry's life and service to Oregon has inspired so many to learn, laugh about, and love what makes Oregon so special: our State's jaw-dropping beauty, our unique independence, and our incredible capacity to land on our feet. And Gerry has always done it in his own special way. No one I know has managed to do as much good as Gerry Frank with a simple piece of chocolate cake.

Gerry was a true renaissance man. A graduate of both Lincoln High in Portland and Cambridge in the U.K., he made his mark as a successful haberdasher, restauranteur, politician, and World War II veteran. But we all knew his true loves: Oregon and a great piece of cake. Gerry used the best chocolate cake in the world to bring us together at the State fair, a contest he selflessly judged annually for 60 years. He kept a terrific restaurant and retailer called Gerry Frank's Konditorei which paired delicious Oregon food with that cake. And he went to bat for Oregon community organizations of every size and shape, saying, ''How much cake do you need to give a good cause a boost?''

After the family business of Meier & Frank was sold in 1965, Gerry turned to politics, joining Senator Mark Hatfield's office. Gerry's politics were always pretty simple. He would ask, ''Is that idea fair? Does it make sense? And is it a part of Oregon's long tradition of welcoming fresh approaches to tackling big challenges?'' For almost 20 years Gerry worked as Mark Hatfield's chief of staff, gaining the nickname ''Oregon's Third Senator,'' for his dogged work ethic and devotion to Oregonians. Gerry is an incredible testament to what we call back home the Oregon Way: where we put aside partisan leanings to get things done for our State.

After leaving politics, Gerry followed his passion for meeting new people and seeing new places. A talented writer, he was the travel columnist at the Oregonian newspaper for many years and published multiple books, including one of my personal favorites: ''Gerry Frank's Oregon.''

Gerry, a man of many talents and passions, never forgot about his home in Salem. Despite travelling to over 150 countries, he always returned home in time for some of Oregon's beloved traditions, including the State fair and the Rose Festival. In 2019 the Gerry Frank Salem Rotary Amphitheater was built in his name, just another testament to the impact Gerry had on his community as a lifelong Rotarian and lover of live music. And soon, Providence Health in Portland will complete the Gerry Frank Center for Children's Care in his memory.

The State of Oregon will not forget Gerry Frank, and neither will I. While his passing brings us sadness, it also bring us gratitude for his tireless work to make Oregon a better place to call home. I honor the illustrious life of Gerry Frank and unforgettable legacy he left in our State for generations to come.

RECOGNIZING THE COUNTRY MUSIC HALL OF FAME 2021 INDUCTEES

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Madam President, it is my honor to officially congratulate the Country Music Hall of Fame 2021 inductees. This past weekend I was fortunate enough to attend their Medallion Ceremony and help welcome The Judds, Ray Charles, Eddie Bayers, and Pete Drake into country music's closest circle of friends.

Naomi and Wynonna Judd, 2021's Modern Era Artist inductees, were one of country music's most cherished duos. The story of how they became The Judds reads like something out of a movie script: a mama and her daughter change their names, move to Nashville, and land a record deal after a chance encounter with a hit producer. I, like thousands of their fans, was absolutely heartbroken when Naomi's life came to an end just 1 day before she was to receive her medallion, but her story lives on in the generations of female artists she inspired and through Wynonna's ongoing, stunning contributions to country music.

Few artists in living memory have taken more risks and earned more respect than Ray Charles, 2021's Veterans Era Artist inductee. Ray's timeless

contributions to the past, present, and future of country music have inspired generations of rising stars to stake their own unique claims in the rich and diverse traditions of the genre. Ray's career should serve as a gentle reminder to us all that while conformity may make for an easier journey, the creative heart rarely finds solace or joy in following in another's footsteps.

This year, the Country Music Hall of Fame honored not one but two musicians who fundamentally transformed the sound and feel of modern music and set country musicmaking above the rest. Eddie Bayers, one of 2021's Recording and Touring Musician inductees, is an undisputed master of his craft. He is a first call drummer, a revered instructor, and one of the industry's most coveted human metronomes. For more than 50 years, he has laid the groove for the world's most beloved artists, and I am so pleased to see him finally take his place in the spotlight. Pete Drake, Bayers' fellow 2021 Recording and Touring Musician inductee, used his unparalleled skill on the pedal steel guitar to turn already great musicians into chart-topping legends. He forever changed the way artists in all genres thought about pedal steel, and his version of Alvino Rey's ''talking'' steel guitar, dubbed the ''talk box,'' made its way into some of rock 'n roll's most iconic and instantly recognizable records.

On behalf of the entire Tennessee delegation, I would like to express my gratitude to Naomi, Wynonna, Ray, Eddie, and Pete for their passion and artistry. The world is a far more vibrant and beautiful place for having experienced the gift of their music.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO DR. JOSE ROMERO

● Mr. BOOZMAN. Madam President, I rise today to recognize Dr. Jose Romero for his service as Secretary of the Arkansas Department of Health. He has led the ADH with a strong resolve and determination throughout the COVID–19 pandemic and his medical expertise has helped Arkansans navigate and establish commonsense health solutions during this unprecedented time.

Dr. Romero launched his career at the Arkansas Department of Health when he served as chief medical officer, and he was later appointed interim Secretary of Health in May of 2020 by Governor Asa Hutchinson. Dr. Romero proved he was more than up to the task; he excelled in this position and was quickly elevated to Secretary in August of the same year. The governor has said of his time working with Dr. Romero, ''He's supported me. He's supported our state. He's understood the political dynamics as well as the epidemiology of dealing with this pandemic, and while it's a great loss to Arkansas, he's developed a very, very strong team at the Department of Health that I know will be able to continue with great vigor and continued leadership.''

Dr. Romero has years of experience and an impressive educational background that prepared him to serve the people of Arkansas in the critical role he has filled over the last several years. He served as the chairman of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices, which provided national guidance on the prioritization and distribution of the COVID–19 vaccine. He has also recently been appointed to the American Academy of Pediatrics' Committee on Infectious Diseases and has consistently showed his ability to expertly inform and protect public health for the entire country.

Dr. Romero has a passion for not only serving others but teaching as well. He is a professor of pediatrics at the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences and has board certification in pediatrics and pediatric infectious diseases. He was also the section chief of pediatric infectious diseases at the Arkansas Children's Hospital from 2008 through 2020, where he was involved with numerous studies across his field that have contributed immensely to medical sciences. I am so grateful Arkansans have had such a dedicated civil servant looking out for us for so long.

Dr. Romero has continuously shown his incredible commitment to the betterment of our Nation through his work improving the health of Americans and educating the next generation of healthcare professionals. Throughout his time as Secretary of Health, Dr. Romero has bravely navigated the COVID–19 pandemic and helped the Natural State stay safe and healthy while continuing to thrive.

He has become a familiar face across Arkansas standing beside Governor Hutchinson during daily press conferences regarding the virus, making him a trusted source for many Arkansans with questions and concerns about the pandemic and medicine generally. As a member of the Governor's cabinet, Dr. Romero worked diligently alongside the Governor's team to provide senior scientific and executive leadership for the agency, and his commitment to the health and well-being of Arkansans has been clear throughout his career. Dr. Romero has shown his dedication for providing quality information to all Arkansans during his tenure, and we have benefited from his expertise.

It is evident Dr. Romero's passion for service and selfless dedication to public health has made an incredibly positive impact in every project he has been a part of and helped our State and all its citizens throughout the pandemic. Dr. Romero has devoted his life to protecting the public and educating others. I appreciate the opportunity to work with Dr. Romero and thank him for his commitment to improving the health and wellness of Arkansans. As he transitions to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Arkansas is full of gratitude for Dr. Romero and his dedication to our State.●

TRIBUTE TO WALLACE ''BUTCH'' THUNDER HAWK

● Mr. CRAMER. Madam President, I want to honor today the distinguished career of a remarkable North Dakota educator and artist who is retiring from teaching this month.

Wallace ''Butch'' Thunder Hawk is an internationally renowned artist who has been a Tribal art teacher at United Tribes Technical College in Bismarck for 49 years. He has helped hundreds of students grow their artistic talent and appreciate traditional Native American art and traditions.

Beyond his classroom in Bismarck, the impact of Butch's passion for creating and teaching Native American art has been felt around the world. A Hunkpapa Lakota Teton Sioux, he was raised in the community of Cannonball on the Standing Rock Reservation. Butch was influenced by the work of his grandparents and mother, who created traditional art including beadwork, warbonnets, and tools. Ledger art has become one of Butch's great interests, and he has created hand-carved horse effigies, horse memorial sticks, war shields, and traditional weaponry.

His artwork can be seen in homes and museums around the region and world. He was instrumental in establishing the Indian Hall exhibit at Thomas Jefferson's Monticello, helping to recreate art similar to what Lewis and Clark would have collected during their famous expedition in the early 1800s. Working with Harvard University's Peabody Museum of Archaelogy and Ethnology, he and his students created several pieces for Monticello's Indian Hall, including clubs, lances, arrows, shields, pipes, and a quiver and bowcase. Later, following several years as a visiting scholar at Harvard, he was a curator of an exhibit at the Peabody Museum on Lakota images of the West. One of his horse memorial effigy replicas is in the permanent collection at the Nelson Atkins Museum in Kansas City, and two major art pieces are on display at the James Monroe House in Charlottesville, VA. One of his ornaments featuring a bison was displayed on the White House Christmas Tree in 2008.

He has said creating art and teaching honors his ancestors, his family, his students, and other artist friends. He considers it a privilege to share Lakota traditions with students and help them grow their appreciation of this art.

When I heard the news that Butch Thunder Hawk was retiring from teaching, I smiled. In previous positions I held that included promoting all that is good about North Dakota, Butch was at the very top of the list of our State's most treasured cultural ambassadors. A humble, personable,

and honorable man, he was generous in sharing his talents and work. Butch embodies all that is good about North Dakota and the rich traditions of the Tribal nations located in our State. His work and influence will resonate in his students for generations to come. On behalf of the people of North Dakota, I thank him for his years of teaching. And I wish him the best in his retirement, which I am certain will include creating more art and influencing many more people.●

200TH ANNIVERSARY OF CLAY TOWNSHIP, MICHIGAN

● Mr. PETERS. Madam President, I rise today to recognize the 200th Anniversary of Clay Township, MI. Forming the southernmost portion of St. Clair County, Clay Township is endowed with natural beauty, fertile farmland, and a rich tradition of entrepreneurship dating back to the fur trade between French explorers and the indigenous people, also known as the Anishinaabe.

Long before Michigan was incorporated as a U.S. Territory and western expansion encouraged migration to the area we know now as St. Clair County, the region was home to the Anishinaabe peoples. Members of the Odawa, Pattawami, and Ojibwe Tribes and more made their homes alongside the Otisi-Keta, and Otisi-Keta-Sippi waters, now known respectively as Lake St. Clair, and the St. Clair River. The nutrient-dense farmland, abundant natural resources, and easy access to trade routes provided by the many waterways endowed the Anishinaabe with a rich culture and community that would eventually attract the notice of French explorers arriving in the area. In fact, it was these early French explorers who would christen the Otisi-Keta as ''Lac-Sainte-Claire'' after discovering the crystal-clear waters on the day of the Festival of Sainte Claire. In time, the lake, tributary, and surrounding land became known as St. Clair, the modern appellation we see today. Although French explorers began to depart from the territory following the Seven Years War, the legacy of trade and industry established with the Anishinaabe laid the foundation for the development of Clay Township as a hub of local commerce.

Among the first settlers of Clay Township were Angus MacDonald and John Martin, who founded the city of Pointe du Chene—now known as Algonac—in 1805. MacDonald and Martin chose to settle the city at the head of the St. Clair flats, which had been the previous site of trade between the Anishinaabe and the French. Algonac quickly developed into the principal settlement in the area and is now recognized as one of the oldest cities in Michigan. Clay Township would be officially organized 17 years later in 1822. With this recognition, Clay Township became one of the four original townships that comprised the entirety of St. Clair County.

Today, Clay Township is comprised of 82.3 square miles of land and water. Bounded on three sides by water and divided into several islands by branches of the St. Clair River, it is known as a center for local water recreation and is home to over 9,000 residents. The freshwater delta formed by the St. Clair River and waters of Harsens Island is the only major river delta in the Great Lakes Basin and the largest freshwater delta in North America. Michigan's Department of Natural Resources manages two sites on Harsens Island, supporting pedestrians, cyclists, and other outdoor enthusiasts wanting to admire the wildlife and waters of the region. The Algonac State Park is comprised of 1,550 acres and provides sanctuary to rare habitats and 22 threatened, endangered, or special-concern species of plants, birds, and butterflies. With its rich history and lush natural resources, Clay Township is recognized as one of the best places to live in the State of Michigan.

Clay Township has been an integral part of the State of Michigan and our great Nation for over 200 years. As a Michigander and passionate advocate for all of Michigan's waters, I am honored to ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating this significant milestone for the township, as well as its residents, elected officials, and businesses. I wish Clay Township continued growth and prosperity in the years ahead.●

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bill was read the second time, and placed on the calendar:

S. 4132. A bill to protect a person's ability to determine whether to continue or end a pregnancy, and to protect a health care provider's ability to provide abortion services.

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–3846. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Airworthiness Directives; The Boeing Company Airplanes; Amendment 39–21913'' ((RIN2120–AA64) (FAA–2022–0004)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 30, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3847. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Amendment of Class E Airspace; Corsciana, TX'' ((RIN2120–AA66) (Docket No. FAA–2021–1102)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 30, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3848. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Establishment and Amendment of Area Navigation (RNAV) Routes; Eastern United States'' ((RIN2120–AA66) (Docket No. FAA–2021–0912)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3849. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Establishment of Area Navigation (RNAV) Routes; South and Central United States'' ((RIN2120–AA66) (Docket No. FAA–2022–0920)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3850. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Amendment of Area Navigation (RNAV) Routes Q–140 and Q–812; NY'' ((RIN2120–AA66) (Docket No. FAA–2022–0029)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3851. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Amendment of United States Area Navigation (RNAV) Routes T–212, T–216, T–218, and T–221; Eastern United States'' ((RIN2120–AA66) (Docket No. FAA–2021–0974)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3852. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Amendment of Area Navigation (RNAV) Routes; Southeastern United States'' ((RIN2120–AA66) (Docket No. FAA–2021–0913)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3853. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Amendment and Removal of Area Navigation (RNAV) Routes; South Central FL Metroplex Project'' ((RIN2120–AA66) (Docket No. FAA–2021–0940)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3854. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Amendment of V–6, V–10, V–30, V–100, and V–233 in the Vicinity of Litchfield, MI'' ((RIN2120–AA66) (Docket No. FAA–2021–0596)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3855. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''IFR Altitudes; Miscellaneous Amendments; Amendment No. 564'' ((RIN2120–AA63) (Docket No. 31417)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3856. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal

Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Standard Instrument Approach Procedures, and Takeoff Minimums and Obstacle Departure Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments; Amendment No. 3999'' ((RIN2120–AA65) (Docket No. 31418)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3857. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Standard Instrument Approach Procedures, and Takeoff Minimums and Obstacle Departure Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments; Amendment No. 4000'' ((RIN2120–AA65) (Docket No. 31419)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3858. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Standard Instrument Approach Procedures, and Takeoff Minimums and Obstacle Departure Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments; Amendment No. 3997'' ((RIN2120–AA65) (Docket No. 31415)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3859. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Standard Instrument Approach Procedures, and Takeoff Minimums and Obstacle Departure Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments; Amendment No. 3998'' ((RIN2120–AA65) (Docket No. 31416)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3860. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Modification of Class D and Class E Airspace, and Establishment of Class E Airspace; Southwest Oregon Regional Airport, OR'' ((RIN2120–AA66) (Docket No. FAA–2021–0816)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3861. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Establishment of Class E Airspace; Falmouth, MA'' ((RIN2120–AA66) (Docket No. FAA–2021–0988)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3862. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Establishment of Class E Airspace; Luka, MS'' ((RIN2120–AA66) (Docket No. FAA–2021–1191)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3863. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Establishment of Class E Airspace; Dewitt, AR'' ((RIN2120–AA66) (Docket No. FAA–2021–0938)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3864. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Amendment of Class D and Class E Airspace; South Florida'' ((RIN2120–AA66) (Docket No. FAA–2021–0169)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3865. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Amendment of Class E Airspace D and Class E Airspace; Lawrenceville, GA'' ((RIN2120–AA66) (Docket No. FAA–2021–1108)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3866. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Amendment of Class E Airspace; Elkton, MD'' ((RIN2120–AA66) (Docket No. FAA–2021–1190)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3867. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Amendment of Class E Airspace; Hampton, GA'' ((RIN2120–AA66) (Docket No. FAA–2021–1049)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3868. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Amendment of Class E Airspace; Peachtree City, GA'' ((RIN2120–AA66) (Docket No. FAA–2021–1057)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3869. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Amendment of Class E Airspace; Griffin, GA'' ((RIN2120–AA66) (Docket No. FAA–2021–1053)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3870. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Amendment of Class E Airspace; Uvalde, TX'' ((RIN2120–AA66) (Docket No. FAA–2021–0636)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3871. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Amendment of Class E Airspace; Elkton, MD'' ((RIN2120–AA66) (Docket No. FAA–2021–1190)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3872. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Amendment of Class D, Class E, and Establishment of Class E Airspace; Atlanta, GA Area'' ((RIN2120–AA66) (Docket No. FAA–2021–0941)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3873. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Amendment of Class E Airspace and Revocation of Class E Airspace; Grove, OK'' ((RIN2120–AA66) (Docket No. FAA–2021–1149)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3874. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Airworthiness Criteria; Special Class Airworthiness Criteria for the 3DRobotics Government Services 3DR–GS H520–G Unmanned Aircraft'' ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. FAA–2022–1083)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3875. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Airworthiness Criteria; Special Class Airworthiness Criteria for the Percepto Robotics, Ltd. Percepto System 2.4 Unmanned Aircraft'' ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. FAA–2020–1089)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3876. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Airworthiness Criteria; Special Class Airworthiness Criteria for the Flytrex, Inc. FTX–M600P Unmanned Aircraft'' ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. FAA–2020–1090)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3877. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Airworthiness Criteria; Special Class Airworthiness Criteria for the Airobotics Inc, OPTIMUS 1-EX Unmanned Aircraft'' ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. FAA–2020–1092)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3878. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Airworthiness Criteria; Special Class Airworthiness Criteria for the Flirtey Inc. Flirtey F4.5 Unmanned Aircraft'' ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. FAA–2020–1091)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3879. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Airworthiness Criteria; Special Class Airworthiness Criteria for the TELEGRID Technologies,

Inc. TELEGRID DE2020 Unmanned Aircraft'' ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. FAA–2020–1088)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3880. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Airworthiness Criteria; Special Class Airworthiness Criteria for the Wingcopter GmbH 198 US Unmanned Aircraft'' ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. FAA–2020–1087)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3881. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Airworthiness Directives; Leonardo S.p.a. Helicopters; Amendment 39–21999'' ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. FAA–2022–0024)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3882. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Airworthiness Directives; Airbus SAS Airplanes; Amendment 39–21958'' ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. FAA–2021–1059)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3883. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Airworthiness Directives; Airbus SAS Airplanes; Amendment 39–21950'' ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. FAA–2021–0883)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3884. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Airworthiness Directives; Airbus SAS Airplanes; Amendment 39–21968'' ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. FAA–2021–0506)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3885. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Airworthiness Directives; Airbus SAS Airplanes; Amendment 39–21879'' ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. FAA–2021–0617)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3886. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Helicopters; Amendment 39–32994'' ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. FAA–2022–0021)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3887. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Airworthiness Directives; Bell Textron Inc., Helicopters; Amendment 39–21990'' ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. FAA–2021–0713)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3888. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Airworthiness Directives; Bell Textron Inc. (Type Certificate Previously Held by Bell Helicopter Textron Inc.) Helicopters; Amendment 39–21969'' ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. FAA–2021–0157)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3889. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Airworthiness Directives; The Boeing Company Airplanes; Amendment 39–21938'' ((RIN2120–AA64) (FAA–2021–0664)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3890. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Airworthiness Directives; The Boeing Company Airplanes; Amendment 39–21976'' ((RIN2120–AA64) (FAA–2021–0962)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3891. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Airworthiness Directives; The Boeing Company Airplanes; Amendment 39–21977'' ((RIN2120–AA64) (FAA–2021–0963)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3892. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Airworthiness Directives; The Boeing Company Airplanes; Amendment 39–21982'' ((RIN2120–AA64) (FAA–2022–0279)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3893. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Airworthiness Directives; Bell Textron Inc. (Type Certificate Previously Held by Bell Helicopter Textron Inc.) Helicopters; Amendment 39–21986'' ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. FAA–2021–1178)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3894. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Helicopters Deutschland GmbH (AHD) Helicopters; Amendment 39–21979'' ((RIN2120–AA64) (FAA–2022–0278)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3895. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Helicopters Deutschland GmbH Helicopters; Amendment 39–21967'' ((RIN2120–AA64) (FAA–2021–1180)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3896. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Airworthiness Directives; MARS A.S. Parachutes; Amendment 39–21992'' ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. FAA–2022–0289)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3897. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Airworthiness Directives; CFM International, S.A. Turbofan Engines; Amendment 39–21900'' ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. FAA–2021–0259)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3898. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Airworthiness Directives; Schempp-Hirth Flugzeugbau GmbH Gliders; Amendment 39–21956'' ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. FAA–2021–1019)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3899. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Airworthiness Directives; General Electric Turbofan Engines; Amendment 39–21959'' ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. FAA–2021–0699)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3900. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Airworthiness Directives; Viking Air Limited (Type Certificate Previously Held by Bombardier, Inc.) Airplanes; Amendment 39–21963'' ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. FAA–2020–1005)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3901. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Airworthiness Directives; Embraer S.A. (Type Certificate Previously Held by Empresa Brasileira de Aeronautica S.A.) Airplanes; Amendment 39–21964'' ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. FAA–2020–1073)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3902. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Airworthiness Directives; GROB Aircraft SE (Type Certificate Previously Held by GROB Aircraft AG) Airplanes; Amendment 39–21966'' ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. FAA–2022–0152)) received in the Office of the President of the

Senate on April 25, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3903. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Airworthiness Directives; Pratt & Whitney Turbofan Engines; Amendment 39–21975'' ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. FAA–2021–0959)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3904. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Airworthiness Directives; Various Restricted Category Helicopters; Amendment 39–21971'' ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. FAA–2022–0158)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3905. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Airworthiness Directives; Honda Aircraft Company LLC Airplanes; Amendment 39–21965'' ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. FAA–2021–0838)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3906. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Airworthiness Directives; Goodrich Externally-Mounted Hoist Assemblies; Amendment 39–21962'' ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. FAA–2020–1120)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3907. A communication from the Branch Chief of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Atlantic Highly Migratory Species; Adjustments to 2021 Northern Albacore Tuna, North and South Atlantic Swordfish, and Atlantic Bluefin Tuna Reserve Category Quotes'' (RIN0648–XT041) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3908. A communication from the Branch Chief of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Atlantic Highly Migratory Species; Atlantic Bluefin Tuna Fisheries'' (RIN0648–XB796) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3909. A communication from the Branch Chief of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Atlantic Highly Migratory Species; Atlantic Bluefin Tuna Fisheries'' (RIN0648–XB751) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3910. A communication from the Branch Chief of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Atlantic Highly Migratory Species; Atlantic Bluefin Tuna Fisheries'' (RIN0648–XB145) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3911. A communication from the Branch Chief of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Commercial Aggregated Large Coastal Sharks, Hammerhead Sharks, and Blacktip Sharks in the Gulf of Mexico Region; Retention Limit Adjustment'' (RIN0648–XB306) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3912. A communication from the Branch Chief of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Atlantic Highly Migratory Species; Atlantic Bluefin Tuna Fisheries'' (RIN0648–XB214) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3913. A communication from the Branch Chief of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Atlantic Highly Migratory Species; Atlantic Bluefin Tuna Fisheries'' (RIN0648–XB400) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3914. A communication from the Branch Chief of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Atlantic Highly Migratory Species; Atlantic Bluefin Tuna Fisheries'' (RIN0648–XB791) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3915. A communication from the Branch Chief of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Pacific Island Fisheries; 2022 U.S. Territorial Longline Bigeye Tuna Catch Limits'' (RIN0648–XP016) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3916. A communication from the Branch Chief of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Western and Central Pacific Fisheries for Highly Migratory Species; Extension of Emergency Decisions of the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission'' (RIN0648–XB334) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3917. A communication from the Branch Chief of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Fisheries of the Caribbean, Gulf of Mexico, and South Atlantic; 2021 Closure for Spiny Lobster in the U.S. Caribbean off Puerto Rico'' (RIN0648–XB228) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3918. A communication from the Branch Chief of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Reef Fish Fishery of the Gulf of Mexico; Reopening of the Red Snapper Recreational For-Hire Fishing Season in the Gulf of Mexico'' (RIN0648–XB465) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3919. A communication from the Branch Chief of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Reef Fish Fishery of the Gulf of Mexico; 2021 Commercial and Recreational Accountability Measure and Closures for Gulf of Mexico Lane Snapper'' (RIN0648–XB450) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3920. A communication from the Branch Chief of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Atlantic Sea Scallop Fishery; Closure of the Closed Area I Scallop Access Area to General Category Individual Fishing Quota Scallop Vessels'' (RIN0648–XB421) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3921. A communication from the Branch Chief of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Atlantic Sea Scallop Fishery; Amendment 21t Plan'' (RIN0648–BK68) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3922. A communication from the Branch Chief of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Pacific Island Fisheries; Modifications to the American Samoa Longline Limited Entry Program'' (RIN0648–BH65) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3923. A communication from the Branch Chief of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Western and Central Pacific Fisheries for Highly Migratory Species; Extension of Emergency Decisions of the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission'' (RIN0648–XB661) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3924. A communication from the Branch Chief of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Pacific Island Fisheries; Exemption for Large U.S. Longline Vessels to Fish in Portions of the American Samoa Large Vessel Prohibited Area; Court Order'' (RIN0648–BK28) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3925. A communication from the Branch Chief of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Fisheries Off West Coast States; Modification of the West Coast Commercial Salmon Fisheries; Inseason Action #18'' (RIN0648–XB196) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3926. A communication from the Branch Chief of the Office of Sustainable

Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Fisheries Off West Coast States; Modification of the West Coast Commercial Salmon Fisheries; Inseason Action #17'' (RIN0648–XB156) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3927. A communication from the Branch Chief of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Fisheries Off West Coast States; Modification of the West Coast Commercial Salmon Fisheries; Inseason Action #22, #23, and #24'' (RIN0648–XB274) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3928. A communication from the Branch Chief of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Fisheries Off West Coast States; Modification of the West Coast Commercial Salmon Fisheries; Inseason Action #26 through #30'' (RIN0648–XB377) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3929. A communication from the Branch Chief of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Fisheries Off West Coast States; Modification of the West Coast Commercial Salmon Fisheries; Inseason Action #25'' (RIN0648–XB310) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3930. A communication from the Branch Chief of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Pacific Coast Groundfish Fishery; Pink Shrimp and Midwater Trawl Exemptions to Vessel Monitoring System Requirements for the West Coast Groundfish Fishery'' (RIN0648–BK73) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3931. A communication from the Branch Chief of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Fisheries Off West Coast States; Coastal Pelagic Species Fisheries; Biennial Specifications; 2021–2022 and 2022–2023 Specifications for Pacific Mackerel'' (RIN0648–BK56) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3932. A communication from the Branch Chief of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Fisheries Off West Coast States; Pacific Coast Groundfish Fishery; 2021–2022 Biennial Specifications and Management Measures; Inseason Adjustments; Correction'' (RIN0648–BL10) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3933. A communication from the Branch Chief of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Fisheries Off West Coast States; Effective Dates of West Coast Groundfish Electronic Monitoring Program'' (RIN0648–BK80) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3934. A communication from the Branch Chief of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Fisheries Off West Coast States; Emergency Action to Temporarily Extend the Sablefish Primary Fishery Season'' (RIN0648–BK94) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3935. A communication from the Branch Chief of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Pacific Halibut Fisheries; Catch Sharing Plan; Inseason Action'' (RIN0648–XB316) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3936. A communication from the Branch Chief of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Snapper-Grouper Fishery of the South Atlantic; 2021 Recreational Accountability Measure and Closure for the South Atlantic Other Jacks Complex'' (RIN0648–XB588) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3937. A communication from the Branch Chief of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''2021–2022 Commercial Quota Reduction for King Mackerel in the Run-Around Gillnet Fishery of the Gulf of Mexico'' (RIN0648–XB395) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3938. A communication from the Branch Chief of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Reef Fish Fishery of the Gulf of Mexico; 2021 Recreational Accountability Measure and Closure for Gulf of Mexico Gray Triggerfish'' (RIN0648–XB415) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3939. A communication from the Branch Chief of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Reef Fish Fishery of the Gulf of Mexico; 2021 Recreational Accountability Measure and Closure for Gulf of Mexico Red Grouper'' (RIN0648–XB410) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3940. A communication from the Branch Chief of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Fisheries of the Atlantic; Atlantic Migratory Group Cobia; Amendment 1 and Addendum 1 to Amendment 1'' (RIN0648–BK63) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3941. A communication from the Branch Chief, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Fisheries of the Caribbean, Gulf of Mexico, and South Atlantic; Reef Fish Fishery of the Gulf of Mexico; Gray Triggerfish Management Measures'' (RIN0648–BK34) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3942. A communication from the Branch Chief, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Fisheries of the Caribbean, Gulf of Mexico, and South Atlantic; 2021 Commercial Closure for South Atlantic Red Snapper'' (RIN0648–BK34) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3943. A communication from the Branch Chief, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Fisheries of the Caribbean, Gulf of Mexico, and South Atlantic; Red Snapper Private Angling Component Accountability Measure in Federal Waters off Texas'' (RIN0648–XB702) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3944. A communication from the Branch Chief, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Fisheries of the Caribbean, Gulf of Mexico, and South Atlantic; Reef Fish Fishery of the Gulf of Mexico; Lane Snapper Management Measures'' (RIN0648–BK36) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3945. A communication from the Branch Chief of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Atlantic Bluefish Fishery; Quota Transfers from VA to NY and NJ to NC'' (RIN0648–XB433) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3946. A communication from the Branch Chief of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Atlantic Herring Fishery; Adjustment to the 2021 Specifications'' (RIN0648–XB447) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3947. A communication from the Branch Chief of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Atlantic Bluefish Fishery; Quota Transfer from VA to NY'' (RIN0648–XB229) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3948. A communication from the Branch Chief of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Summer Flounder Fishery; Quota Transfer from VA to RI'' (RIN0648–XB654) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3949. A communication from the Branch Chief of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Atlantic Herring Fishery; 2021 Closure of the Atlantic Herring Fishery'' (RIN0648–XB612) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3950. A communication from the Branch Chief of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; 2022 and 2023 Summer Flounder, Scup, and Black Sea Bass Specifications'' (RIN0648–XX072) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3951. A communication from the Branch Chief of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Atlantic Deep-Sea Red Crab Fishery; Final 2022 Atlantic Deep-Sea Red Crab Specifications'' (RIN0648–XX076) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3952. A communication from the Branch Chief of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Atlantic Mackerel; 2022 Interim Action'' (RIN0648–BL05) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3953. A communication from the Branch Chief of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Atlantic Bluefish Fishery; Quota Transfers from NJ to RI and MD to NC'' (RIN0648–XB525) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3954. A communication from the Branch Chief of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Northeast Multispecies Fishery; Framework Adjustment 61'' (RIN0648–BK24) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3955. A communication from the Branch Chief of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Atlantic Herring Fishery; Adjustments to 2022 Specifications'' (RIN0648–XX077) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3956. A communication from the Branch Chief of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Atlantic Bluefish Fishery; 2022 and Projected 2023 Specifications'' (RIN0648–XX073) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3957. A communication from the Branch Chief of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Atlantic Mackerel, Squid, and Butterfish Fisheries; Specifications'' (RIN0648–BK59) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3958. A communication from the Branch Chief of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Summer Flounder Fishery; Quota Transfers from VA to CT and NC to RI'' (RIN0648–XB615) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3959. A communication from the Branch Chief of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Summer Flounder Fishery; Quota Transfers from NC to CT and ME to RI'' (RIN0648–XB686) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3960. A communication from the Branch Chief of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Reallocation of Pacific Cod in the Central Regulatory Area of the Gulf of Alaska'' (RIN0648–XB656) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3961. A communication from the Branch Chief of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pacific Ocean Perch in the Western Regulatory Area of the Gulf of Alaska'' (RIN0648–XB183) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3962. A communication from the Branch Chief of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pacific Ocean Perch in the Bering Sea Subarea of the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area'' (RIN0648–XB292) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3963. A communication from the Branch Chief of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Sablefish in the Bering Sea Subarea of the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area'' (RIN0648–XB231) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3964. A communication from the Branch Chief of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pacific Cod by Trawl Catcher Vessels in the Western Regulatory Area of the Gulf of Alaska'' (RIN0648–XB233) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3965. A communication from the Branch Chief of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; 'Other Rockfish' in the Central and Western Regulatory Areas of the Gulf of Alaska'' (RIN0648–XB388) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3966. A communication from the Branch Chief of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pacific Cod in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area'' (RIN0648–XB372) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3967. A communication from the Branch Chief of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Reallocation of Pacific Cod in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area'' (RIN0648–XB349) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3968. A communication from the Branch Chief of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Groundfish Fishery by Non-Rockfish Program Catcher Vessels Using Trawl Gear in the Western and Central Regulatory Area of the Gulf of Alaska'' (RIN0648–XB337) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3969. A communication from the Branch Chief of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Chinook Salmon Prohibited Species Catch Limits in the Gulf of Alaska'' (RIN0648–XB312) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3970. A communication from the Branch Chief of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; 'Other Rockfish' in the Aleutian Islands Subarea of the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area'' (RIN0648–XB452) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3971. A communication from the Branch Chief of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pacific Cod by Vessels Using Pot Gear in the Western Regulatory Area of the Gulf of Alaska'' (RIN0648–XB755) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3972. A communication from the Branch Chief of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Reallocation of Pacific Cod in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area'' (RIN0648–XB505) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3973. A communication from the Branch Chief of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Gulf of Alaska; Final 2022 and 2023 Harvest Specifications for Groundfish'' (RIN0648–XY118) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3974. A communication from the Branch Chief of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pacific Ocean Perch in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area'' (RIN0648–XB142) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3975. A communication from the Branch Chief of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pacific Cod by Catcher/Processors using Hook-and-Line Gear in the Central Regulatory Area of the Gulf of Alaska'' (RIN0648–XA789) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3976. A communication from the Branch Chief of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Kamchatka Flounder in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area'' (RIN0648–XB064) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3977. A communication from the Branch Chief of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Regulatory Amendment to Remove GOA Sablefish IFQ Pot Gear Tags and Notary Certification Requirements'' (RIN0648–BK76) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3978. A communication from the Branch Chief of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pacific Ocean Perch in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area'' (RIN0648–XB143) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3979. A communication from the Branch Chief of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Chinook Salmon Prohibited Species Catch Limits in the Gulf of Alaska'' (RIN0648–XB658) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3980. A communication from the Branch Chief of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Reapportionment of the 2021 Gulf of Alaska Pacific Halibut Prohibited Species Catch Limits for the Trawl Deep-water Fishery Categories'' (RIN0648–XB141) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3981. A communication from the Branch Chief of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Pacific Cod by Non-American Fisheries Act Crab Vessels Operating as Catcher Vessels Using Pot Gear in the Western Regulatory Area of the Gulf of Alaska'' (RIN0648–XB777) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3982. A communication from the Branch Chief of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Pacific Cod by Catcher Vessels Greater than or Equal to 50 feet Length Overall using Hook-and-Line Gear in the Central Regulatory Area of the Gulf of Alaska'' (RIN0648–XB321) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

PETITIONS AND MEMORIALS

The following petitions and memorials were laid before the Senate and were referred or ordered to lie on the table as indicated:

POM–133. A joint resolution adopted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Virginia expressing its support for the Jones Act; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 47

Whereas, Virginia's rich history of shipbuilding and maritime trade makes the Commonwealth a critical hub in the nation's transportation system and essential in the growth of offshore renewable energy development; and

Whereas, the COVID–19 pandemic has demonstrated the critical importance of maintaining resilient domestic industries and transportation services for Virginia's citizens and workforce; and

Whereas, the Merchant Marine Act of 1920, known as the Jones Act and codified in Title 46 of the United States Code, requires that vessels carrying cargo between locations in the United States be owned by American companies, crewed by American mariners, and built in American shipyards; and

Whereas, America's ability to project and deploy forces globally and to supply and maintain military installations domestically depends on the civilian fleet of Jones Act vessels and mariners; and

Whereas, mariners aboard Jones Act vessels strengthen America's homeland security as additional eyes and ears to monitor the nation's 95,000 miles of shoreline and 25,000 miles of navigable inland waterways; and

Whereas, Virginia is home to over 19,280 maritime jobs supported by the Jones Act that generate $1.3 billion in labor income; and

Whereas, maritime industry jobs create ladders of opportunity through high-paying, family-wage careers that offer significant career advancement without generally necessitating advanced formal education and extensive student loans; and

Whereas, the Jones Act fleet, more than 40,000 vessels strong, supports nearly 650,000 family-wage jobs and over $154 billion in economic output nationally, including more than $4 billion in the Virginia economy; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly hereby express its support for the Jones Act. In affirming its resolute support for the Jones Act, the General Assembly also celebrates the centennial of the Jones Act as it continues to foster a strong domestic maritime industry that is critical to Virginia's and the nation's economic prosperity and national security; and, be it

Resolved, further, That the Clerk of the Senate transmit copies of this resolution to the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, the President of the United States Senate, and the members of the Virginia Congressional Delegation so that they may be apprised of the sense of the General Assembly of Virginia in this matter.

POM–134. A resolution adopted by the House of Representatives of the State of Missouri recommending to the President of the United States and the United States Congress to reaffirm our country's unwavering support for Ukraine's freedom, sovereignty, and territorial integrity within its internationally recognized borders, extending to its territorial waters; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 3658

Whereas, Ukraine is a sovereign and independent nation located in Eastern Europe and an ally, under a bilateral investment treaty, of the United States; and

Whereas, Russia, a transcontinental country spanning Eastern Europe and Northern Asia, has launched an all-out invasion of Ukraine by land, air, and sea; and

Whereas, Russian forces have dramatically escalated their offenses by deploying a forty-mile long convoy of tanks and other military equipment advancing south to attack the people of Ukraine, including the City of Kyiv; and

Whereas, Russia's invasion of Ukraine is the largest invasion of a sovereign nation in Europe since World War II; and

Whereas, the combat is directly responsible for massive civilian casualties, including a Russian mortar attack on a children's hospital that inflicted devastating loss of life; and

Whereas, Russia's attack on Ukraine was unprovoked and unjustified; and

Whereas, as the attack intensifies, the humanitarian crises could reach unprecedented levels, with the United Nations estimating

that between one million and five million people will be in need of urgent health care, safety, and security; and

Whereas, Ukraine's President, Volodymyr Zelenskyy, declared that Russia had ''embarked on a path of evil, but [Ukraine] is defending itself and won't give up its freedom . . .'':

Resolved that we, the members of the House of Representatives of the One Hundred First General Assembly, Second Regular Session hereby:

(1) Proudly stand alongside Ukraine, its people, and its leaders during this horrific and unnecessary war and vow to support Ukraine and hold Russia fully accountable for its catastrophic decision to invade;

(2) Condemn, in the strongest possible terms, Vladimir Putin's violent attack on the people of Ukraine and strongly endorse the swift and severe economic sanctions and stringent export controls that President Biden's administration has imposed on Russia;

(3) Urge Russia to immediately cease its violent, illegal, and immoral assault upon Ukraine, end the needless bloodshed, and return to diplomacy and the rules-based international order that has ensured peace and prosperity for so many; and

(4) Recommend to the President of the United States and the United States Congress to reaffirm our country's unwavering support for Ukraine's freedom, sovereignty, and territorial integrity within its internationally recognized borders, extending to its territorial waters; and

Resolved that the United States should take prudent and responsible measures to ensure that the required force posture is present in Europe to deter and, if necessary, defeat Russian aggression against any NATO member; and

Resolved that the United States should immediately strengthen additional sanctions on Russia by restricting the Russian banking and financial sectors, cybersecurity, and other key industrial sectors; and

Resolved that the United States should immediately bolster energy connectivity in Eastern Europe; and

Resolved that the United States should expand the target list of Russian officials under the Magnitsky Act, which would implement a greater range of targeted sanctions aimed directly at Russian officials responsible for violating Ukrainian freedom and sovereignty, including the freezing of financial assets and the imposition of visa bans; and

Resolved that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution for the President and Secretary of the United States Senate, the Speaker and Clerk of the United States House of Representatives, and each member of the Missouri Congressional delegation.

POM–135. A resolution adopted by the Senate of the State of Ohio urging the United States government to secure its borders; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 243

Whereas, A strong, secure border benefits the United States: and

Whereas, The well-being and safety of the citizens of the United States is being jeopardized by threats from transnational criminal organizations; and

Whereas, It is integral to the security, well-being, and harmony of the people of the United States to sustain secure borders; and

Whereas, The dedicated individuals of the United States Customs and Border Protection work diligently and honorably to secure borders in the most efficient and humane manner; and

Whereas, The Governor of Ohio has allocated our state's resources to secure our borders through the assignment of over one hundred members of the Ohio National Guard to support United States Customs and Border Protection and the assignment of troopers from the Ohio State Highway Patrol to travel to Texas to support local law enforcement with border surveillance; and

Whereas, Ill-motivated individuals continuously seek to cause harm, danger, injury, hazard, and peril to those who protect the United States' borders; and

Whereas, Those individuals who cross the United States' borders without regard for the legal immigration process circumvent the individuals who show respect for the rule of law; and

Whereas, Those same individuals defy the right of the United States to control its own sovereign territory and regulate the happenings within its rightful borders; and

Whereas, The smuggling of contraband, such as drugs and weapons, have plagued the United States' borders; and

Whereas, In fiscal year 2021, United States Customs and Border Protection seized more than 319,000 pounds of marijuana, 109,000 pounds of methamphetamine, 97,000 pounds of cocaine, 11,000 pounds of fentanyl, and 5,400 pounds of heroin; and

Whereas, These illegal drugs are sold, spread, and used throughout the American citizenry as drug overdoses and abuse rates reach the highest levels on record in the United States, including Ohio hitting a record death rate from opioid overdose during the second quarter of 2020; and

Whereas, In 2020, 81% of overdose deaths in Ohio involved illicit fentanyl or fentanyl analogs, while drug deaths related to fentanyl increased 32% from 2019; and

Whereas, Most fentanyl and fentanyl-related substances abused in the United States are trafficked into the country via international mail, express consignment, or across the southwestern border; and

Whereas, The act of human smuggling, which deliberately evades immigration laws, is a daily occurrence at the southwestern border according to U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement; and

Whereas, Individuals who are smuggled into the United States may be involved in transnational criminal organization operations or may be forced into human trafficking situations; and

Whereas, Human trafficking is a serious issue in Ohio, as state sources identified over 1,300 cases between 2014 and 2020, ranking the state among the ten worst in the nation for human trafficking; and

Whereas, The United States Department of State has urged state and local governments, as well as nonprofit organizations, to address cross-border trafficking issues and support strong collaboration at the borders to identify and prevent human trafficking; Now therefore be it further

Resolved, That we, the members of the Senate of the 134th General Assembly of the State of Ohio, support the investment of necessary resources by the United States government to ensure secure, strong, and sustainable borders; and be it further

Resolved, That the Clerk of the Senate transmit duly authenticated copies of this resolution to the President Pro Tempore and Secretary of the United States Senate, the Speaker and Clerk of the United States House of Representatives, the President and Vice President of the United States, the members of the Ohio Congressional delegation, and the news media of Ohio.

POM–136. A concurrent resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of West Virginia applying to the United States Congress, under the provisions of Article V of the Constitution of the United States, for the calling of a convention of the states limited to proposing amendments to the Constitution of the United States that impose fiscal restraints on the federal government, limit the power and jurisdiction of the federal government, and limit the terms of office for its officials and for members of Congress; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 31

Whereas, Executive orders by the President of the United States have become a vehicle through which the President may overstep the limits of his or her constitutional authority; and

Whereas, The concentration of power at the federal level has had the effect of making federal officials less responsive to the will of the people and more readily influenced by lobbyists, wealthy corporations and special interests in Washington, D.C.; and

Whereas, Much of federal law is now enacted by federal bureaucrats who were never chosen by the people and have no accountability to the people whatsoever; and

Whereas, Policy decisions made at the state level tend to be more responsive to the needs and desires of the people; and

Whereas, The federal government has created a crushing national debt through improper and imprudent spending; and

Whereas, The federal government has invaded the legitimate roles of the states through the manipulative process of federal mandates, many of which are unfunded to a great extent; and

Whereas, The states have the ability to restore the responsiveness of government to the people and to restrain abuses of federal power by proposing amendments to the Constitution of the United States through a limited convention of the states under Article V; therefore, be it

Resolved by Legislature of West Virginia:

That the Legislature hereby applies to Congress, under the provisions of Article V of the Constitution of the United States, for the calling of a convention of the states limited to proposing amendments to the Constitution of the United States that impose fiscal restraints on the federal government, limit the power and jurisdiction of the federal government, and limit the terms of office for its officials and for members of Congress; and, be it

Further Resolved, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates forward a copy of this resolution, legislative call and application to the President and Secretary of the United States Senate and to the Speaker and Clerk of the United States House of Representatives, and copies to the members of the said Senate and House of Delegates from this state; also to transmit copies hereof to the presiding officers of each of the legislative houses in the several states, requesting their cooperation; and, be it

Further Resolved, That this application constitutes a continuing application in accordance with Article V of the Constitution of the United States until the legislatures of at least two thirds of the several states have made applications on the same subject; and, be it

Further Resolved, The West Virginia Legislature adopts this application expressly subject to the following reservations, understandings, and declarations:

(1) An application to the Congress of the United States to call an amendment convention of the states pursuant to Article V of the United States Constitution confers no power to Congress other than the power to call such a convention. The power of Congress to exercise this ministerial duty consists solely of the authority to name a reasonable time and place for the initial meeting of a convention;

(2) Congress shall perform its ministerial duty of calling an amendment convention of the states only upon the receipt of applications for an amendment convention for the substantially same purpose as this application from two thirds of the legislatures of the several states;

(3) Congress does not have the power or authority to determine any rules for the governing of an amendment convention of the states called pursuant to Article V of the United States Constitution. Congress does not have the power to set the number of delegates to be sent by any state to such a convention, nor does it have the power to name delegates to such a convention. The power to name delegates remains exclusively within the authority of the legislatures of the several states;

(4) By definition, an amendment convention of the states means that states shall vote on the basis of one state, one vote;

(5) A convention of the states convened pursuant to this application shall be limited to consideration of the topics specified herein and no other. This application is made with the express understanding that an amendment that in any way seeks to amend, modify, or repeal any provision of the Bill of Rights shall not be authorized for consideration at any stage. This application shall be void ab initio if ever used at any stage to consider any change to any provision of the Bill of Rights;

(6) Pursuant to Article V of the United States Constitution, Congress may determine whether proposed amendments shall be ratified by the legislatures of the several states or by special state ratification conventions. The West Virginia legislature recommends that Congress select ratification by the legislatures of the several states; and

(7) The West Virginia Legislature may provide further instructions to its delegates and may recall its delegates at any time for a breach of a duty or a violation of the instructions provided; and, be it

Further Resolved, That the Clerk of the House forward a copy of this resolution to the representatives and senators elected by the citizens of West Virginia serving the citizens of West Virginia in the Congress of the United States in Washington, D.C.

POM–137. A petition from a citizen of the State of Texas relative to enactment of federal legislation; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. CARPER, from the Committee on Environment and Public Works, without amendment: S. 4136. An original bill to provide for improvements to the rivers and harbors of the United States, to provide for the conservation and development of water and related resources, and for other purposes.

EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEE

The following executive reports of nominations were submitted:

By Mr. MENENDEZ for the Committee on Foreign Relations.

Marc B. Nathanson, of California, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Kingdom of Norway.

Nominee: Marc B. Nathanson.

Post: Ambassador to the Kingdom of Norway.

Nominated: 11/04/2021.

(The following is a list of members of my immediate family. I have asked each of these persons to inform me of the pertinent contributions made by them. To the best of my knowledge, the information contained in this report is complete and accurate.)

Please see attachment detailing contributions by individuals.

1. Marc Nathanson (Federal), Date, Amount, Notes:

Feinstein For Senate 2018, 3/17/2017, $2,700.00, FEC database lists current committee name Feinstein For Senate 2024.

Josh Gottheimer for Congress Committee, 3/31/2017, $2,700.00.

Angus King for Senate, 4/24/2017, $1,000.00.

Schiff Leads PAC, 8/21/2017, $5,000.00, JFC contribution: allocated by JFC to Schiff for Congress.

Heidi for Senate, 10/3/2017, $1,000.00.

With Honor Fund, Inc., 12/11/2017, $5,000.00.

Democratic Midterm Victory Fund, 12/11/2017, $5,000.00.

Rufus Gifford for Congress 2018, 2/28/2018, $2,700.00.

Sean Patrick Maloney for Congress, 3/30/2018, $2,700.00.

Senate IMPACT: TN & NV, 4/26/2018, $5,400.00, JFC contribution: allocated by JFC to Rosen for Nevada and Bredesen for Senate.

Greg Stanton for Congress, 7/18/2018, $2,500.00.

Katie Hill for Congress, 7/18/2018, $2,500.00.

Gil Cisneros for Congress, 7/18/2018, $2,500.00.

Katie Porter for Congres, 7/18/2018, $2,500.00.

Harley Rouda for Congress, 7/18/2018, $2,500.00.

Mike Levin for Congress, 7/18/2018, $2,500.00.

Cindy Axne for Congress, 7/18/2018, $2,500.00.

Abby Finkenauer for Congress, 7/18/2018, $2,500.00.

Dean Phillips for Congress, 9/11/2018, $500.00.

Rufus Gifford for Congress, 12/10/2018, −$2,700.00, Refund of prior contribution.

Kamala Harris for the People, 2/5/2019, $2,700.00.

Josh Gottheimer for Congress, 4/11/2019, $2,800.00.

Karen Bass for Congress 2020, 4/24/2019, $1,000.00.

The Markey Committee, 5/29/2019, $2,800.00.

Dan for Colorado, 5/29/2019, $2,800.00.

With Honor PAC, 5/29/2019, $5,000.00.

Dan for Colorado, 6/1/2019, −$1,610.00, Partial refund of prior contribution.

Chris Coons for Delaware, 6/1/2019, $5,600.00.

Biden for President, 7/18/2019, $2,800.00.

Biden for President, 8/9/2019, $26.25, Campaign merchandise.

Biden for President, 8/27/2019, −$26.25, Refund of prior contribution.

Cory 2020, 9/16/2019, $2,800.00.

Ted Lieu for Congress, 9/18/2019, $2,800.00.

DCCC, 9/25/2019, $35,500.00.

Pete for America, 12/12/2019, $2,800.00, Check never cashed by recipient committee.

Hickenlooper for Colorado, 12/21/2019, $1,000.00, Check sent with contribution card listing both Marc and Jane Nathanson; recipient committee attributed the full contribution to ''Janet [sic] Nathanson'' on its FEC reports.

DNC, 1/22/2020, $10,000.00.

Matt Lieberman Senate 2020, 5/7/2020, $500.00.

Max Rose for Congress, 6/8/2020, $500.00.

Booker Victory Fund, 6/8/2020, $1,500.00, JFC contribution: allocated by JFC to Cory Booker For Senate.

Biden Victory Fund, 6/12/2020, $100,000.00, JFC contribution: allocated by JFC to Biden for President, DNC, and multiple state party committees; portion allocated to DNC above $25,500 was in error by the JFC; JFC indicated that excessive allocation is being reallocated to other permissible recipients in the JFC.

Engel for Congress, 6/18/2020, $1,500.00, Check never cashed by recipient committee.

Michelle for Kansas, 7/8/2020, $2,800.00.

Biden PT Fund, 7/30/2020, $5,000.00, Presidential Transition Fund.

Friends of Mark Warner, 8/18/2020, $2,500.00.

Biden Victory Fund, 8/20/2020, $10,000.00, JFC contribution: allocated by JFC to multiple state party committees.

Biden Victory Fund, 8/21/2020, $2,800.00, JFC contribution: allocated by JFC to multiple state party committees.

Sara Gideon for Maine, 9/3/2020, $500.00.

House Majority PAC, 9/10/2020, $35,500.00.

Biden Victory Fund, 9/13/2020, $2,800.00, JFC contribution; allocated by JFC to multiple state party committees.

DCCC, 9/14/2020, $35,500.00.

Elissa Slotkin for Congress, 9/15/2020, $500.00.

Biden Victory Fund, 9/22/2020, $100,000.00, JFC contribution: allocated by JFC to multiple state party committees.

Republican Voters Against Trump PAC, 9/22/2020, $25,000 00.

Biden Victory Fund, 10/1/2020, $35,000.00, JFC contribution: allocated by JFC to Biden for President and DNC: both allocations were in error by the JFC; JFC indicated that excessive allocation is being reallocated to other permissible recipients in the JFC.

Hickenlooper Victory Fund, 10/5/2020, $4,600.00, JFC contribution: allocated by JFC to Hickenlooper for Colorado and Colorado Democratic Party.

Jake Auchincloss for Congress, 10/15/2020, $2,800.00.

Republican Voters Against Trump PAC, 10/21/2020, $10,000.00.

Biden Victory Fund, 11/15/2020, $305.28, JFC contribution; allocated by JFC to multiple state party committees.

Democrats for Israel, 12/18/2020, $1,000.00.

PIC 2021, Inc., 1/11/2021, $25,000.00, Inaugural Committee.

Alex Padilla for Senate, 1/12/2021, $2,800.00.

PIC 2021, Inc., 1/17/2021, $76,000.00, In-kind (travel): Inaugural Committee.

Democratic National Committee, 2/22/2021, $25.00.

California Democratic Party, 2/23/2021, $5,000.00.

Friends of Schumer, 4/20/2021, $5,800.00.

Schiff Leads PAC, 6/30/2021, $5,800.00.

Josh Gottheimer for Congress, 7/12/2021, $5,800.00.

2. Jane Nathanson (Federal), Date, Amount, Notes:

Feinstein for Senate 2018, 3/17/2017, $2,700.00, FEC database lists current committee name: Feinstein For Senate 2024.

Biden for President, 7/18/2019, $2,800.00.

DNC, 1/22/2020, $10,000.00.

Hickenlooper for Colorado, 2/24/2020, $1,000.00. See explanation above under 12/21/2019 contribution from Marc Nathanson to this committee.

Debbie Dingell for Congress, 6/11/2020, $1,000.00.

Biden Victory Fund, 8/13/2020, $100,000.00, JFC Contribution: allocated by JFC to Biden for President, DNC, and multiple state party committees.

John N. Nkengasong, of Georgia, to be Ambassador at Large, Coordinator of United States Government Activities to Combat HIV/AIDS Globally.

Nominee: John Nkengasong.

Post: Ambassador at Large and Coordinator of the United States Government Activities to Combat HIV/AIDS Globally at the Department of State.

Nominated: January 4, 2022.

(The following is a list of members of my immediate family. I have asked each of these persons to inform me of the pertinent contributions made by them. To the best of my knowledge, the information contained in this report is complete and accurate.)

Contributions, amount, date, donee:

2020 GA Senate, $200, Dec 2020, Democrat Candidate (Do not recall which of the democrat party candidates); WA08 Congressional, $500, Jan 2018, Dr Shannon Hac***

2. Susan Nkengasong (Spouse)—No contributions.

Caroline Kennedy, of New York, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary

of the United States of America to the Commonwealth of Australia.

Nominee: Caroline Kennedy.

Post: Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to the Commonwealth of Australia.

Nominated: 1/7/22.

The following is a list of members of my immediate family. I have asked each of these persons to inform me of the pertinent contributions made by them. To the best of my knowledge, the information contained in this report is complete and accurate.

Contributions, Amount, Date, and Donee: Caroline Kennedy $2,000.00, 3/23/18, Crowley Leadership Fund; $2,000.00, 3/26/18, Joe Crowley; $100.00, 9/30/18, Act Blue; $10.87, 11/1/18, Act Blue; Caroline Kennedy $10.87, 11/1/18, Act Blue; $10.87, 11/1/18, Act Blue; $10.87, 11/1/18, Act Blue; 10.87, 11/1/18 Act Blue; $10.87, 11/1/18, Act Blue; $10.87, 11/1/18, Act Blue; $10.87, 11/1/18, Act Blue; $10.87, 11/1/18, Act Blue; $10.87, 11/1/18, Act Blue; $10.87, 11/1/18, Act Blue; $10.87, 11/1/18, Act Blue; $10.87, 11/1/18, Act Blue; $10.87, 11/1/18, Act Blue; $10.87, 11/1/18, Act Blue; $10.87, 11/1/18, Act Blue; $10.86 11/1/18 Act Blue; $50.00, 11/1/18, Act Blue; $10.87, 11/1/18, Act Blue; $10.87, 11/1/18, Act Blue; $10.87, 11/1/18, Act Blue; $10.87, 11/1/18, Act Blue; $10.87, 11/1/18, Act Blue; $10.87, 11/1/18, Act Blue; $10.87, 11/1/18, Act Blue; $10.87, 11/1/18, Act Blue; $10.87, 11/1/18, Act Blue; $10.87, 11/1/18, Act Blue; $10.87, 11/1/18, Act Blue; $10.87, 11/1/18, Act Blue; $10.87, 11/1/18, Act Blue; $10.87, 11/1/18, Act Blue; $10.87, 11/1/18, Act Blue; $10.87, 11/1/18, Act Blue; $10.87, 11/1/18, Act Blue; $10.87, 11/1/18, Act Blue; $10.87, 11/1/18, Act Blue; $10.86, 11/1/18, Act Blue; $10.87, 11/1/18, Act Blue; $10.87, 11/1/18, Act Blue; $10.87, 11/1/18, Act Blue; $10.87, 11/1/18, Act Blue; $10.87, 11/1/18, Act Blue; $10.87, 11/1/18, Act Blue; $10.87, 11/1/18, Act Blue; $10.87, 11/1/18, Act Blue; $10.86, 11/1/18, Act Blue; $10.87, 11/1/18, Act Blue; $10.87, 11/1/18, Act Blue; $10.87, 11/1/18, Act Blue; $10.87, 11/1/18, Act Blue; $10.87, 11/1/18, Act Blue; $10.87, 11/1/18, Act Blue; $10.87, 11/1/18, Act Blue; $10.87, 11/1/18, Act Blue; $10.87, 11/1/18, Act Blue; $10.87, 11/1/18, Act Blue; $10.87, 11/1/18, Act Blue; $10.87, 11/1/18, Act Blue; $10.86, 11/1/18, Act Blue; $250.00, 11/1/18, Susan Wild; $10.87, 11/1/18, Susan Wild; $500.00, 11/1/18, Leslie Cockburn; $10.87, 11/1/18, Leslie Cockburn; $500.00, 11/1/18, Serve America PAC; $10.87, 11/1/18, Tom Malinowski; $250.00, 3/26/19, Pete Buttigieg; $100.00, 3/26/19, Kamala Harris; $100.00, 3/26/19, Elizabeth Warren; $10.00, 3/26/19, Act Blue; $250.00, 3/31/19, Pete Buttigieg; $500.00, 3/31/19, Amy Klobuchar; $250.00, 3/31/19, Pete Buttigieg; $25.00, 3/31/19, Act Blue; $100.00, 3/31/19, Elizabeth Warren; $100.00, 3/31/19, Kamala Harris; $10.00, 3/31/19, Act Blue; $1,000.00, 4/14/19, Pete Buttigieg; $50.00, 4/14/19, Act Blue; $100.00, 4/17/19, Kamala Harris; $10.00, 4/17/19, Act Blue; ,$50.00, 4/25/19, Elizabeth Warren; $1,000.00, 5/5/19, Joe Biden; $25.00, 5/5/19, Act Blue; $25.00, 5/10/19, Amy Klobuchar; $2.50, 5/10/19, Act Blue; $250.00, 5/15/19, Joe Biden; $25.00, 5/15/19, Act Blue; $100.00, 5/22/19, Kamala Harris; $100.00, 5/22/19, Elizabeth Warren; $15.00, 5/28/19, Amy Klobuchar; $15.00, 5/28/19, Amy Klobuchar; $125.00, 7/9/19, Act Blue; $125.00, 7/9/19, Act Blue; $125.00, 9/28/19, Elizabeth Warren; $25.00, 9/28/19, Act Blue; $250.00, 11/3/19, Elizabeth Warren; $50.00, 11/8/19, Elizabeth Warren; $1,000.00, 11/18/19, Deval Patrick; $100.00, 11/20/19, Amy Klobuchar; $100.00, 11/20/19, Amy Klobuchar; $100.00, 11/21/19, Amy Klobuchar; $150.00, 11/23/19, Amy Klobuchar; $150.00, 11/23/19, Amy Klobuchar; $150.00, 11/24/19, Amy Klobuchar; $1,000.00, 12/2/19, Joe Biden; $100.00, 12/5/19, Joe Biden; $10.00, 12/5/19, Act Blue; $1,050.00, 12/6/19, Joe Biden; $100.00, 12/14/19, Amy Klobuchar; $150.00, 12/28/19, Amy Klobuchar; $15.00, 12/28/19, Act Blue; $100.00, 12/28/19, Biden For President; $25.00, 1/18/20, Deval Patrick; $150.00, 2/10/20, Amy Klobuchar; $1,000.00, 2/11/20, Amy Klobuchar; $100.00, 2/19/20, Amy Klobuchar; $2,800.00, 3/29/20, Biden For President; $1,500.00, 4/23/20, Joe Kennedy III; $1,000.00, 5/12/20, Amy Kennedy; $100.00, 6/14/20, Act Blue; $50.00, 6/18/20, Act Blue; $10.00, 6/18/20, Act Blue; $100.00, 8/2/20, John Hickenlooper; $10.00, 8/2/20, Act Blue; $100.00, 8/2/20, John Hickenlooper; $250.00, 8/3/20, Senate Majority PAC; $25.00, 8/3/20, Act Blue; $10.00, 8/12/20, Act Blue; $100.00, 8/12/20, Biden For President; $50.00, 9/2/20, Act Blue; $250.00, 9/2/20, John Hickenlooper; $100.00, 9/4/20, Act Blue; $10.00, 9/4/20, Act Blue; $100.00, 9/4/20, Act Blue; $10.00, 9/4/20, Act Blue; $1,000.00, 9/4/20, Mark Kelly; $250.00, 9/4/20, Sara Gideon; $2,500.00, 9/7/20, Biden Victory Fund; $2,500.00, 9/7/20, Democratic National Committee; $50.00, 9/22/20, Act Blue; $5.00, 9/22/20, Act Blue; $100.00, 9/25/20, Act Blue; $100.00, 10/30/20, Act Blue; $10.00, 10/30/20, Act Blue; $250.00, 11/2/20, Theresa Greenfield; $100.00, 11/2/20, Theresa Greenfield; $500.00, 11/3/20, Amy Kennedy; $250.00, 11/10/20, Raphael Warnock; $500.00, 11/14/20, Raphael Warnock; $50.00, 11/14/20, Act Blue; $250.00, 11/18/20, Raphael Warnock; $250.00, 11/21/20, Raphael Warnock; $25.00, 11/21/20, Act Blue; $250.00, 11/23/20, Raphael Warnock; $25.00, 11/23/20, Act Blue; $250.00, 11/25/20, Raphael Warnock; $100.00, 12/4/20, Act Blue.

Edwin Schlossberg, $1,000.00, 1/7/18, DCCC; $500.00, 1/29/18, DCCC; $1,000.00, 2/7/18, DCCC; $500.00, 2/28/18, DCCC; $1,000.00, 3/7/18, DCCC; $100.00, 3/14/18, Brian Flynn; $500.00, 3/29/18, DCCC; $1,000.00, 4/8/18, DCCC; $500.00, 4/29/18, DCCC; $1,000.00, 5/7/18, DCCC; $500.00, 5/29/18, DCCC; $100.00, 6/6/18, Act Blue; $500.00, 6/11/18, Ami Bera; $1,000.00, 6/11/18, DCCC; $1,000.00, 6/12/18, DCCC; $100.00, 6/28/18, Act Blue; $500.00, 6/30/18, DCCC; $100.00, 7/6/18, Mikie Sherrill; $1,000.00, 7/8/18, DCCC; $500.00, 7/29/18, DCCC; $100.00, 8/6/18, Mikie Sherrill; $1,000.00, 8/7/18, DCCC; $500.00, 8/29/18, DCCC; $250.00, 9/5/18, Josh Welle; $100.00, 9/6/18, Mikie Sherrill; $1,000.00, 9/9/18, DCCC; $500.00, 9/14/18, Schiff House Victory Fund; $500.00, 9/19/18, Schiff House Victory Fund; $500.00, 9/30/18, DCCC; $100.00, 10/6/18, Mikie Sherrill; $1,000.00, 10/7/18, DCCC; $500.00, 10/29/18, DCCC; $100.00, 11/3/18, Mikie Sherrill; $100.00, 11/6/18, Mikie Sherrill; $1,000.00, 11/7/18, DCCC; $500.00, 11/29/18, DCCC; $100.00, 12/3/18, Act Blue; $100.00, 12/6/18, Act Blue; $1,000.00, 12/9/18, DCCC; $500.00, 12/30/18, DCCC; $100.00, 1/3/19, Mikie Sherrill; $100.00, 1/6/19, Mikie Sherrill; $1,000.00, 1/7/19, DCCC; $500.00, 1/29/19, DCCC; $100.00, 2/3/19, Mikie Sherrill; $100.00, 2/6/19, Mikie Sherrill; $1,000.00, 2/7/19, DCCC; $500.00, 2/28/19, DCCC; $100.00, 3/3/19, Mikie Sherrill; $100.00, 3/6/19, Mikie Sherrill; $1,000.00, 3/7/19, DCCC; $500.00, 3/31/19, DCCC; $100.00, 4/3/19, Mikie Sherrill; $100.00, 4/6/19, Mikie Sherrill; $100.00, 5/3/19, Mikie Sherrill; $100.00, 5/6/19, Mikie Sherrill; $100.00, 6/3/19, Mikie Sherrill; $100.00, 6/6/19, Mikie Sherrill; $250.00, 6/17/19, Jackie Gordon; $100.00, 7/3/19, Mikie Sherrill; $100.00, 7/6/19, Mikie Sherrill; $100.00, 8/3/19, Mikie Sherrill; $100.00, 9/18/19, Act Blue; $25.00, 12/5/19, Act Blue; $250.00, 12/5/19, Biden For President; $250.00, 12/8/19, Democratic National Committee; $2,500.00, 1 /3/20, Biden For President; $1,050.00, 1/10/20, Biden For President; $50.00, 2/10/20, Act Blue; $1,000.00, 2/16/20, Democratic National Committee; $25.00, 2/18/20, Act Blue; $1,000.00, 2/23/20, Democratic National Committee; $500.00, 4/16/20, Biden For President; $500.00, 4/19/20, Democratic National Committee; $10.00, 4/23/20, Act Blue; $1,000.00, 4/26/20, Democratic National Committee; $20.00, 5/17/20, Act Blue; $20.00, 5/17/20, Act Blue; $50.00, 5/20/20, Act Blue; $100.00, 5/26/20, Act Blue; $100.00, 6/3/20, Kara Eastman; $10.00, 6/3/20, Act Blue; $500.00, 6/6/20, Biden For President; $500.00, 6/7/20, Democratic National Committee; $100.00, 6/16/20, Kara Eastman; $100.00, 6/16/20, Act Blue; $500.00, 6/25/20, Kara Eastman; $1,000.00, 6/28/20, Democratic National Committee; $1,900.00, 7/6/20, Biden For President; $100.00, 7/13/20, Act Blue; $1,000.00, 7/17/20, Biden For President; $100.00, 7/17/20, Act Blue; $1,000.00, 7/22/20, Biden For President; $50.00, 7/23/20, Act Blue; $50.00, 7/23/20, Act Blue; $50.00, 7/23/20, Blue Senate Candidate Fund; $100.00, 7/24/20, Act Blue; $1,000.00, 7/26/20, Democratic National Committee; $1,000.00, 7/26/20, Democratic National Committee; $5.00, 7/26/20, Blue Senate Pac; $4.09 7/26/20, Amy McGrath; $4.09 7/26/20, John Hickenlooper; $150.00, 7/27/20, Act Blue; $100.00, 7/27/20, Act Blue; $250.00, 7/27/20, John Hickenlooper; $100.00, 7/29/20, John Hickenlooper; $1,000.00, 8/2/20, DCCC; $100.00, 8/3/20, Act Blue; $150.00, 8/3/20, Act Blue; $150.00, 8/3/20, DCCC; $100.00, 8/10/20, Act Blue; $150.00, 8/10/20, Act Blue; $150.00, 8/10/20, DCCC; $1,000.00, 8/16/20, DCCC; $100.00, 8/17/20, Act Blue; $150.00, 8/17/20, Act Blue; $150.00, 8/17/20, DCCC; $100.00, 8/24/20, Act Blue; $25.00, 8/25/20, Act Blue; $1,000.00, 8/25/20, DCCC; $1,000.00, 8/27/20, Democratic National Committee; $5,000.00, 8/27/20, DCCC; $250.00, 8/31/20, Blue Senate PAC; $25.00, 8/31/20, Blue Senate PAC; $250.00, 8/31/20, Blue Senate Candidate Fund; $18.75 8/31/20, John Hickenlooper; $10.00, 8/31/20, Act Blue; $2,800.00, 9/4/20, SMP; $15.00, 9/4/20, Act Blue; $20.00, 9/4/20, Act Blue; $1,000.00, 9/6/20, DCCC; $3,000.00, 9/8/20, DCCC; $30.00, 9/8/20, Act Blue; $4.00, 9/13/20, Act Blue; $500.00, 9/13/20, SMP; $300.00, 9/24/20, Kara Eastman; $20.00, 9/24/20, Act Blue; $125.00, 9/24/20, Act Blue; $125.00, 9/24/20, Act Blue; $1,000.00, 9/24/20, Biden For President; $20.00, 9/24/20, Act Blue; $3.00, 9/24/20, Act Blue; $100.00, 9/24/20, Act Blue; $1,000.00, 9/24/20, Democratic National Committee; $1,000.00, 9/24/20, Democratic National Committee; $1,000.00, 9/28/20, DCCC; $1,000.00, 9/28/20, LCV Victory Fund; $10.00, 9/28/20, Act Blue; $750.00, 10/5/20, DCCC; $10.00, 10/5/20, Act Blue; $10.00, 10/5/20, Act Blue; $250.00, 10/5/20, Tedra Cobb; $1,000.00, 10/11/20, DCCC; $10.00, 10/13/20, Act Blue; $250.00, 10/13/20, Tedra Cobb; $30.00, 10/17/20, Act Blue; $1,000.00, 10/18/20, DCCC; $113.64 10/20/20, Kara Eastman; $113.63 10/20/20, Jackie Gordon; $113.64 10/20/20, Act Blue; $113.64 10/20/20, Act Blue; $113.64 10/20/20, Act Blue; $113.64 10/20/20, Act Blue; 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$100.00, 12/

9/20, People For Ben; $800.00, 12/24/20, Democratic National Committee; $100.00, 12/24/20, Act Blue; $250.00, 12/31/20, Our Future United; $1,000.00, 1/10/21, DCCC; $1,000.00, 1/14/21, Nancy Pelosi; $1,000.00, 1/24/21, Democratic National Committee; $100.00, 1/24/21, Act Blue; $1,000.00, 2/4/21, DCCC; $1,000.00, 2/24/21, Democratic National Committee; $100.00, 2/24/21, Act Blue; $500.00, 2/28/21, DCCC; $250.00, 3/11/21, Progressive Turnout Project; $1,000.00, 3/24/21, Democratic National Committee; $100.00, 3/24/21, Act Blue; $1,000.00, 4/24/21, Democratic National Committee; $100.00, 4/24/21, Act Blue; $1,000.00, 5/24/21, Democratic National Committee; $100.00, 5/24/21, Act Blue; $1,000.00, 6/24/21, Democratic National Committee; $100.00, 6/24/21, Act Blue; $1,000.00, 7/22/21, DCCC; $1,000.00, 7/24/21, Democratic National Committee; $500.00, 8/11/21, Backroads PAC; $500.00, 8/23/21, National Democratic Training Committee PAC; $1,000.00, 10/31/21, DCCC.

MaryKay Loss Carlson, of Arkansas, 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 the Philippines.

Nominee: MaryKay Loss Carlson.

Post: The Republic of the Philippines.

Nominated: February 10, 2022.

(The following is a list of members of my immediate family. I have asked each of these persons to inform me of the pertinent contributions made by them. To the best of my knowledge, the information contained in this report is complete and accurate.)

Contributions, amount, date, donee:

MaryKay L. Carlson, $100, 10/3/2020, ACTBLUE.

Aubrey A. Carlson, NONE.

Philip S. Goldberg, of the District of Columbia, a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Career Ambassador, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Republic of Korea.

Nominee: Philip S. Goldberg.

Post: Republic of Korea.

Nominated: February 14, 2022.

(The following is a list of members of my immediate family. I have asked each of these persons to inform me of the pertinent contributions made by them. To the best of my knowledge, the information contained in this report is complete and accurate.)

Contributions, amount, date, and donee:

1. Self: None.

By Mr. BROWN for the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

*Ventris C. Gibson, of Virginia, to be Director of the Mint for a term of five years.

*Paul M. Rosen, of California, to be Assistant Secretary of the Treasury for Investment Security.

By Mr. CARPER for the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

*Benny R. Wagner, of Tennessee, to be Inspector General of the Tennessee Valley Authority.

By Mr. TESTER for the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

*Shereef M. Elnahal, of New Jersey, to be Under Secretary for Health of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

*Nomination was reported with recommendation that it be confirmed subject to the nominee's commitment to respond to requests to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.

(Nominations without an asterisk were reported with the recommendation that they be confirmed.)

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. BARRASSO (for himself, Mr. BROWN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. COONS, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. LEAHY, Ms. LUMMIS, Mr. MERKLEY, Ms. MURKOWSKI, and Mr. REED):

S. 4133. A bill to provide for phased-in payment of Social Security Disability Insurance payments during the waiting period for individuals with a terminal illness; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. CORNYN (for himself, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. KING, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. KAINE, Mr. PETERS, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. BOOZMAN, and Mrs. SHAHEEN):

S. 4134. A bill to direct the President to submit to Congress a report on United States Government efforts to collect, analyze, and preserve evidence and information related to war crimes and other atrocities committed during the full-scale Russian invasion of Ukraine since February 24, 2022, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. HAWLEY:

S. 4135. A bill to dissolve the Department of Homeland Security Disinformation Governance Board, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. CARPER:

S. 4136. An original bill to provide for improvements to the rivers and harbors of the United States, to provide for the conservation and development of water and related resources, and for other purposes; from the Committee on Environment and Public Works; placed on the calendar.

By Mr. CARPER (for himself, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. CARDIN, and Mr. CRAMER):

S. 4137. A bill to provide for improvements to the rivers and harbors of the United States, to provide for the conservation and development of water and related resources, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Ms. DUCKWORTH (for herself and Mr. TILLIS):

S. 4138. A bill to develop and implement strategies for research and development for bioindustrial manufacturing and the implementation of additive manufacturing for defense purposes, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself, Ms. SMITH, Mr. HICKENLOOPER, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. MERKLEY, and Mr. BOOKER):

S. 4139. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to establish a tax credit for manufacturers of high-efficiency heat pumps and heat pump water heaters; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. MURPHY:

S. 4140. A bill to amend chapter 22 of title 44, United States Code, to ensure Presidential records are preserved, duly created when non-official electronic messaging accounts are used, and made available to the public and the next administration in a timely fashion to advance national security and accountability, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Ms. HIRONO:

S. 4141. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to establish in the Department of Veterans Affairs an Advisory Committee on United States Outlying Areas and Freely Associated States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. RUBIO (for himself, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. BRAUN, Mr. SASSE, and Mr. COTTON):

S. 4142. A bill to counter the military-civil fusion strategy of the Chinese Communist Party and prevent United States contributions to the development of dual-use technology in China; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. RUBIO:

S. 4143. A bill to prohibit the importation of agricultural products, raw materials, and food from the Russian Federation if the Russian Federation prohibits the importation of such products, materials, and food from the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. MARKEY (for himself, Ms. WARREN, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. BOOKER, and Ms. SMITH):

S. 4144. A bill to amend the Energy Policy Act of 2005 to establish an energy efficient appliance rebate program to provide rebates for the manufacturing, distribution, and shipment of certain building electrification products, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Ms. CANTWELL (for herself, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. WARNOCK, and Mr. LUJÁN):

S. 4145. A bill to amend section 13 of the Federal Trade Commission Act to provide equitable relief, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. CORNYN:

S. 4146. A bill to amend title 40, United States Code, to grant the Supreme Court of the United States security-related authorities equivalent to the legislative and executive branches; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 769

At the request of Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, the name of the Senator from California (Mr. PADILLA) was added as a cosponsor of S. 769, a bill to authorize funds to prevent housing discrimination through the use of nationwide testing, to increase funds for the Fair Housing Initiatives Program, and for other purposes.

S. 936

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 936, a bill to require online marketplaces to collect, verify, and disclose certain information regarding high-volume third party sellers of consumer products to inform consumers.

S. 1489

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the names of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. SMITH) and the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. KENNEDY) were added as cosponsors of S. 1489, a bill to amend the Inspector General Act of 1978 to establish an Inspector General of the Office of the United States Trade Representative, and for other purposes.

S. 1548

At the request of Mr. LUJÁN, the names of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY) and the Senator

from Michigan (Mr. PETERS) were added as cosponsors of S. 1548, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to improve the diversity of participants in research on Alzheimer's disease, and for other purposes.

S. 2372

At the request of Mr. HEINRICH, the names of the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) and the Senator from Nevada (Ms. CORTEZ MASTO) were added as cosponsors of S. 2372, a bill to amend the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act to make supplemental funds available for management of fish and wildlife species of greatest conservation need as determined by State fish and wildlife agencies, and for other purposes.

S. 2854

At the request of Mr. KENNEDY, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2854, a bill to allow for the transfer and redemption of abandoned savings bonds.

S. 2952

At the request of Mr. PAUL, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2952, a bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to allow manufacturers and sponsors of a drug to use alternative testing methods to animal testing to investigate the safety and effectiveness of a drug, and for other purposes.

S. 3236

At the request of Ms. KLOBUCHAR, the name of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. RISCH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3236, a bill to require the Federal Communications Commission to reform the contribution system of the Universal Service Fund, and for other purposes.

S. 3871

At the request of Mr. MARSHALL, the name of the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. HAGERTY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3871, a bill to provide a means for Congress to prevent an organization's designation as a foreign terrorist organization from being revoked by the Secretary of State.

S. 4082

At the request of Mr. BOOZMAN, the name of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. LANKFORD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4082, a bill to prohibit the use by the Department of Veterans Affairs of funds to provide emergency assistance at the southern border of the United States resulting from the repeal of certain public health orders, and for other purposes.

S. 4109

At the request of Mr. WICKER, the name of the Senator from Tennessee (Mrs. BLACKBURN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4109, a bill to authorize the development of a national strategy for the research and development of distributed ledger technologies and their applications, to authorize awards to support research on distributed ledger technologies and their applications, and to authorize an applied research project on distributed ledger technologies in commerce.

S.J. RES. 43

At the request of Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, the name of the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. GRAHAM) was added as a cosponsor of S.J. Res. 43, a joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Department of the Treasury and the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services relating to ''Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act; Updating Payment Parameters, Section 1332 Waiver Implementing Regulations, and Improving Health Insurance Markets for 2022 and Beyond''.

S. RES. 596

At the request of Mr. SCHATZ, the name of the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 596, a resolution designating April 2022 as ''Preserving and Protecting Local News Month'' and recognizing the importance and significance of local news.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. CORNYN (for himself, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. KING, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. KAINE, Mr. PETERS, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. BOOZMAN, and Mrs. SHAHEEN):

S. 4134. A bill to direct the President to submit to Congress a report on United States Government efforts to collect, analyze, and preserve evidence and information related to war crimes and other atrocities committed during the full-scale Russian invasion of Ukraine since February 24, 2022, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to print my bill for introduction in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD. The bill directs the President to submit to Congress a report on U.S. Government efforts to collect, analyze, and preserve evidence and information related to war crimes and other atrocities committed during the Russian invasion of Ukraine since February 24, 2022.

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

S. 4134

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 ''Ukraine Invasion War Crimes Deterrence and Accountability Act''.

SEC. 2. SENSE OF CONGRESS.

It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) in its premeditated, unprovoked, unjustified, and unlawful full-scale invasion of Ukraine that commenced on February 24, 2022, the military of the Government of the Russian Federation under the direction of President Vladimir Putin has committed war crimes that include—

(A) the deliberate targeting of civilians and injuring or killing of noncombatants;

(B) the deliberate targeting and attacking of hospitals, schools, and other non-military buildings dedicated to religion, art, science, or charitable purposes, such as the bombing of a theater in Mariupol that served as a shelter for noncombatants and had the word ''children'' written clearly in the Russian language outside;

(C) the indiscriminate bombardment of undefended dwellings and buildings;

(D) the wanton destruction of property not justified by military necessity;

(E) unlawful civilian deportations;

(F) the taking of hostages; and

(G) rape, or sexual assault or abuse;

(2) the use of chemical weapons by the Government of the Russian Federation in Ukraine would constitute a war crime, and engaging in any military preparations to use chemical weapons or to develop, produce, stockpile, or retain chemical weapons is prohibited by the Chemical Weapons Convention, to which the Russian Federation is a signatory;

(3) Vladimir Putin has a long record of committing acts of aggression, systematic abuses of human rights, and acts that constitute war crimes or other atrocities both at home and abroad, and the brutality and scale of these actions, including in the Russian Federation republic of Chechnya, Georgia, Syria, and Ukraine, demonstrate the extent to which his regime is willing to flout international norms and values in the pursuit of its objectives;

(4) Vladimir Putin has previously sanctioned the use of chemical weapons at home and abroad, including in the poisonings of Russian spy turned double agent Sergei Skripal and his daughter Yulia and leading Russian opposition figure Aleksey Navalny, and aided and abetted the use of chemical weapons by President Bashar al-Assad in Syria; and

(5) in 2014, the Government of the Russian Federation initiated its unprovoked war of aggression against Ukraine which resulted in its illegal occupation of Crimea, the unrecognized declaration of independence by the so-called ''Donetsk People's Republic'' and ''Luhansk People's Republic'' by Russia-backed proxies, and numerous human rights violations and deaths of civilians in Ukraine.

SEC. 3. STATEMENT OF POLICY.

It is the policy of the United States—

(1) to collect, analyze, and preserve evidence and information related to war crimes and other atrocities committed during the full-scale Russian invasion of Ukraine that began on February 24, 2022, for use in appropriate domestic, foreign, and international courts and tribunals prosecuting those responsible for such crimes;

(2) to help deter the commission of war crimes and other atrocities in Ukraine by publicizing to the maximum possible extent, including among Russian and other foreign military commanders and troops in Ukraine, efforts to identify and prosecute those responsible for the commission of war crimes during the full-scale Russian invasion of Ukraine that began on February 24, 2022; and

(3) to continue efforts to identify, deter, and pursue accountability for war crimes and other atrocities committed around the world and by other perpetrators, and to leverage international cooperation and best practices in this regard with respect to the current situation in Ukraine.

SEC. 4. REPORT ON UNITED STATES EFFORTS.

Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, and consistent with

the protection of intelligence sources and methods, the President shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report, which may include a classified annex, describing in detail the following:

(1) United States Government efforts to collect, analyze, and preserve evidence and information related to war crimes and other atrocities committed during the full-scale Russian invasion of Ukraine since February 24, 2022, including a description of—

(A) the respective roles of various agencies, departments, and offices, and the interagency mechanism established for the coordination of such efforts;

(B) the types of information and evidence that are being collected, analyzed, and preserved to help identify those responsible for the commission of war crimes or other atrocities during the full-scale Russian invasion of Ukraine in 2022; and

(C) steps taken to coordinate with, and support the work of, allies, partners, international institutions and organizations, and nongovernmental organizations in such efforts.

(2) Media, public diplomacy, and information operations to make Russian military commanders, troops, political leaders and the Russian people aware of efforts to identify and prosecute those responsible for the commission of war crimes or other atrocities during the full-scale Russian invasion of Ukraine in 2022, and of the types of acts that may be prosecutable.

(3) The process for a domestic, foreign, or international court or tribunal to request and obtain from the United States Government information related to war crimes or other atrocities committed during the full-scale Russian invasion of Ukraine in 2022.

SEC. 5. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.—The term ''appropriate congressional committees'' means—

(A) the Committee on Foreign Relations, the Committee on the Judiciary, and the Select Committee on Intelligence of the Senate; and

(B) the Committee on Foreign Affairs, the Committee on the Judiciary, and the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence of the House of Representatives.

(2) ATROCITIES.—The term ''atrocities'' has the meaning given that term in section 6(2) of the Elie Wiesel Genocide and Atrocities Prevention Act of 2018 (Public Law 115–441; 22 U.S.C. 2656 note).

(3) WAR CRIME.—The term ''war crime'' has the meaning given that term in section 2441(c) of title 18, United States Code.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I have 12 requests for committees to meet during today's session of the Senate. They have the approval of the Majority and Minority Leaders.

Pursuant to rule XXVI, paragraph 5(a), of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the following committees are authorized to meet during today's session of the Senate:

COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS

The Committee on Environment and Public Works is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, May 4, 2022, at 9:45 a.m., to conduct a business meeting.

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

The Committee on Foreign Relations is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, May 4, 2022, at 10 a.m., to conduct a business meeting.

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

The Committee on Foreign Relations is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, May 4, 2022, at 2:15 p.m., to conduct a hearing on nominations.

COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

The Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, May 4, 2022, at 2:30 p.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON INDIAN AFFAIRS

The Committee on Indian Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, May 4, 2022, at 2:30 p.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

The Committee on the Judiciary is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, May 4, 2022, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS

The Committee on Veterans' Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, May 4, 2022, to conduct a business meeting.

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

The Select Committee on Intelligence is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, May 4, 2022, at 2:30 p.m., to conduct a closed hearing.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

The Subcommittee on Financial Institutions and Consumer Protection of the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, May 4 2022, at 2:30 p.m., to conduct a hearing.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON PRIVACY, TECHNOLOGY, AND THE LAW

The Subcommittee on Privacy, Technology, and the Law of the Committee on the Judiciary is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, May 4, 2022, at 2 p.m., to conduct a hearing.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON STRATEGIC FORCES

The Subcommittee on Strategic Forces of the Committee on Armed Services is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, May 4, 2022, at 4:30 p.m., to conduct a hearing.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON TAXATION AND IRS OVERSIGHT

The Subcommittee on Taxation and IRS Oversight of the Committee on Finance is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, May 4, 2022, at 2 p.m., to conduct a hearing.

ORDERS FOR THURSDAY, MAY 5, 2022

Mr. COONS. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 11 a.m., Thursday, May 5; that following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and morning business be closed; that upon the conclusion of morning business, the Senate proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 887, Kathryn Huff, of Illinois, to be an Assistant Secretary of Energy; further, that the Senate vote on confirmation of the Huff nomination at 1:45 p.m.; finally, if the nomination is confirmed during Thursday's session, that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

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

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 11 A.M. TOMORROW

Mr. COONS. Madam President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that it stand adjourned under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 10:13 p.m., adjourned until Thursday, May 5, 2022, at 11 a.m.

CONFIRMATION

Executive nomination confirmed by the Senate May 4, 2022:

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

JAMES D. RODRIGUEZ, OF TEXAS, TO BE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF LABOR FOR VETERANS' EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

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 Thursday, May 5, 2022 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

MAY 10

9:30 a.m.
Committee on Armed Services
To hold hearings to examine worldwide threats; to be immediately followed by a closed session in SVC–217.
SD–G50

10 a.m.
Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies
To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2023 for the Department of Agriculture.
SD–124

Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Defense
To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2023 for the Department of the Army.
SD–192

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs
To hold hearings to examine the Financial Stability Oversight Council Annual Report to Congress.
SD–538/VTC

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions
To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Kalpana Kotagal, of Ohio, to be a Member of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission.
SH–216

2:30 p.m.
Committee on Armed Services
Subcommittee on Airland
To hold hearings to examine Army modernization in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2023 and the Future Years Defense Program.
SR–222

Committee on Armed Services
Subcommittee on Readiness and Management Support
To hold a joint hearing to examine the Shipyard Infrastructure Optimization Program.
SD–G50

Committee on Foreign Relations
To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Bridget A. Brink, of Michigan, to be Ambassador to Ukraine, Elizabeth H. Richard, of Virginia, to be Coordinator for Counterterrorism, with the rank and status of Ambassador at Large, and Alexander Mark Laskaris, of the District of Columbia, to be an Ambassador to the Republic of Chad, all of the Department of State, and other pending nominations.
SD–106/VTC

MAY 11

10 a.m.
Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies
To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2023 for the Indian Health Service.
SD–124

Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Legislative Branch
To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2023 for the Architect of the Capitol, the Senate Sergeant at Arms, and the Congressional Budget Office.
SD–192

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation
Business meeting to consider S. 2427, to require the Federal Communications Commission to conduct a study and submit to Congress a report examining the feasibility of funding the Universal Service Fund through contributions supplied by edge providers, S. 3053, to amend the Weather Research and Forecasting Innovation Act of 2017 to require the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to develop a plan and national guidance document to improve precipitation estimates, S. 3232, to require the Consumer Product Safety Commission to promulgate a consumer product safety rule for freestanding clothing storage units to protect children from tip-over related death or injury, S. 3278, to protect children and other consumers against hazards associated with the accidental ingestion of button cell or coin batteries by requiring the Consumer Product Safety Commission to promulgate a consumer product safety standard to require child-resistant closures on consumer products that use such batteries, S. 3290, to establish a National Manufacturing Extension Partnership Supply Chain Database, S. 3429, to establish an Alaska Salmon Research Task Force, S. 3533, to amend the John D. Dingell, Jr. Conservation, Management, and Recreation Act to improve the National Volcano Early Warning and Monitoring System, S. 3692, to direct the Federal Communications Commission to evaluate and consider the impact of the telecommunications network equipment supply chain on the deployment of universal service, S. 4145, to amend section 13 of the Federal Trade Commission Act to provide equitable relief, the nomination of Linda L. Fagan, to be Commandant, and promotion lists, both of the Coast Guard.
SR–253

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources
Subcommittee on National Parks
To hold hearings to examine S. 557, to establish a pilot program for native plant species, S. 1344, to redesignate the Pullman National Monument in the State of Illinois as the Pullman National Historical Park, S. 1718, to amend the Rosie the Riveter/World War II Home Front National Historical Park Establishment Act of 200 to provide for additional areas to be added to the park, S. 1814 and H.R. 3531, bills to authorize the Women Who Worked on the Home Front Foundation to establish a commemorative work in the District of Columbia and its environs, S. 2367, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to acquire land in Frederick County, Maryland, for the Historic Preservation Training Center of the National Park Service, S. 2964, to clarify the status of the North Country, Ice Age, and New England National Scenic Trails as units of the National Park System, S. 3141, to establish the New Philadelphia National Historical Park in the State of Illinois as a unit of the National Park System, S. 3185, to amend the Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area Improvement Act to extend the exception to the closure of certain roads within the Recreation Area for local businesses, S. 3240, to waive the application fee for applications for special use permits for veterans' special events at war memorials on land administered by the National Park Service in the District of Columbia and its environs, S. 3307, to modify the boundary of the Wilson's Creek National Battlefield in the State of Missouri, S. 3334, to extend the authority for the establishment of a commemorative work to honor enslaved and free black persons who served in the American Revolution, S. 3338, to revise the boundary of the Ste. Genevieve National Historical Park in the State of Missouri, S. 3519, to amend the National Trails System Act to designate the Butterfield Overland National Historic Trail, S. 3551, to require the Secretary of Agriculture and the Secretary of the Interior to carry out certain activities to enhance recreational opportunities for gateway communities, S. 3667, to amend title 54, United States Code, to establish within the National Park Service the United States African-American Burial Grounds Preservation Program, S. 3685, to direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a special resource study to determine the suitability and feasibility of establishing the John P. Parker House in Ripley, Ohio, as a unit of the National Park System, S. 4112, to address issues

● This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.
Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

involving the economic statecraft of the United States, S. 4121, to designate the Kol Israel Foundation Holocaust Memorial in Bedford Heights, Ohio, as a national memorial, H.R. 268, to provide for the boundary of the Palo Alto Battlefield National Historic Park to be adjusted, to authorize the donation of land to the United States for addition to that historic park, and H.R. 1931, to provide competitive grants for the promotion of Japanese American confinement education as a means to understand the importance of democratic principles, use and abuse of power, and to raise awareness about the importance of cultural tolerance toward Japanese Americans.

SD–366

Committee on Environment and Public Works

To hold an oversight hearing to examine the Council on Environmental Quality.

SD–406

Committee on the Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine pending nominations.

SD–226

2 p.m.

Committee on Appropriations

Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies

To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2023 for the Department of Commerce.

SD–192

Committee on Appropriations

Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs

To hold hearings to examine the global food security and COVID–19 crises, focusing on the U.S. response and policy options.

SD–124

2:30 p.m.

Committee on Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2023 for the United States Agency for International Development.

SD–G50/VTC

3 p.m.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs

To hold hearings to examine the quality of care in the VA and the private sector.

SR–418

4:30 p.m.

Committee on Armed Services

Subcommittee on Strategic Forces

To hold hearings to examine Space Force programs in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2023 and the Future Years Defense Program.

SR–232A

MAY 12

9:30 a.m.

Committee on Appropriations

Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies

To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2023 for the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

SD–192

10:15 a.m.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

To hold hearings to examine pathways to procurement innovation.

SD–342

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S2293–S2341

Measures Introduced: Fourteen bills were introduced, as follows: S. 4133–4146. **Page S2339**

House Messages:

America Competes Act—Motions To Instruct Conferees: Senate resumed consideration of the House message to accompany H.R. 4521, to provide for a coordinated Federal research initiative to ensure continued United States leadership in engineering biology, taking action on the following motions to instruct conferees on the part of the Senate on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the bill to be instructed to insist on the inclusion in the final conference report the following motions proposed thereto: **Pages S2312–26**

Adopted:

Paul Motion to Instruct Conferees to insist that the final conference report include the provisions contained in section 6107 of the Senate amendment (relating to prohibiting funds made available to any Federal agency from being used for gain-of-function research conducted in China). **Page S2312**

By 53 yeas to 44 nays (Vote No. 148), Barrasso Motion to Instruct Conferees to insist that the final conference report include provisions that require immediate development of a 2022–2027 Federal oil and gas leasing program on the outer Continental Shelf, which shall be finalized not later than June 30, 2022, and which shall provide for a minimum of 10 region-wide oil and gas lease sales in the Gulf of Mexico and Alaska Regions of the outer Continental Shelf, with a minimum of 2 oil and gas lease sales per calendar year, not fewer than 1 of which shall be in the Gulf of Mexico Region each calendar year. **Pages S2312–13**

By 86 yeas to 12 nays (Vote No. 149), Cruz Motion to Instruct Conferees to insist that the final conference report include section 3258 of the Senate amendment, which requires a report identifying "major areas of diplomatic, energy, infrastructure, banking, financial, economic, military, and space cooperation . . . between the People's Republic of China and the Islamic Republic of Iran", regarding the policy of the United States to limit such cooperation through terrorism-related sanctions imposed on the Central Bank of Iran and the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps, as such sanctions are necessary to limit such cooperation. **Pages S2313–14**

Menendez Motion to Instruct Conferees to insist upon the provisions contained in section 73003 of the Senate amendment (relating to establishment of an Inspector General of the Office of the United States Trade Representative). **Page S2314**

Risch Motion to Instruct Conferees to insist that the final conference report include provisions that take actionable steps to address the risks of and counter malign or undue influence and activities in the United States and abroad by the Chinese Communist Party, the Government of the People's Republic of China, or individuals or entities acting on their behalf. **Page S2314**

Kelly Motion to Instruct Conferees to insist that the final conference report include incentives to support investments in semiconductor manufacturing and innovation in the United States, including investments in the fabrication, assembly, testing, advanced packaging, and research and development of semiconductors. **Page S2314**

Blackburn Motion to Instruct Conferees to insist that the final conference report include a provision that requires the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, in consultation with the Administrator of General Services, the Director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology, the Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency, the Director of National Intelligence, the Secretary of Defense, the Secretary of State, the Secretary of the Treasury, and the Chairman of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, and consistent with information security requirements designed to address any national security risks, to develop guidance for executive agencies requiring adequate security measures for any transfer, storage, or use of digital yuan on information technology. **Page S2315**

By 50 yeas to 44 nays (Vote No. 151), Cotton Motion to Instruct Conferees to insist upon rejecting the authorization of appropriations for contributions to the Green Climate Fund under section 30609(b)

of the text of the bill as engrossed by the House of Representatives and insisting upon including an authorization of appropriations of $8,000,000,000 within section 2118 of division A of the Senate amendment (relating to funding for the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency) for Department of Defense research, development, production, and procurement of weapon systems needed to compete with China. **Pages S2315–16**

Murkowski Motion to Instruct Conferees to insist that the final conference report include the text of S. 140, 117th Congress, as reported to the Senate on December 17, 2021. **Page S2316**

Sullivan Motion to Instruct Conferees to insist that the final conference report include provisions that prohibit a renewable energy project receiving Federal financial assistance, a subsidy, or any other financing mechanism authorized under the final conference report, such as a grant or tax credit, from purchasing materials, technology, or critical minerals mined, produced, processed, or refined in the People's Republic of China or the Russian Federation. **Pages S2316–17**

Rubio Motion to Instruct Conferees to insist that the final conference report include a Federal Government-based counterintelligence review to certify recipients of grants, funding, awards, or other resources provided, and intellectual property developed, as a result of the conference report, have national security protections in place to prohibit misappropriation and theft of Federal resources. **Page S2317**

By 59 yeas to 33 nays (Vote No. 152), Johnson Motion to Instruct Conferees to reject any proposals to prohibit the possession, acquirement, receipt, transportation, sale, or purchase of mink raised in captivity in the United States for fur production. **Pages S2317–18**

Daines Motion to Instruct Conferees to reject provisions that weaken the energy security of the United States, prohibit the development of an all-of-the-above energy portfolio, or direct funds to foreign entities for international climate objectives. **Page S2319**

By 90 yeas to 5 nays (Vote No. 154), Hassan Motion to Instruct Conferees to insist that the final conference report include provisions that expand the research and development tax credit for small businesses and preserve full and immediate expensing for research and development investments. **Pages S2319–20**

Scott (FL) Motion to Instruct Conferees to insist that the final conference report include provisions that ensure that any taxpayer funds spent in the bill, including those provided to universities and private sector corporations, are subject to comprehensive return on investment analyses and claw back provisions, and corresponding timely reports on the use of such funds to Congress and the American public. **Page S2320**

Ernst Motion to Instruct Conferees to reject the provision as agreed to by the House of Representatives that would reauthorize the Small Business Innovation Research and Small Business Technology Transfer programs under section 9 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 638) without authorization to prevent the Russian Federation and the People's Republic of China from acquiring technology critical to national security developed through programs of the Small Business Administration and participating Federal agencies. **Pages S2320–21**

By 62 yeas to 33 nays (Vote No. 155), Lankford Motion to Instruct Conferees to insist that the final conference report include provisions requiring that any agreement negotiated by the United States with the Islamic Republic of Iran addressing Iran's development of nuclear weapons—(1) also includes provisions addressing the full range of Iran's destabilizing activities, including development of the means of delivery for such weapons (such as ballistic missiles), support for terrorism, and evasion of sanctions by individuals, entities, and vessels in the trade of petroleum products with the People's Republic of China; (2) does not lift sanctions on the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps; and (3) does not revoke the designation of the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps as a foreign terrorist organization under section 219 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1189). (Pursuant to the order of Wednesday, April 27, 2022, the amendment having achieved 60 affirmative votes, was agreed to.) **Page S2321**

Cassidy Motion to Instruct Conferees to insist that the final conference report include provisions that require the President to directly address troubling developments in Mexico's energy sector that intentionally cause harm to United States jobs and economic interests, business and investor interests, and climate goals through the use of consultations under the USMCA (as defined in section 3 of the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement Implementation Act (19 U.S.C. 4502)). **Page S2323**

Warnock Motion to Instruct Conferees to insist that the final conference report include provisions that fully fund programs to build institutional research capacity at historically Black colleges or universities that are developing research institutions. **Page S2323**

By 49 yeas to 47 nays (Vote No. 157), Capito Motion to Instruct Conferees to insist that the final conference report include provisions that—(1) emphasize that, under current law, the President may not—(A) declare, on the basis of climate change—

(i) a national emergency under the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1601 et seq.); (ii) an emergency or major disaster under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5121 et seq.); or (iii) a public health emergency under section 319 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 247d); or (B) invoke, on the basis of climate change, the authorities of the Defense Production Act of 1950 (50 U.S.C. 4501 et seq.); and (2) provide that nothing in H.R. 4521 grants the President the authority to make a declaration or invocation described in paragraph (1). **Pages S2323–24**

By 53 yeas to 43 nays (Vote No. 158), Toomey Motion to Instruct Conferees to insist upon the provisions contained in section 73001 of the Senate amendment (relating to establishing a process for exclusion of articles from duties under section 301 of the Trade Act of 1974). **Pages S2324–25**

Luján Motion to Instruct Conferees to insist on provisions supporting the work of the Department of Energy, user facilities of the Department of Energy, and National Laboratories, including work in microelectronics and across the key technology focus areas (as defined in section 2002 of the amendment). **Page S2325**

Rejected:

By 48 yeas to 49 nays (Vote No. 150), Lee Motion to Instruct Conferees to insist that the final conference report not include the provisions contained in the following sections of the bill (as passed by the House of Representatives): (1) Section 30609 (relating to building United States economic growth and technological innovation through the Green Climate Fund). (2) Section 30607 (relating to addressing international climate change mitigation, adaptation, and security). (3) Section 30601(b)(7)(E) (relating to the sense of Congress on implementing the Paris Agreement). (4) Section 30610 (relating to ensuring a whole-of-government response to climate action). **Pages S2314–15**

By 6 yeas to 87 nays (Vote No. 153), Sanders Motion to Instruct Conferees to insist that the final conference report include provisions that require each beneficiary of Federal financial assistance for semiconductor manufacturing to be banned from purchasing the stock of the beneficiary, from outsourcing employment opportunities of the beneficiary to any country outside of the United States, and from repealing any collective bargaining requirements of the beneficiary, and that require each such beneficiary to issue warrants and equity stakes in the enterprise of the beneficiary to the Federal Government and to remain neutral in any union organizing effort of the employees of the beneficiary. **Pages S2318–19**

By 17 yeas to 78 nays (Vote No. 156), Sanders Motion to Instruct Conferees to recede from the provision contained in section 2614(c) of the Senate amendment (relating to contract redundancy and funding for the human landing system program of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, which would likely go to Blue Origin). **Pages S2321–23**

By 47 yeas to 49 nays (Vote No. 159), Scott (SC) Motion to Instruct Conferees to insist that the final conference report include a requirement that any new legislation providing for new mandates on greenhouse gas emissions should not be enacted unless similar mandates are enacted in the People's Republic of China. **Pages S2325–26**

The Chair was authorized to appoint the following conferees on the part of the Senate: Senators Cantwell, Menendez, Wyden, Peters, Murray, Brown, Warner, Kelly, Warnock, Hickenlooper, Tester, Heinrich, Baldwin, Wicker, Crapo, Risch, Burr, Portman, Grassley, Shelby, Toomey, Barrasso, Capito, Cornyn, Young, and Moran, with instructions. **Page S2326**

Huff Nomination—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that at approximately 11 a.m., on Thursday, May 5, 2022, Senate begin consideration of the nomination of Kathryn Huff, of Illinois, to be an Assistant Secretary of Energy (Nuclear Energy), and vote on confirmation thereon at 1:45 p.m. **Page S2341**

Nomination Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nomination:

James D. Rodriguez, of Texas, to be Assistant Secretary of Labor for Veterans' Employment and Training. **Page S2326**

Measures Placed on the Calendar: **Page S2326**

Executive Communications: **Pages S2329–35**

Petitions and Memorials: **Pages S2335–37**

Executive Reports of Committees: **Pages S2337–39**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S2339–40**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: **Pages S2340–41**

Additional Statements: **Pages S2328–29**

Authorities for Committees to Meet: **Page S2341**

Record Votes: Twelve record votes were taken today. (Total—159) **Pages S2313–16, S2318–21, S2323–26**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 10:13 p.m., until 11 a.m. on Thursday, May 5, 2022. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S2341.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

APPROPRIATIONS: HHS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies concluded a hearing to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2023 for the Department of Health and Human Services, after receiving testimony from Xavier Becerra, Secretary of Health And Human Services.

APPROPRIATIONS: DOE

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development concluded a hearing to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2023 for the Department of Energy, after receiving testimony from Jennifer M. Granholm, Secretary of Energy.

APPROPRIATIONS: DHS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Homeland Security concluded a hearing to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2023 for the Department of Homeland Security, after receiving testimony from Alejandro N. Mayorkas, Secretary of Homeland Security.

APPROPRIATIONS: USFS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies concluded a hearing to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2023 for the Forest Service, after receiving testimony from Randy Moore, Chief, Forest Service, Department of Agriculture.

APPROPRIATIONS: VA

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies concluded a hearing to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2023 for the Department of Veterans Affairs, after receiving testimony from Denis McDonough, Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

NUCLEAR WEAPONS COUNCIL

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Strategic Forces concluded a hearing to examine the Nuclear Weapons Council, after receiving testimony from Jill Hruby, Administrator, National Nuclear Security Administration, Department of Energy, Heidi Shyu, Under Secretary of Defense for Research and Engineering, William LaPlante, Chairman, John Plumb, Assistant Secretary of Defense for Space Policy, Admiral Christopher Grady, Vice Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff, and Admiral Charles Richard, Commander, United States Strategic Command, all of the Nuclear Weapons Council.

OVERDRAFT FEES

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: Subcommittee on Financial Institutions and Consumer Protection concluded a hearing to examine overdraft fees and their effects on working families, including S. 2677, to amend the Truth in Lending Act to limit overdraft fees and establish fair and transparent practices related to the marketing and provision of overdraft coverage programs at depository institutions, after receiving testimony from Aaron Klein, Brookings Institution, and David Pommerehn, Consumer Bankers Association, both of Washington, D.C.; and Jason Wilk, Dave, Los Angeles, California.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: Committee ordered favorably reported the nominations of Ventris C. Gibson, of Virginia, to be Director of the Mint, and Paul M. Rosen, of California, to be Assistant Secretary for Investment Security, both of the Department of the Treasury.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Environment and Public Works: Committee ordered favorably reported the following business items:

An original bill entitled, ''Water Resources Development Act'';

6 General Services Administration resolutions; and

The nomination of Benny R. Wagner, of Tennessee, to be Inspector General of the Tennessee Valley Authority.

POLITICAL ACTIVITIES OF TAX EXEMPT ENTITIES

Committee on Finance: Subcommittee on Taxation and IRS Oversight concluded a hearing to examine laws and enforcement governing the political activities of tax exempt entities, after receiving testimony from Philip Hackney, University of Pittsburgh School of Law, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania; Bradley A. Smith, Institute for Free Speech, and Scott Walter, Capital Research Center, both of Washington, D.C.; and Ann Ravel, former Chair of the Federal Election Commission, Los Gatos, California.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee ordered favorably reported the following business items:

Amendments to the Treaty on Fisheries between the Governments of Certain Pacific Island States and the Government of the United States of America (Treaty Doc.115–3);

Agreement between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Republic of Croatia comprising the instrument as contemplated by Article 3(2) of the Agreement on Extradition between the United States of America and the European Union, signed June 25, 2003, as to the Application of the Treaty on Extradition signed on October 25, 1901 (the ''U.S.-Croatia Extradition Agreement''), and the Agreement between the Government of the United States and the Government of the Republic of Croatia comprising the Instrument as contemplated by Article 3(3) of the Agreement on Mutual Legal Assistance between the United States of America and the European Union signed at Washington on June 25, 2003 (the ''U.S.-Croatia Mutual Legal Assistance Agreement''), both signed at Washington on December 10, 2019 (Treaty Doc.116–2);

Amendment to the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer (the ''Montreal Protocol''), adopted at Kigali on October 15, 2016, by the Twenty-Eighth Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol (the ''Kigali Amendment'') (Treaty Doc.117–1); and

The nominations of John N. Nkengasong, of Georgia, to be Ambassador at Large, Coordinator of United States Government Activities to Combat HIV/AIDS Globally, Marc B. Nathanson, of California, to be Ambassador to the Kingdom of Norway, MaryKay Loss Carlson, of Arkansas, to be Ambassador to the Republic of the Philippines, Philip S. Goldberg, of the District of Columbia, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Korea, and Caroline Kennedy, of New York, to be Ambassador to the Commonwealth of Australia, all of the Department of State.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Jane Hartley, of New York, to be Ambassador to the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and Constance J. Milstein, of New York, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Malta, who were both introduced by Senator Schumer, Alan M. Leventhal, of Massachusetts, to be Ambassador to the Kingdom of Denmark, who was introduced by Senator Markey, and Bruce I. Turner, of Colorado, for the rank of Ambassador during his tenure of service as U.S. Representative to the Conference on Disarmament, all of the Department of State, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY BUDGET

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2023 for the Department of Homeland Security, after receiving testimony from Alejandro N. Mayorkas, Secretary of Homeland Security.

INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENT AND JOBS ACT

Committee on Indian Affairs: Committee concluded an oversight hearing to examine implementing the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act for Native communities, focusing on setting new foundations, after receiving testimony from Wizipan Garriott, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Indian Affairs; Elizabeth A. Fowler, Acting Director, and Rear Admiral Mark Calkins, Public Health Service, Assistant Surgeon General, Director, Division of Sanitation Facilities Construction, both of the Indian Health Service, Department of Health and Human Services; Timothy Hess, Associate Administrator, Office of Federal Lands Highway, Federal Highway Administration, Department of Transportation; Adam Geisler, Division Chief, Tribal Connectivity and Nation To Nation Coordination Division, Office of Internet Connectivity and Growth, National Telecommunications and Information Administration, Department of Commerce; Mark Mitchell, All Pueblo Council of Governors, Albuquerque, New Mexico; Harold C. Frazier, Great Plains Tribal Chairmen's Association, and Dakota Longbrake, Tribal Transportation Program Coordinating Committee, both of the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe, Eagle Butte, South Dakota; Garret T. Yoshimi, University of Hawai'i System, Honolulu; and Nicole Borromeo, Alaska Federation of Natives, Anchorage.

SWIPE FEES

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee concluded a hearing to examine excessive swipe fees and barriers to competition in the credit and debit card systems, after receiving testimony from Doug Kantor, National Association of Convenience Stores, Alexandria, Virginia; Laura Karet, Giant Eagle, Inc., Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania; Charles G. Kim, Commerce Bancshares, Kansas City, Missouri; Linda Kirkpatrick, Mastercard International Incorporated, Purchase, New York, New York; Ed Mierzwinski, U.S. PIRG, Washington, D.C.; and Bill Sheedy, Visa Inc., San Francisco, California.

SOCIAL MEDIA

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Privacy, Technology, and the Law concluded a hearing to examine platform transparency, focusing on understanding the impact of social media, after receiving testimony from Brandon Silverman, CrowdTangle, Oakland, California; Nathaniel Persily, and Daphne

Keller, both of Stanford University Cyber Policy Center, Stanford, California; Jim Harper, American Enterprise Institute, Washington, D.C.; and Jonathan Haidt, New York University Stern School of Business, New York, New York.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: Committee ordered favorably reported the nomination of Shereef M. Elnahal, of New Jersey, to be Under Secretary for Health of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

INTELLIGENCE

Select Committee on Intelligence: Committee held closed hearings on intelligence matters, receiving testimony from officials of the intelligence community.

Committee recessed subject to the call.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

The House was not in session today. The House is scheduled to meet at 10 a.m. on Friday, May 6, 2022.

Committee Meetings

No hearings were held.

Joint Meetings

WAR CRIMES IN UKRAINE

Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe: Commission concluded a hearing to examine Russian war crimes in Ukraine, after receiving testimony from Beth Van Schaack, Ambassador at Large for Global Criminal Justice, Department of State; Iryna Venediktova, Ukraine Prosecutor General; Wolfgang Benedek, University of Graz; Marco Sassoli, University of Geneva; Veronika Bílkova, Charles University; and Timothy Snyder, Yale University.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR THURSDAY, MAY 5, 2022

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Armed Services: to hold hearings to examine the posture of the Department of the Army in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2023 and the Future Years Defense Program; to be immediately followed by a closed session in SVC–217, 9:30 a.m., SD–G50.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: to hold hearings to examine student loan servicers and their impact on workers, 10 a.m., SD–538.

Committee on the Budget: to hold hearings to examine whether taxpayer dollars should go to companies that violate labor laws, 11 a.m., SD–608.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Subcommittee on Consumer Protection, Product Safety, and Data Security, to hold hearings to examine ensuring fairness and transparency in the market for prescription drugs, 10 a.m., SR–253.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: to hold hearings to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2023 for the Department of Energy, 10 a.m., SD–366.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: to hold hearings to examine securing and ensuring order on the southwest border, 10:15 a.m., SD–106.

Committee on the Judiciary: business meeting to consider S. 977, to amend the Sherman Act to make oil-producing and exporting cartels illegal, S. 3846, to reauthorize the Justice and Mental Health Collaboration Program, and the nomination of S. Lane Tucker, to be United States Attorney for the District of Alaska, Department of Justice, 9 a.m., SH–216.

House

No hearings are scheduled.

Next Meeting of the **SENATE**

11 a.m., Thursday, May 5

Senate Chamber

Program for Thursday: Senate will begin consideration of the nomination of Kathryn Huff, of Illinois, to be an Assistant Secretary of Energy (Nuclear Energy), and vote on confirmation thereon at 1:45 p.m.

Next Meeting of the **HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

10 a.m., Friday, May 6

House Chamber

Program for Friday: House will meet in Pro Forma session at 10 a.m.

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