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No. 43

House of Representatives

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

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,

March 7, 2023.

I hereby appoint the Honorable BEN CLINE to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

KEVIN MCCARTHY,

Speaker of the House of Representatives.

MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 9, 2023, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning-hour debate.

The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties, with time equally allocated between the parties and each Member other than the majority and minority leaders and the minority whip limited to 5 minutes, but in no event shall debate continue beyond 1:50 p.m.

CALIFORNIA'S WATER FLUCTUATIONS

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

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to bring attention to the extreme winter storms that continue to batter California and the West Coast, leaving some Californians stranded in their homes and communities across the State with damaged infrastructure. Approximately 16 million people have been impacted in recent weeks.

Last week, Governor Newsom declared a state of emergency for 13 coun-

ties, including Tulare County, which I represent, and other important areas. State officials estimate damage costs could surpass \$1 billion.

California's snowpack is approaching record levels in California's Sierra Nevada. In most cases, that would be good news. Officials believe this may rival the 1982-1983 snow year.

However, this is good news for a State that has suffered long-term drought that forced residents to cut usage and ration water, farmers to fallow hundreds of thousands of acres of productive land, and left landowners with a record number of dry wells in the Central Valley. That was just a few months ago.

However, now the situation has changed. We now have to do a better job of managing in real time long-term water regulations that aren't working. We need to be better prepared to avoid what happened in communities like Planada and others where flooding damaged farms and displaced farmworkers.

That is why we need to fast-track improvements to our water infrastructure, using every tool in our water toolbox to divert water to recharge overdrafted aquifers. You can see from the snowpack here and from the flooding there, this is what has been occurring since the beginning of the first of the year. Therefore, we must increase water storage in all ways in wet years, like this one, to ensure that we can withstand the dry spells.

If we would have completed projects like the Sites Reservoir, which has been talked about for years, we would have been able to store 1.5 million additional acre-feet of water.

Thanks to the bipartisan infrastructure law, we do have Federal dollars available to expand projects that are currently in progress: Los Vaqueros and Del Puerto Reservoirs and raising the dam at the San Luis Reservoir, which is expected to be filled in the next 45 days.

Mr. Speaker, in addition, this weekend, we are going to have a major test in California because forecasters are predicting another atmospheric river that will provide warm storms, which could melt recent snow up in the mountains. When warm water hits that snow, it melts. If that happens, our rivers will carry a deluge of water toward vulnerable communities that we may not be able to protect.

These massive fluctuations, from extreme wet years to extreme dry periods, are a result of climate change, and we need to make smart investments to do a better job to prepare for the new reality. Knowing this, we need to make real changes in how we allow water managers to adjust and focus on real-time operations, not some predetermined date rooted in decades-old data.

I commend Governor Newsom for issuing an executive order to expand California's capacity to capture storm runoff during these wet times by accelerating groundwater recharge projects, which is absolutely necessary.

Last week, the Bureau of Reclamation announced an initial allocation of 35 percent for south-of-the-delta agriculture and water service contractors. We can and should do better. It is understandably a conservative initial allocation, but now we have more heavy rains coming. It is time to raise those allocations to the highest feasible levels. We must divert water to our communities and farmers who are ready and willing to take water to recharge groundwater.

Toward the future, I am working to rewrite the farm bill this year to improve water conservation, enhance opportunities for groundwater recharge so that our overdraft aquifers reach sustainability. The people of the San Joaquin Valley deserve no less.

California, with a new water blueprint needs to invest, invest the \$1.2 trillion in the bipartisan infrastructure law, \$4.5 billion for drought relief. Taking action and mastering real-time

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

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



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management will mean that no one goes without having access to clean drinking water; our farmers can grow food—where water flows, we say food grows—for our country and for other parts of the world that need that food; and our environment can thrive. That is what we must do.

We have a current crisis. We must act now to address that crisis, and that is a challenge we face.

CONGRATULATING MAJOR GENERAL BENJAMIN CORELL ON HIS RETIREMENT

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

Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Major General Benjamin Corell of Strawberry Point, Iowa, for his outstanding service as a 37-year member of the Iowa National Guard.

Major General Corell retired last week after serving as Iowa National Guard's top general since 2019, leading the Guard through the COVID pandemic.

Throughout his decorated career, Major General Corell has deployed overseas to Iraq, Afghanistan, Romania, and Kuwait, and has led several of the National Guard's infantry divisions. He retired with a master's degree and a career full of military awards and accomplishments.

Major General Corell plans to spend his retirement with his wife, Beth, and their seven grandchildren, passing along the values that guided him through his career. All three of his sons are noncommissioned officers in the Iowa Army National Guard. I wish them the very best as they follow in the footsteps of an excellent father and role model.

Coming from a financially challenged family in rural Iowa with no college education, Major General Corell's life journey represents the very best of Iowa and the rest of the country and serves as a shining example for generations to come.

I am grateful for Major General Benjamin Corell's service, and I wish him a relaxing and fulfilling retirement.

O'HARA TRUE VALUE HARDWARE CLOSING AFTER 83 YEARS IN BUSINESS

Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize O'Hara True Value Hardware in Ottumwa, Iowa, which is closing after 83 years in business.

Martin and Florence O'Hara opened the doors of O'Hara Appliance in January of 1940, but before long, the appliance store quickly shifted into a hardware store, too. Martin had offered home repair advice for years, and the shift came naturally.

The O'Haras value being family owned and operated, and their children each grew into employees at the shop, including their son Mike, who ultimately took over the business and who I know well.

For years, Mike O'Hara has continued his family's legacy in Ottumwa, offering the best service and advice for all things plumbing, electrical, automotive, construction, and repairs. You could take in any kind of screw from any kind of product, and they could tell you what it went for and how to replace it.

The store is also famous for having the best Christmas decorations in town, to include live reindeer in a stable outside throughout December.

O'Hara has overcome numerous challenges over the last several decades, including major fires, the flood of 1993, and most recently, the COVID pandemic.

Mike's commitment to serving his community has always remained clear and steadfast. I am proud to know Mike and his family, and I wish him the very best in retirement—they so deserve that—but they are going to be greatly missed. The town will cherish their memories from O'Hara's and we will all miss going there for home repair needs.

HOSTING CUBA'S BORDER GUARD AND MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS IS UNACCEPTABLE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. ROUZER) for 5 minutes.

Mr. ROUZER. Mr. Speaker, I found out on Friday of this past week that Cuba's Border Guard and Ministry of Foreign Affairs had been hosted in the North Carolina congressional district that I am honored to represent. The Wilmington Port facilities visit was planned and authorized by the Department of Homeland Security and the Department of State.

As one of our Nation's oldest adversaries and a state sponsor of terrorism, Cuba's Communist Government is no friend of the United States or anyone else who believes in freedom. Cuba has a history of being a strategic Western asset to our greatest adversaries, including China, Russia, and Iran, and they regularly cooperate with narcotics traffickers, bringing cocaine, fentanyl, and other deadly drugs to our country.

Now I am told this trip, as well as others in the past, have been arranged as part of a reciprocal relationship to turn back Cubans fleeing to the United States. We apparently have this arrangement where we view their ports and security protocols, and they view ours.

There is no reason any nation with a state sponsor of terrorism designation should be hosted by the United States, let alone be allowed to analyze sensitive coastal and maritime security protocols. Ironically, the decision to designate Cuba as a state sponsor of terrorism and the decision to authorize this trip were made by the same agencies. This action flies in the face of the purpose of both the Department of

Homeland Security and the Department of State and makes a mockery of American strength against our adversaries.

The shores of North Carolina's Seventh Congressional District are used and enjoyed by its residents and countless tourists from across the country. It is our responsibility to ensure the security of our maritime borders, and our Coast Guard often serves as the first line of defense against these threats.

Mr. Speaker, this visit was a clear national security risk. I don't know how one could view it otherwise. The bottom line is, this visit should never have happened, and the American people deserve to know what steps were taken to protect our national security interests.

HONORING THE LEGACY OF EDWARD FORD WEBER

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

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the productive life of the Honorable Congressman Edward Ford Weber of Toledo, Ohio, a gifted lawyer and a man for others.

Throughout his life and during his congressional service, beginning in 1981, he worked hard to serve the people of northwest Ohio during those tumultuous economic times.

He was a gentleman and a veteran, dedicated to his family, to our community of Toledo, and to our country. He earned a Phi Beta Kappa from Denison University, was president of his fraternity, and captain of the men's tennis team. He was married to the love of his life, Alice Hammerstrom, for 66 years. They reared three wonderful children, six grandchildren, and one great-granddaughter.

Ed was committed to education and to music, as well. He tutored children in reading within the Toledo public school system, some of our most challenged neighborhoods, in addition to the teaching he did at the University of Toledo Law School.

Ed practiced law in Toledo for nearly half a century at Marshall Melhorn first, and then eventually founded his own firm and generously kept giving of himself to numerous endeavors to improve Toledo: Our zoo; the Toledo Museum of History, which is world class; the Boy Scouts; the YMCA; the Toledo Museum of Art, also world class; the Red Cross; and numerous charitable foundations. He kept giving back, through his deep commitment to the people of Toledo and surrounding communities, and we needed him. He understood the impact and importance of civic duty.

Today, America salutes Edward Ford Weber for his lifelong, noble, honorable service. We honor and remember his constructive life and the ethic that imbued his spirit.

The last time I had the pleasure of seeing him was at the Toledo Club. He

had a Wednesday group, and all these guys would meet. They basically had formally retired from their professions, but they really didn't retire from life, and they were having one great time.

Our prayers are extended to his loved ones. May they be comforted by the love and memories they hold in their hearts, and may the angels carry their beloved husband, father, and grandfather to a place of peace and joy.

□ 1215

HONORING PENN STATE UNIVERSITY STUDENTS FOR THEIR FUNDRAISING FOR CHILDHOOD CANCER

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor, thank, and express my sincerest gratitude for an incredible group of students at Penn State University.

This group of students have spent the last year dedicating countless hours to support a fantastic cause benefiting pediatric cancer patients. I am talking about THON.

This year-long fundraising effort culminates in an annual 46-hour dance marathon to support more than 4,500 families financially and emotionally with children who are battling cancer.

On February 17, Penn State students, staff, family, friends, volunteers, and spectators filled the Bryce Jordan Center for the 51st Penn State IFC/Panhellenic Dance Marathon, more widely known as THON, to raise money for the Four Diamonds Foundation.

THON was founded in 1973 by Penn State fraternities and sororities. What began as a small fundraiser bringing in \$2,000 in its inaugural year has flourished into a campus-wide effort with more than 16,000 student volunteers across the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

In 1977, THON partnered with the Four Diamonds Foundation, and since then, not a single Four Diamonds family has received a medical bill thanks to the tireless work and dedication of Penn State students.

The Four Diamonds Foundation was founded by Charles and Irma Millard in 1972 after their son, Christopher, lost his battle with cancer at 11 years old. Before Christopher passed away, he wrote a story about a great knight who sought out the four diamonds of courage, wisdom, honesty, and strength to be saved from the evil sorceress. His parents realized those four qualities were all necessary to overcome cancer, and they created the Four Diamonds Foundation in his memory.

Over the past 50 years, THON has grown into the largest student-run philanthropy in the world.

Students stood from 6 p.m. on Friday, February 17 until 4 p.m. on Sunday, February 19. While it was an im-

pressive feat to hold, what is even more incredible is the drive, fortitude, and flexibility these students showed in their commitment to this cause.

This year, Penn State students raised a record \$15,006,132.46, and to date, students have shattered records and raised more than \$200 million, making THON the largest student-run philanthropic effort in the world.

Of course, their dedication is to be applauded, but ask any Penn State student, and they will agree: THON isn't about them. It is about the children and the families fighting cancer.

THON is for the kids, and it is for the families to focus on celebrating more birthdays, piano recitals, science fairs, graduations, and every other milestone a child should celebrate without fear.

THON exists so one day parents never have to hear the words: "Your child has cancer."

Mr. Speaker, I am proud of these students, but more importantly, I am proud of the children and the families who have the courage to fight back against pediatric cancer.

Congratulations once again to everyone involved in this year's THON. We are.

ADDRESSING THE REPUBLIC OF TÜRKIYE

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

Mr. SANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to address the Republic of Türkiye—the more I learn, the more I am appalled that they are allowed to remain in the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

From their historic and well-documented persecution of Armenians, human rights abuses—even today—and their objections to Sweden and Finland joining NATO, why do we keep or even trust Türkiye as a partner in maintaining world order?

In major issues related to Iran, Syria, Russia, Armenia, and Azerbaijan, Türkiye is involved and not always helpful to our interests. It is time to rethink this arrangement.

My district in New York has a sizable population of Armenian descendants, multigeneration, first generation, and new arrivals. These citizens have close ties and legitimate concerns about what is going on over there in Armenia.

To my constituents: Yes, I will co-sponsor H. Res. 108, but I will also ask this legislative body and my friends in the Senate to reconsider our continued partnership with Türkiye.

PROTECTING THE NATURAL FAMILY IS ESSENTIAL FOR OUR NATION TO PROSPER

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

Mrs. MILLER of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, for years we have witnessed a con-

certed effort by activists on the left to abolish the natural family.

The natural family, a man and woman committed for life to each other and to their children, was ordained by God as the foundation of our society. The natural family is essential for our Nation to prosper because the family is the root of self-government, service, community, personal responsibility, and faith in God.

That is why today I am launching the Congressional Family Caucus. The Congressional Family Caucus will serve to defend the natural family from attempts by the radical left to erode this core foundation of our society.

The left advances abortion, fatherlessness, surgical castration, and atheism. These woke progressives attempt to diminish parental rights by eliminating parental consent and replacing families with the State.

Families are the bedrock of our values and protectors of our youth. According to Deuteronomy 6, in the context of traditional family in the home, we are to diligently instruct our children to love God and to obey His commandments.

I believe we have a moral obligation as servant Representatives to protect and to conserve the family. Families have made this country great. I am honored to be joined by Representative DIANA HARSHBARGER from Tennessee and Representative BRIAN BABIN from Texas in our efforts to protect the family.

CHILDREN'S INNOCENCE MUST BE PROTECTED

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

Ms. GREENE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, today I announce that I am reintroducing my bill, the Protect Children's Innocence Act. This bill will stop gender-affirming care on children. It will protect children from the heinous and evil ideology that is grooming kids and making a profit off of horrific surgeries that mutilate their genitals, give them life-altering medications like puberty blockers, hormone therapy that will have permanent damage to their bodies for the rest of their lives before these kids are even grown up, before they have graduated from high school, before they are old enough to vote, before they are old enough to get a tattoo—ink on their own skin—before they are old enough to join the military, before they are old enough to make adult decisions.

This is an important bill that Congress must pass.

My bill will charge any person who knowingly performs gender-affirming care on a minor with a Class C felony. It will prohibit all taxpayer-funded gender-affirming care. It will prohibit institutions of higher education from providing instruction on gender-affirming care.

There is nothing affirming about lying to children that they can change

their gender because you cannot change your gender.

My bill will deem aliens who are determined to have performed gender-affirming care on a minor as ineligible to receive visas or be admitted into the United States.

We need to take a strong stand in the United States of America that we do not abuse our children or sexualize them in any way.

This is an important bill that must be passed, and I will give you some examples.

In 2021, there was a father in Texas who lost custody of his twin 7-year-old sons because he attempted to stop one of the boys from transitioning his gender. The mother began transitioning the boy when he was only 2 years old and then tried to enroll him in a pediatric gender clinic at age 5. This child, this young boy, needs to be protected, and his father has the rights to do it. They didn't give him his rights.

Last summer, Boston Children's Hospital released videos promoting gender dysphoria and offering sterilization, castration, and mutilation of children. These videos not only explained its genital mutilation surgeries, but they were also promoting these surgeries to kids and their parents. By the way, this is for profit.

Also, just recently, Jamie Reed, who worked at one of more than 100 pediatric gender clinics across the United States, publicly came out to discuss the atrocities happening to children at these gender clinics.

When a female takes testosterone, the profound and permanent effects of the hormone can be seen in a matter of months. Voices drop, beards sprout, body fat is redistributed, sexual interest explodes, aggression increases, and mood can be unpredictable. One of the side effects includes sterility.

As a matter of fact, after only 4 to 5 years of taking testosterone, there have been many young women under the age of 18 that have had to have hysterectomies because of the damage done inside of them.

Even more horrific is the Governor of California, Gavin Newsom, signed a bill into law to provide refuge for trans kids and their families. This bill will protect trans kids and their families that flee to California from States like Alabama, Texas, or Idaho, or any other State criminalizing the parents of trans kids for allowing them to receive gender-affirming care.

My bill will protect these children and stop a State like California and the monsters and the groomers and the child predators in that State that look to damage them before they ever grow up.

There are many States that are working hard to protect kids, but we don't have enough States doing it. That is why it is the responsibility of Republicans in Congress to protect children.

This is imperative.

We know what the left is trying to do, and we should have listened to

them when they told us. Remember the San Francisco men's choir actually singing a song announcing that they are coming for our children? That is a threat that we should not ignore.

We have had enough with drag queen shows in elementary schools and middle schools and high schools. We have had enough of drag queens gyrating in front of children in the public square.

These groomers and child predators must be stopped because they are sexualizing children for profit in a multibillion-dollar medical industry that looks to grow and grow. Something must be done to protect the sacred identity of children because God made children and God made all of us, male and female, in His image, and God doesn't make mistakes.

I urge every single Republican and all Members of Congress to cosponsor my bill. We must get it passed. This isn't just a Republican issue. This is an issue across the board. All voters agree.

UNION POWER IS DIMINISHING

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

Ms. SALINAS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the PRO Act.

My family's story is an American one. A union one. It is the story of how a good-paying union job gave a family of immigrants and first-generation Americans a pathway out of poverty and into the middle class.

Sadly, stories like mine are harder to find these days. Unions have seen their power diminished as the American Dream grows further and further out of reach for the average working family. That is why I am so proud to be an original cosponsor of the Protecting the Right to Organize Act because it is time to make that dream a reality again.

The PRO Act will empower Oregonians and all Americans to exercise their right to organize, hold employers accountable for violating their rights, and participate in free and fair union elections.

This landmark legislation will go a long way toward protecting the most vulnerable workers who courageously showed up for their communities even during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic. From teachers to nurses to home care workers, these people—many of whom are women and women of color—are everyday heroes, and they deserve to be treated with dignity and respect.

□ 1230

In 2022, America's unionization rate fell to its lowest on record, but in Oregon, we reached new heights.

Our State is home to 318,000 proud unionized workers, making up about 18 percent of our workforce. In fact, we are now the fourth most unionized State in America, something I know Oregonians and we all should be proud of.

In the face of record-breaking corporate profits and a growing wealth gap, workers in Oregon have united to champion a deeply American cause: economic opportunity for all.

From Starbucks to Fred Meyer, Naticco to Burgerville, working Oregonians from all walks of life are coming together to say we have had enough. We have had enough of corporate greed and union busting. We have had enough of wage stagnation and dangerous work environments. We have had enough of fighting tooth and nail for the benefits that we deserve. We have had enough.

Now, the burden falls on us. As lawmakers, we have a duty to answer the rising call for change. We have a duty to not only protect good-paying jobs but to expand that opportunity for everyone because, at the end of the day, America is only as strong as its middle class.

Let's pass the PRO Act and show the world how strong we really are.

PROTECTING THE TRADITIONAL FAMILY

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

Mrs. HARSHBARGER. Mr. Speaker, I start by saying I am honored to be the co-chair of the Congressional Family Caucus.

We have seen the decline of the traditional family for many years, and it is not by chance this has occurred. We have come to a point in society that the restoration of the family is of the utmost importance.

Russell Kirk wrote about the problem this way: "We cannot feel any affection for our country unless we first love those near to us. The conservative feels that the family is the natural source and core of any good society; that when the family decays, a dreary collectivism is sure to supplant it; and that the principal instrument of moral instruction, ordinary education, and satisfactory economic life always must remain the family."

Kirk goes on to say: "Now very powerful forces are at work to diminish the influence of the family among us, and even to destroy the family for all purposes except mere generation. Some of these forces are material and unintentional: . . . cheap amusements and transportation, which encourage members of the family to spend nearly all their time outside the family circle; the assumption of the old educational functions of the family by public schools . . ."

He continues: "But other forces hostile to the family are not merely impersonal and unconscious; they are more or less deliberate, and they may be countered by intelligent action in the social and educational and political spheres. The chief of these ominous forces is the deliberate desire of certain people to have the political state assume nearly all the responsibilities

which the family once possessed. This movement is the most thorough and disastrous form of collectivism.

"The shrewd totalitarian mentality knows well the powers of intimate kinship and religious devotion for keeping alive in a population values and incentives which might well, in the future, serve as the basis of resistance. Thus to emancipate each member, and especially the younger members, from the family was an absolute necessity. And this planned spiritual alienation from kinship was accomplished, not only through the negative processes of spying and informing, but through the sapping of the functional foundations of family membership and through the substitution of new and attractive political roles for each of the social roles embodied in the family structure. . . . What the totalitarian must have for the realization of his design is a spiritual and cultural vacuum."

He goes on to list some of the deliberate techniques of the mass state for undermining the family.

Number one is: "Taking the instruction of children entirely away from their parents by the official adoption of theories that prescribe 'educating the whole child' in the state schools, with a corresponding depreciation of parental intelligence and rights."

Number two is: "Creating 'youth organizations' to take young people quite out of the sphere of the family in their leisure hours and to indoctrinate them in the ideology of the mass state."

The third is: "Abolishing the inheritance of family property, through confiscatory inheritance taxes or through income tax policies that leave small margin for family saving."

The fourth one is: "Planned encouragement of divorce, 'sexual freedom,' and 'deprivatization of women,' through positive legislation or official propaganda, with the aim of weakening the bonds of affection within the family that offer a strong barrier to the wishes of the total state."

"The traditional family—which, like many old-fashioned things, is an indispensable thing—gives us those roots without which we all would be just so many lonely little atoms of humanity, unprincipled and at the mercy of some iron political domination."

Do you know when this little book was written, Mr. Speaker? That was written in 1957.

Kirk's insights about family, the importance of private property, education, religion, and a dozen other subjects not only remain completely sound but now seem downright prophetic.

We were being warned about the attacks on the family unit more than 60 years ago. That is why, as chosen leaders, we have the responsibility to protect the sanctity of the traditional family because marriage and family are institutions unique to human beings among all of God's creation.

In modern-day wording by the author Tim Clinton in a book from 2021, he says this: "Suffice it to say that the

deterioration of the American family is the source of nearly every symptom of cultural decline, from criminal activity to plunging academic performances, from damaged mental health to poor physical health, from rising poverty to shredded social networks."

HONORING JACK HOLDER

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

Mr. BIGGS. Mr. Speaker, I have the privilege today of honoring Jack Holder, who passed away on February 24, 2023, at the age of 101.

Jack was a constituent and a U.S. Navy veteran of the attack on Pearl Harbor, the Battle of Midway, Guadalcanal, and dozens upon dozens of missions in support of the Allied Forces during World War II.

Born Joseph Norman Holder on December 13, 1921, Jack was raised in a farming family in Gunter, Texas. Jack's father served in the trenches of World War I, and his uncle flew crop dusters over the family farm.

With that heritage, it was only natural that combat aviation was a fit for Jack when he joined the U.S. Navy on April 24, 1940, at 18 years old.

Jack attended boot camp and trained as an aviation machinist and mechanic in San Diego. He was then assigned to a flying boat squadron based on Ford Island in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii.

Jack recalled how, soon after he lined up for roll call that fateful Sunday morning, the first bomb was dropped on Pearl Harbor only about 100 yards from him.

He wrote how he heard "the screaming aircraft with the rising sun insignia and loud explosions," and how, "as I looked up, I saw a plane circle and head straight for us, so we jumped in a nearby ditch."

Jack never forgot that moment, seeing the face of the pilot, hearing the roar of the plane's engine, and the sight of his guns aimed right at him. Nor did he ever forget the prayer he offered: "God, don't let me die in this ditch."

Thankfully, Jack was spared, and that ditch would become a makeshift machine gun nest that he would man for the next 3 days.

After the attack at Pearl Harbor, Jack flew missions in support of Hawaii and Midway. At Midway, Jack's aircraft was the second to spot the Japanese fleet, but his was the first to transmit the fleet's position clearly to the USS *Yorktown*.

Jack's crew would later fly 48 missions in support of the Solomon Islands campaign, including at Guadalcanal. Jack then transitioned to a Navy variant of the B-24, performing in 56 anti-sub patrols in the English Channel and assisting in sinking a German submarine.

In total, Jack flew over 100 missions and was one of the select few who flew combat missions in both the European and Pacific theaters.

For his brave service, he was twice awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross and received six Air Medals, a Presidential citation, and six commendation medals. Jack was honorably discharged in 1948 and would go on to become a pilot and an aviation engineer.

My office honored Jack several years ago at my Salute to Veterans event celebrating Veterans Day. I have heard over the years from constituents and veterans who attended the event that the retelling of Jack's courageous acts during and after the attack on Pearl Harbor formed a lasting impression that will remain in their hearts and minds forever.

Jack, you were more than a constituent. You were a hero, a patriot, and a good friend. You gave so much to preserve this Nation in the face of tyranny. Your love for these United States, our Constitution, and our freedom were an inspiration to so many, and I pray that future generations will appreciate and follow your example.

Fair winds and following seas, my friend. You will never be forgotten.

RECESS

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

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 40 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1400

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker at 2 p.m.

PRAYER

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

O Lord, our God, we look to You, to the mountains You have formed, to the heavens where You dwell, and still we find ourselves asking, where does our help come from? Sometimes when we don't look in Your direction at all, the answers we so desperately look for are that much more elusive.

O maker of heaven and Earth, remind us again that our help comes from You. You will not let our steps slip when our path is difficult. You will stay awake with us in the anxiety of our sleeplessness.

Be our shade in the heat of this day: the heat of argument, the fever of illness, the firestorms of hatred.

Keep us from all harm that threatens us: the hurt from an ill-meaning word, the dangers of public service, the injury of our own forms of self-destruction.

Watch over us this day. In the comings and goings from meetings to meetings and in the travel that brings us

here to serve, watch over our lives, now and forever more.

Into Your everlasting arms we find Your hope, and in Your eternal name we pray.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the Chamber the approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1 of rule I, the Journal of the last day's proceedings is approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. GARCIA) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. GARCIA of Texas 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.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Ms. Byrd, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has passed a bill of the following title in which the concurrence of the House is requested:

S. 645. An act to require the Attorney General to propose a program for making treatment for post-traumatic stress disorder and acute stress disorder available to public safety officers, and for other purposes.

TIME TO STOP RUNAWAY SPENDING

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

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, if you lined up the \$10 trillion that the Congressional Budget Office reports we will owe as interest on our national debt, if you line that up in \$100 bills, it would stretch from New York City to Los Angeles and then back again.

This money does nothing to keep us safe, it does nothing to fund Medicare, and it does nothing to secure our border.

This debt has caused skyrocketing inflation. It has decimated savings accounts. It has mortgaged our Nation's future all for short-term political gain. It is time to stop the runaway spending on Green New Deal priorities that fail to help the American people.

When President Biden unveils his budget on Thursday, it must include a plan to reduce our debt. It must return to commonsense fiscal restraint and protect American taxpayers who cannot afford to keep wasting money on reckless budget proposals.

PEOPLE OVER POLITICS

(Ms. GARCIA of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House

for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. GARCIA of Texas. Mr. Speaker, House Democrats have always put people over politics, but House Republicans continue to prioritize their own power and pocketbooks instead of solving problems.

House Democrats have lowered kitchen table costs for Americans by lowering healthcare coverage prices, capping out-of-pocket drug costs for seniors, and giving Medicare the power to negotiate lower prices.

Additionally, we have helped make clean energy more affordable to American families through rebates and tax credits.

Meanwhile, House Republicans continue threatening to raise taxes on families and cut Social Security and Medicare funding.

Our seniors are dependent on these vital programs.

These extreme MAGA Republicans are focused on political games at the risk of thousands of Americans' livelihoods.

I will always put people over politics today, tomorrow, and every day.

People over politics.

RECOGNIZING WINCHESTER RESCUE MISSION

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

Mr. CLINE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the Winchester Rescue Mission on celebrating 50 years of caring for the homeless in our community.

In July of 1973, Morris Whitaker took out a \$20,000 loan and bought a building to convert it into a homeless shelter for men, and the rescue mission was born.

Over a decade later, the rescue mission extensively expanded its operations to help more people in need, adding a commercial kitchen, and increasing the number of beds.

Most recently, the current CEO and executive director, Brandon Thomas, spearheaded the opening of a new four-bed shelter for women in a single-family home and purchased a separate building to add 15 more beds for displaced women.

Brandon now has plans to convert a former restaurant into a homeless shelter later this year on Valley Avenue in Winchester.

This new venture will offer even more services to help local residents without permanent housing address mental health and addiction issues, learn how to properly care for themselves, and find jobs and affordable housing.

Communities all over the country face the, at times, daunting task of caring for large numbers of homeless people, but under Brandon's leadership, and the four others who led prior, the Winchester Rescue Mission has proven that with compassion, commitment,

and selfless love to folks who need it most, anything is possible.

Congratulations again to the Winchester Rescue Mission, and I wish them another 50 years of success.

OUR NATION'S DEBT THREATENS FAMILIES

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, America is heavily in debt and living beyond its means.

Last month, the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office issued a report projecting a Federal budget deficit of \$1.4 trillion for 2023. Further, the net interest on our national debt will amount to a \$10.5 trillion burden in taxes for families over the next decade destroying jobs.

The Nation has had a record increase in revenue, but unfortunately, under Biden and the Democrats, spending has surpassed the amount of money raised. This reckless and irresponsible spending has led to horrific debt as a threat to our children and grandchildren.

The newly elected House Republican majority led by Speaker KEVIN MCCARTHY is committed to creating jobs with an economy that is strong and fiscally responsible.

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

I thank Tucker Carlson for last night's "Tucker Investigates" about January 6, which Glenn Beck has correctly identified as every level has been lying about January 6.

The truth has finally been revealed.

ANTIFA SHOULD BE DESIGNATED AS A DOMESTIC TERRORIST ORGANIZATION

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

Ms. GREENE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I announce that I am introducing a House Resolution to designate antifa as a domestic terrorist organization.

America has had enough of these terrorists.

Just this past weekend, antifa-affiliated rioters set fire to the future Atlanta police training facility by attacking it, an organized attack that is all captured on video. Molotov cocktails and other destructive items, fireworks were fired at police officers, and the construction site was set on fire causing much damage.

There were over 30 people arrested.

Now, here is the issue: only two of them were actually from Georgia. The rest of them were from other places in the country, and several of them were from other countries like France and Canada. One of them happened to be an

attorney for the Southern Poverty Law Center. That is disgraceful.

This all comes on the heels of antifa terrorizing Americans for years now.

Never forget in the summer of 2020, antifa caused over \$2 billion in damage; setting fires to cities, businesses, attacking police officers, and killing people. Yet over 95 percent of those arrested had their charges dropped.

HOUSE REPUBLICANS DEMAND TRANSPARENCY

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

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, for over 2 years, many institutions, Federal agencies, and the mainstream media demonized anyone who suggested that COVID-19 leaked from the Wuhan Institute of Virology.

Senator TOM COTTON was ridiculed for simply suggesting that the lab leak was a possibility.

Leading scientists, doctors, and pundits were censored for questioning the natural origins theory promoted by Dr. Anthony Fauci, the NIH, and CDC.

Now, FBI Director Chris Wray and the Department of Energy are reporting that the pandemic most likely originated from a lab leak in Wuhan.

Big Tech and the media worked to actively suppress this theory and ridiculed anyone who promoted it.

At a time when accurate information was vital to saving lives, the people and institutions who we trusted to tell the truth lied to the American people and worked to hide important information.

House Republicans have been demanding transparency on the origins of COVID since the pandemic began.

We must get to the truth of how this pandemic started so that we can protect ourselves from future possible outbreaks.

Americans deserve to know the truth about their government, what it knew, and when it knew it. We must restore faith and trust in government and institutions, and that starts with transparency and accountability.

RECOGNIZING HERNANDO COUNTY RESIDENTS

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

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the incredible effort of my Hernando County constituents from Brooksville, Florida, who mobilized rapidly under the skillful leadership of Hernando County Sheriff Al Nienhuis to search for 2-year-old JJ Rowland, who went missing 24 hours earlier.

Against all hope, Sheriff Nienhuis and his team of dedicated professionals coordinated a colossal effort with hundreds of volunteers in their search for little JJ.

Through the powers of prayer and the remarkable instincts of volunteer Roy Link, a retired marine, the sweet, precious child was found safe and sound deep in the woods, a mile and a half from the home he wandered from. What a miracle, Mr. Speaker.

I am so proud and honored to represent this loving and faithful community.

God bless them all.

I thank all who prayed for this wonderful little boy.

MOURNING THE LOSS OF LINWOOD HOLLAND

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

Mrs. KIGGANS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and memory of a member of the Greatest Generation, a Congressional Gold Medal recipient, an American hero: Montford Point Marine Corporal Linwood Holland.

A constituent of Virginia's Second Congressional District, Corporal Holland passed away in Suffolk on February 16 at the age of 99 years old. He leaves behind a legacy of bravery, perseverance, and love of country.

In 1942, Linwood Holland traveled to Richmond, Virginia, to enlist in the United States war effort. In the face of adversity and discrimination, he became one of the first Black Americans to serve in the Marine Corps.

Over the course of World War II, more than 20,000 Montford Point marines served in segregated units. Corporal Holland served our Nation and the Marine Corps honorably, fighting in the consequential battles of Guadalcanal, Iwo Jima, and Okinawa.

He courageously paved the way for future generations of Black Americans and U.S. Marines.

The Suffolk community, the Commonwealth of Virginia, and the United States as a whole has lost a valiant member of the Greatest Generation.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in mourning the loss of Corporal Holland and honoring this American hero for his service.

□ 1415

PACIFIC ISLAND COUNTRIES CALL FOR RUSSIA TO END WAR IN UKRAINE

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

Mrs. RADEWAGEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the five Pacific Island countries in Micronesia that, at their summit in February, called for Russia to end its war against Ukraine.

Following their summit, these countries—Marshall Islands, Palau, Federated States of Micronesia, Kiribati, and Nauru—joined a U.N. General Assembly resolution demanding that Rus-

sia immediately and unconditionally withdraw all of its military forces from Ukraine.

Mr. Speaker, last September, I addressed the Pacific Islands Conference of Leaders—the heads of all Pacific governments, independent and territorial alike. At that gathering, I urged the leaders to resist any overtures by China until China also demands Russia stop its war with Ukraine: “Before you even think about negotiating any agreements with Beijing, you should be asking China to live up to international standards on climate change.”

I concluded by asking them to use their “international leverage and prestige to tell China not to support Russia in any way in its unjust war in Ukraine.”

Job well done by America's friends in the Pacific. “Farewell and may you be well,” “Soifua ma ia e manuia.”

ELECTING MEMBERS TO THE JOINT COMMITTEE OF CONGRESS ON THE LIBRARY AND THE JOINT COMMITTEE ON PRINTING

Mr. STEIL. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on House Administration be discharged from further consideration of H. Res. 194, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. CISCOMANI). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Wisconsin?

There was no objection.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 194

Resolved,

SECTION 1. ELECTION OF MEMBERS TO JOINT COMMITTEE OF CONGRESS ON THE LIBRARY AND JOINT COMMITTEE ON PRINTING.

(a) JOINT COMMITTEE OF CONGRESS ON THE LIBRARY.—The following Members are hereby elected to the Joint Committee of Congress on the Library, to serve with the chair of the Committee on House Administration and the chair of the Subcommittee on the Legislative Branch of the Committee on Appropriations:

- (1) Mr. Carey.
- (2) Mr. Morelle.
- (3) Ms. Sewell.

(b) JOINT COMMITTEE ON PRINTING.—The following Members are hereby elected to the Joint Committee on Printing, to serve with the chair of the Committee on House Administration:

- (1) Mr. Griffith.
- (2) Mr. Murphy.
- (3) Mr. Morelle.
- (4) Mr. Kilmer.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE DEMOCRATIC LEADER

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Honorable HAKEEM JEFFRIES, Democratic Leader:

MARCH 6, 2023.

Hon. KEVIN MCCARTHY,
Speaker of the House,
Washington, DC.

DEAR SPEAKER MCCARTHY: Pursuant to Section 4(c) of House Resolution 5, 118th Congress, I am pleased to appoint the following Member to the Tom Lantos Human Rights Commission to serve as the Democratic Co-chairman:

The Honorable James P. McGovern of Massachusetts.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

HAKEEM JEFFRIES,
Democratic Leader.

COMMUNICATION FROM FIELD REPRESENTATIVE/CASEWORKER, THE HONORABLE LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ, MEMBER OF CONGRESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from Jacob Wolak, Field Representative/Caseworker, the Honorable LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ, Member of Congress:

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, February 16, 2023.

Hon. KEVIN MCCARTHY,
Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: This is to notify you formally, pursuant to Rule VIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, that I, Jacob Wolak, Field Representative/Caseworker for the Honorable Linda T. Sánchez, U.S. Representative for the 38th congressional district of California, have been served with a subpoena for testimony issued by the Superior Court of Los Angeles County, State of California.

After consultation with the Office of General Counsel, I have determined that compliance with the subpoena is consistent with the privileges and rights of the House.

Sincerely,

JACOB WOLAK,
Field Representative/Caseworker.

RECESS

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

Accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 19 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1703

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. FRY) at 5 o'clock and 3 minutes p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or votes objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

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

REPAYMENT OF MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES FOR CONTRIBUTIONS TOWARD POST-9/11 EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE

Mr. BOST. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 502) to amend title 38, United States Code, to ensure that the Secretary of Veterans Affairs repays members of the Armed Forces for certain contributions made by such members towards Post-9/11 Educational Assistance, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 502

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

SECTION 1. REPAYMENT OF MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES FOR CONTRIBUTIONS TOWARD POST-9/11 EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 3327(f)(3) of title 38, United States Code, is amended by striking “together” and all that follows through “(as applicable).”.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall take effect on August 1, 2023.

SEC. 2. MODIFICATION OF CERTAIN HOUSING LOAN FEES.

The loan fee table in section 3729(b)(2) of title 38, United States Code, is amended by striking “November 14, 2031” each place it appears and inserting “November 28, 2031”.

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

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BOST. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks on H.R. 502, as amended.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of Representative BANKS' bill, H.R. 502, as amended. I am pleased to support Representative BANKS' bill to ensure that all servicemembers who have paid into the GI Bill are properly repaid. This bill would close the financial loophole that prevents at least 25,000 Active-Duty servicemembers from receiving the repayments they are due.

Under current law, a servicemember who switches from Montgomery to the Post-9/11 GI Bill would lose \$1,200 that they paid into the program if they exhausted their benefits while still on Active Duty. Veterans who exhaust their benefits already receive the \$1,200 back.

Representative BANKS' bill would fix this policy to ensure that servicemem-

bers and veterans who are pursuing a higher education degree are treated equally.

Servicemembers have earned this benefit by protecting our country. They should not be short changed just because they are getting an education while still on Active Duty.

This bill would include a short-term extension of VA home loan funding fees to fully offset the cost of this bill.

I thank The American Legion for bringing this problem to our attention. I also thank Congressman BANKS for reintroducing this important bill that will make a big difference for thousands of Active-Duty servicemen and -women.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to support H.R. 502, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 502, as amended, legislation to ensure veterans can recoup the money they paid into the Montgomery GI Bill.

Under current law, veterans who do not fully access their Montgomery GI Bill can lose out on the payments they made into the program, in some cases totaling up to \$1,200.

The Montgomery GI Bill is in the process of being phased out for the more generous Forever GI Bill. Many veterans may not remember the \$1,200 they paid into the program in their early days of service or even be aware that they are entitled to a refund of the unused funds. The process to reclaim that \$1,200 can be difficult, and there are times when the veteran can simply lose out on the money because they waited too long.

This legislation eliminates that cumbersome process by making it so that the veteran is repaid, no questions asked.

The bill is fully offset, and it is supported by the veterans service organizations community, including by Student Veterans of America.

I thank Representative BANKS for his work on this legislation and the VSO community for bringing this issue to our committee. We were able to pass this legislation under the House last fall, but unfortunately, the Senate was unable to consider it. That is why I am thankful we can consider this bill early in 2023, giving our colleagues in the Senate plenty of time to complete it. No disrespect to the Senate, Mr. Speaker.

I urge the rest of my colleagues to support this legislation to ensure no veteran loses out on what is owed to them, and I certainly hope that Members of the House who aspire to be Senators will remember what it is like to be a House Member and make sure this never happens again.

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

Mr. BOST. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BANKS), the sponsor of this legislation.

Mr. BANKS. Mr. Speaker, I thank the chairman for yielding, and I appreciate his leadership on all issues related to our veterans in this great country. I appreciate the comments from the ranking member, as well, and his leadership of this committee over the last few years, too.

Mr. Speaker, this legislation is simple. It closes an unintentional loophole in the law that hurts many of our Nation's veterans. It would equalize the treatment of servicemembers and veterans who paid into the Montgomery GI Bill, or the MGIB, but later used the Post-9/11 GI Bill.

Presently, veterans may choose between the MGIB and the Post-9/11 GI Bill, both of which help pay for their education.

The MGIB requires a \$100 monthly fee for the first 12 months of Active Duty. The quirk is that \$1,200 is then refunded to servicemembers only as an attachment to their housing allowance. For veterans who do not receive a housing allowance from the VA, they also haven't been receiving the \$1,200 that they are entitled to.

This is a complicated issue that no one ever intended to happen, but this bill closes the loophole by directing the VA to make the repayment before the servicemember exhausts their education assistance.

I appreciate the support for the bill. I hope that the people's House will pass it today so that we can fix this unintentional problem and do something important to help our veterans.

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers.

Mr. Speaker, I ask all of my colleagues to join me to pass H.R. 502, as amended, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. BOST. Mr. Speaker, once again, I encourage all Members to support this legislation. I also want to join with the ranking member in telling the Senate that this is a really good bill and that they should take it up right away. We want to encourage them to do that.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. BOST) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 502, as amended.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS CREATION OF ON-SITE TREATMENT SYSTEMS AFFORDING VETERANS IMPROVEMENTS AND NUMEROUS GENERAL SAFETY ENHANCEMENTS ACT

Mr. BOST. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 753) to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to use on-site regu-

lated medical waste treatment systems at certain Department of Veterans Affairs facilities, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 753

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 "Department of Veterans Affairs Creation of On-Site Treatment Systems Affording Veterans Improvements and Numerous General Safety Enhancements Act" or the "VA COST SAVINGS Enhancements Act".

SEC. 2. USE OF ON-SITE REGULATED MEDICAL WASTE TREATMENT SYSTEMS AT DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS FACILITIES.

(a) IDENTIFICATION OF FACILITIES.—The Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall identify Department of Veterans Affairs facilities that would benefit from cost savings associated with the use of an on-site regulated medical waste treatment system over a five-year period.

(b) REGULATED MEDICAL WASTE COST ANALYSIS MODEL.—For purposes of carrying out subsection (a), the Secretary shall develop a uniform regulated medical waste cost analysis model to be used to determine the cost savings associated with the use of an on-site regulated medical waste treatment system at Department facilities. Such model shall be designed to calculate savings based on—

(1) the cost of treating regulated medical waste at an off-site location under a contract with a non-Department entity; compared to

(2) the cost of treating regulated medical waste on-site, based on the equipment specification of treatment system manufacturers, with capital costs amortized over a ten-year period.

(c) INSTALLATION.—At each Department facility identified under subsection (a), the Secretary shall secure, install, and operate an on-site regulated medical waste treatment system.

(d) REGULATED MEDICAL WASTE DEFINED.—In this section, the term "regulated medical waste" has the meaning given such term under section 173.134(a)(5) of title 49, Code of Federal Regulations, concerning regulated medical waste and infectious substances, or any successor regulation, except that, in the case of an applicable State law that is more expansive, the definition in the State law shall apply.

SEC. 3. NO ADDITIONAL FUNDS AUTHORIZED.

No additional funds are authorized to be appropriated to carry out the requirements of this Act.

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

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BOST. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks on H.R. 753, as amended.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of my bill, H.R. 753, as amended, the VA COST SAVINGS Enhancements Act. I am proud to reintroduce this bill this Congress.

This bill will require the VA to conduct a medical waste cost analysis at VA medical centers nationwide. This would identify VA facilities where it would be more cost-effective to install waste incinerators on-site rather than contracting a third party to ship medical waste to be destroyed off-site.

Only around 20 percent of our VA facilities have a medical waste system installed. My bill would change that. In return, it will save VA tens of millions of dollars annually.

By supporting my bill, we would create a safer and cleaner environment at our VA hospitals. We would also be better stewards of taxpayers' dollars without diminishing services to our veterans.

Our Nation's veterans deserve the safest medical practices, and nothing, including waste management, should fall short of that. This bill is a win-win.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to join me today in support of H.R. 753, as amended, and I reserve the balance of my time.

□ 1715

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 753, as amended, the VA COST SAVINGS Enhancements Act. This bill will require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to develop an analytical model to compare the costs of off-site versus on-site regulated medical waste treatment.

The VA will further be required to install on-site regulated medical waste treatment systems at VA facilities that would realize cost savings within a 5-year period.

Regulated medical waste is any type of waste generated by healthcare facilities that may be contaminated by blood, bodily fluids, or other potentially infectious materials. There are Federal and State requirements governing how it must be handled and how it may be transported given the infection transmission risks it poses.

On-site regulated medical waste sterilization systems would enable VA medical facilities to treat and compact this waste before it is transported off-site for disposal. There are potential cost savings associated with being able to sterilize and compact medical waste before it is taken off-site.

Trucking costs are higher for untreated medical waste because of all the precautions that must be taken to comply with applicable State and Federal regulations when transporting it, and because it takes more trucks to move the waste if it is not compacted first.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 753, as amended, and I yield back the balance of my time.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. BOST) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 753, as amended.

The question was taken.

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

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

The yeas and nays were ordered.

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

REMOVING EXTRANEANOUS LOOPHOLES INSURING EVERY VETERAN EMERGENCY ACT

Mr. BOST. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 815) to amend title 38, United States Code, to make certain improvements relating to the eligibility of veterans to receive reimbursement for emergency treatment furnished through the Veterans Community Care program, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 815

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 "Removing Extraneous Loopholes Insuring Every Veteran Emergency Act" or the "RELIEVE Act".

SEC. 2. ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR REIMBURSEMENT FOR EMERGENCY TREATMENT FURNISHED TO VETERANS.

(a) ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS.—Section 1725(b)(2)(B) of title 38, United States Code, is amended by inserting " , unless such emergency treatment was furnished during the 60-day period following the date on which the veteran enrolled in the health care system specified in subparagraph (A), in which case no requirement for prior receipt of care shall apply" before the period.

(b) APPLICABILITY.—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall apply with respect to emergency treatment furnished on or after the date that is one year after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 3. MODIFICATION OF CERTAIN HOUSING LOAN FEES.

The loan fee table in section 3729(b)(2) of title 38, United States Code, is amended by striking "November 14, 2031" each place it appears and inserting "December 28, 2031".

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

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BOST. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5

legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks on H.R. 815, as amended.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 815, the RELIEVE Act, as amended.

This bill would close a loophole by covering emergency room medical expenses for veterans that are newly enrolled in VA care.

Under current law, VA does not reimburse veterans for emergency care received in the community if they have not visited a VA facility within 2 years. This policy includes veterans who are newly enrolled in the VA healthcare system but may not be considered active patients.

As a result, inactive veteran patients and their families could be met with undue payment burdens if they receive urgent medical treatment outside the VA.

Representative McMORRIS RODGERS' bill, H.R. 815, as amended, will correctly close this gap in emergency room services. This will help those in need at their most vulnerable time by extending VA reimbursement for 60 days after the veteran's enrollment in the VA healthcare.

As chairman of the Veterans' Affairs Committee and a veteran, I have heard from fellow veterans who have been wrongfully affected by this confusing policy. One of my top priorities in Congress is to ensure that veterans receive necessary care without worrying about payment burdens and bureaucratic red tape.

I thank the gentlewoman from Washington (Mrs. RODGERS), the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. BERGMAN), and the gentleman from New Hampshire (Mr. PAPPAS) for introducing this common-sense legislation that takes care of our Nation's veterans by making sure they receive the care that they deserve.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to support H.R. 815, as amended, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 815, the RELIEVE Act, as amended, which is sponsored by Representative McMORRIS RODGERS and cosponsored by our committee members, Representatives PAPPAS and BERGMAN.

It will address a gap for a small population of veterans who first enrolled in VA healthcare within the last 60 days to be covered for emergency care in the community, even if they have not received any services from a VA provider.

Existing VA authorities for coverage of emergency care in the community are extremely complex. They are also not well understood by veterans, who often end up blindsided by massive medical bills that they can't afford.

Under current law, VA can only cover emergency care in the community for a nonservice-connected condition if the veteran was enrolled in VA healthcare and had used VA care within the 24 months before the emergency care episode.

This bill would make an exception for veterans who first enrolled in VA healthcare within 60 days before their emergency care episode. Such veterans may not have had a reason to use VA care yet or they may have experienced a wait time for a routine appointment.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 815, as amended, which will help ensure veterans who are new to VA healthcare will be covered for unexpected medical emergencies.

I also highlight a new meaningful benefit for veterans who are experiencing acute suicidal crises. It is important for veterans and their families and caregivers to know that VA has now implemented legislation I championed to remove cost from the equation when veterans are in imminent risk of self-harm.

VA will now fully cover up to 30 days of inpatient or residential care or up to 90 days of outpatient care for veterans who are experiencing an acute suicidal crisis, regardless of whether the veteran has ever enrolled in or used VA healthcare benefits. Any veteran experiencing a mental health crisis should call 988 and press 1 to speak with a trained professional from the Veterans Crisis Line.

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

Mr. BOST. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from Washington (Mrs. RODGERS).

Mrs. RODGERS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the RELIEVE Act. I introduced this bill after a veteran from Spokane reached out for my help. She had recently retired from service and was days away from her first VA appointment when she had a heart attack.

She was rushed to the ER, where she made a full recovery, but the VA refused to pay for her care.

Why? Because she hadn't seen a VA doctor in the last 24 months.

It didn't matter that she had just enrolled or that many VA facilities have 30- to 60-day delays. They denied her the coverage she needed, and her bills were piling up.

The RELIEVE Act would make this right. It waives the 24-month rule for 60 days, giving veterans time to establish care and ensure that they qualify for outside emergency coverage.

I am grateful to the leadership of the committee, as well as my colleagues, JACK BERGMAN and CHRIS PAPPAS, for helping lead this bill to help eliminate the emergency coverage gap. I urge my colleagues to join in giving veterans the treatment that they have earned.

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from New Hampshire (Mr. PAPPAS), the ranking

member of the Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs Subcommittee.

Mr. PAPPAS. Mr. Speaker, I thank Mr. TAKANO for yielding and for his leadership, along with Chairman BOST, in getting this legislation to floor.

I thank Representatives MCMORRIS RODGERS and BERGMAN for cosponsoring this bill, which covers an important issue, emergency care coverage for veterans under the Community Care program.

This would close a glaring gap in emergency care for veterans who are transitioning from DOD to VA care. Right now, VA's failure to cover emergency care during this transitional period can result in a crippling amount of debt for veterans who need this kind of care.

These coverage gaps are all too common for our veterans. I have heard about it from my own constituents. In my first month in office, I was contacted by a veteran in Danville, New Hampshire, who put off seeking care for a medical emergency because he was unsure that VA would cover this care.

No veteran should ever think twice about seeking care during a medical emergency or be faced with exorbitant medical bills as a result of this care, so let's eliminate this gap for veterans who are recently enrolled in VA care. This is an important step forward represented by this legislation. There is certainly more work to do, but I urge my colleagues to support this bipartisan legislation today.

Mr. BOST. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. BERGMAN), my good friend.

Mr. BERGMAN. Mr. Speaker, as a veteran and member of both the Armed Services and Veterans' Affairs Committees, assisting those in uniform as they transition from military service into civilian life and VA care is one of my top priorities.

Too often we see veterans get lost in the cracks of bureaucracy, and they fail to receive the healthcare they deserve through the VA or are facing unfair penalties while attempting to navigate life after their military service.

While we have made tremendous strides to improve veteran access to healthcare through the VA Community Care program, significant coverage gaps remain, and more improvements must be made by Congress.

Under current law, a veteran must have received health services at a VA facility within the past 2 years to be approved for retroactive coverage for emergency treatment through the Community Care program. This ignores the reality that it often takes more than a month for veterans to complete their first appointment at a VA facility following their enrollment in VA health.

This creates a gap in coverage that can force crippling debt onto a recently separated servicemember who is seeking emergency care. No veteran should

have to second-guess whether they should go to the emergency room due to bureaucratic mismanagement of their care coverage.

The bipartisan RELIEVE Act would address this gap in coverage by giving veterans a 60-day grace period after they are enrolled in VA health to complete their first doctor's appointment. During those 60 days, veterans will still be covered for emergency care at non-VA facilities, eliminating the gap, and ensuring veterans can receive the care they need without the worry of surprise bills.

I am proud to join Representatives MCMORRIS RODGERS and PAPPAS in introducing this important and common-sense legislation again this Congress. I urge my colleagues to vote in favor of its passage.

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers. In closing, let me just say, it was a delight to join my colleague from Michigan at the Joni Mitchell concert and stand up and participate in "Big Yellow Taxi," which is his favorite song.

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

Mr. BOST. Mr. Speaker, once again, I encourage all Members to support this legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. BOST) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 815, as amended.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

WOUNDED WARRIOR ACCESS ACT

Mr. BOST. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1226) to amend title 38, United States Code, to allow for the electronic request of certain records, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1226

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 "Wounded Warrior Access Act".

SEC. 2. ELECTRONIC REQUEST OF CERTAIN RECORDS MAINTAINED BY THE SECRETARY OF VETERANS AFFAIRS.

(a) ELECTRONIC RECORD REQUESTS.—Section 5702 of title 38, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsection (b) as subsection (c); and

(2) by inserting after subsection (a) the following:

"(b)(1) The Secretary shall establish and maintain a secure website or online tool for a claimant or a duly recognized agent or representative of that claimant to submit an electronic request for such records.

"(2) The Secretary, upon receipt of a valid request made through the website or online

tool established under paragraph (1), shall provide to the requestor—

"(A) not later than 10 days after receipt, confirmation of such receipt; and

"(B) not later than 120 days after receipt, such records requested in the form selected by the requestor."

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—Section 5702(a) of title 38, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking "in writing" and inserting "in writing, including an electronic request submitted through the website or online tool established under subsection (b).";

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

(3) in paragraph (2), by striking the period at the end and inserting "and"; and

(4) by adding at the end the following:

"(3) the format in which such copy is desired, including whether in printed form or by downloadable file."

(c) DEADLINE; ESTABLISHMENT OF WEBSITE OR ONLINE TOOL.—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall establish the website or online tool required under section 5702(b)(1) of title 38, United States Code, as added by this Act, and, to the extent practicable, the Secretary shall utilize existing online resources of the Department of Veterans Affairs for the purposes of such establishment.

SEC. 3. WARNINGS TO CLAIMANTS UNDER LAWS ADMINISTERED BY THE SECRETARY OF VETERANS AFFAIRS REGARDING UNRECOGNIZED REPRESENTATIVES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 5901 of title 38, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by inserting "(a) IN GENERAL.—" before "Except";

(2) by adding at the end the following new subsection:

"(b) WARNINGS ABOUT POTENTIAL PREDATORY PRACTICES.—(1) The Secretary shall ensure that, each time a claimant under a law administered by the Secretary logs in to a website or online tool of the Department, such website or online tool issues to the claimant, in plain language—

"(A) a warning about individuals who seek to act in violation of this chapter;

"(B) a link to an online tool of the Department through which the claimant may report such an individual;

"(C) a link to an online tool of the Department through which the claimant may search for a recognized agent, attorney, or other entity recognized by the Secretary for the preparation, presentation, or prosecution of any claim under laws administered by the Secretary; and

"(D) a link to a website or an online tool of the Department providing final decisions on discipline of agents, attorneys, and entities, described in subparagraph (C), by the Secretary for violations of this chapter.

"(2) The Secretary shall provide all information under paragraph (1) in the following languages:

"(A) English.

"(B) Spanish.

"(C) Tagalog.

"(D) The seven other languages most commonly spoken in the United States."

(b) IMPLEMENTATION.—The Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall carry out subsection (b) of such section, as added by subsection (a) of this section—

(1) after consulting with stakeholders (including veterans service organizations recognized under section 5902 of such title) regarding the wording of the warning under such subsection; and

(2) not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 4. NO ADDITIONAL FUNDS AUTHORIZED.

No additional funds are authorized to be appropriated to carry out the requirements of this Act.

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

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BOST. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks on H.R. 1226, as amended.

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

There was no objection.

□ 1730

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1226, as amended.

This bill will require VA to establish a secure online tool which veterans can use to request a copy of their VA claims file or C-file.

Veterans may want to see their records to ensure the VA received all the evidence they submitted. They may also use this information to decide whether to appeal VA's decision.

Currently, veterans must travel to the regional office to view their records, which is inconvenient, or they can request a copy by mail, which can take weeks or even months.

I support this bill because it would make it easier for veterans to get their VA records in a timely manner.

Furthermore, I have heard increasing concerns from veterans about bad actors attempting to con them out of their benefits. This is unacceptable.

H.R. 1226, as amended, would require VA to educate veterans about predatory actors when they log into the VA website. These warnings will prevent veterans from being taken advantage of.

I appreciate Representative AGUILAR's leadership on this issue. I urge all of my colleagues to join me in support of this bill today.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 1226, as amended, the Wounded Warrior Access Act introduced by my good friend, neighbor, and chair of the House Democratic Caucus, Representative PETE AGUILAR.

This bill would require VA to establish and maintain a secure internet-based portal to establish a claimant or their representative to make records requests related to VA claims and benefits.

Additionally, this bill contains a provision requiring VA to warn claimants about benefit scammers, provide a way to report potentially fraudulent activ-

ity, and provide a tool for claimants to search for accredited representation.

Currently, to make records requests related to VA claims and benefits, veterans or designated representatives must submit a Freedom of Information Act, otherwise known as a FOIA, or Privacy Act request.

Submitting this form, followed by waiting for it to upload into an individual's electronic claims file, and then awaiting action on the request can be time consuming and can negatively impact a claimant's ability to understand what records VA is evaluating and what information could better assist in a claim's positive adjudication.

Establishing and maintaining a secure, internet-based portal to enable a claimant or their representative to make records requests related to VA claims and benefits would modernize this essential process and assist in more timely, positive claim outcomes.

This bill would also add another tool in the toolbox for veterans when navigating the complexities of the claims process and will help veterans gain a little more autonomy over their claim.

It is my hope that my colleagues will join me in supporting this legislation.

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

Mr. BOST. Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. AGUILAR), my good friend who serves on the House Appropriations Committee.

Mr. AGUILAR. Mr. Speaker, I thank the ranking member for his leadership, and I thank the chairman for his important work in this Congress and in this committee.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 1226, the Wounded Warrior Access Act, for the same reasons my colleagues had mentioned.

When a veteran files their claim for benefits, they are given the C-file. For a veteran to view this C-file, they must either make an appointment at their local VA office, travel there to view it in person, submit a form through the mail or fax with no confirmation that it was ever received, or submit a Freedom of Information Act request for their file.

Throughout my time in Congress—I know I am not the only Member who has heard from a number of veterans who have had trouble accessing their C-files from the VA.

Just to put this in context, Mr. Speaker, our veterans need these files to access the benefits that they have earned or appeal the VA's decisions about their claim. That is why, Mr. Speaker, this is so important.

Veterans in the Inland Empire and across this country need an easy way to access this information without jumping through bureaucratic hoops.

This bipartisan bill is a commonsense solution that cuts this red tape and will help American veterans.

I again thank Chairman BOST, Ranking Member TAKANO, and members of the House Veterans' Affairs Committee for their leadership in bringing this bill to the floor.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 1226.

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I again ask all my colleagues to join me in passing H.R. 1226, as amended, the Wounded Warrior Access Act, and I yield back the balance of my time.

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

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. BOST) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1226, as amended.

The question was taken.

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

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

The yeas and nays were ordered.

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

UNDERSTANDING CYBERSECURITY OF MOBILE NETWORKS ACT

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1123) to direct the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information to submit to Congress a report examining the cybersecurity of mobile service networks, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1123

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 "Understanding Cybersecurity of Mobile Networks Act".

SEC. 2. REPORT ON CYBERSECURITY OF MOBILE SERVICE NETWORKS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Assistant Secretary, in consultation with the Department of Homeland Security, shall submit to the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate a report examining the cybersecurity of mobile service networks and the vulnerability of such networks and mobile devices to cyberattacks and surveillance conducted by adversaries.

(b) MATTERS TO BE INCLUDED.—The report required by subsection (a) shall include the following:

(1) An assessment of the degree to which providers of mobile service have addressed, are addressing, or have not addressed cybersecurity vulnerabilities (including vulnerabilities the exploitation of which could lead to surveillance conducted by adversaries) identified by academic and independent researchers, multistakeholder

standards and technical organizations, industry experts, and Federal agencies, including in relevant reports of—

(A) the National Telecommunications and Information Administration;

(B) the National Institute of Standards and Technology; and

(C) the Department of Homeland Security, including—

(i) the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency; and

(ii) the Science and Technology Directorate.

(2) A discussion of—

(A) the degree to which customers (including consumers, companies, and government agencies) consider cybersecurity as a factor when considering the purchase of mobile service and mobile devices; and

(B) the commercial availability of tools, frameworks, best practices, and other resources for enabling such customers to evaluate cybersecurity risk and price trade-offs.

(3) A discussion of the degree to which providers of mobile service have implemented cybersecurity best practices and risk assessment frameworks.

(4) An estimate and discussion of the prevalence and efficacy of encryption and authentication algorithms and techniques used in each of the following:

(A) Mobile service.

(B) Mobile communications equipment or services.

(C) Commonly used mobile phones and other mobile devices.

(D) Commonly used mobile operating systems and communications software and applications.

(5) A discussion of the barriers for providers of mobile service to adopt more efficacious encryption and authentication algorithms and techniques with established vulnerabilities in mobile service, mobile communications equipment or services, and mobile phones and other mobile devices.

(6) An estimate and discussion of the prevalence, usage, and availability of technologies that authenticate legitimate mobile service and mobile communications equipment or services to which mobile phones and other mobile devices are connected.

(7) An estimate and discussion of the prevalence, costs, commercial availability, and usage by adversaries in the United States of cell site simulators (often known as international mobile subscriber identity catchers) and other mobile service surveillance and interception technologies.

(c) CONSULTATION.—In preparing the report required by subsection (a), the Assistant Secretary shall, to the degree practicable, consult with—

(1) the Federal Communications Commission;

(2) the National Institute of Standards and Technology;

(3) the intelligence community;

(4) the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency of the Department of Homeland Security;

(5) the Science and Technology Directorate of the Department of Homeland Security;

(6) academic and independent researchers with expertise in privacy, encryption, cybersecurity, and network threats;

(7) participants in multistakeholder standards and technical organizations (including the 3rd Generation Partnership Project and the Internet Engineering Task Force);

(8) international stakeholders, in coordination with the Department of State as appropriate;

(9) providers of mobile service, including small providers (or the representatives of

such providers) and rural providers (or the representatives of such providers);

(10) manufacturers, operators, and providers of mobile communications equipment or services and mobile phones and other mobile devices;

(11) developers of mobile operating systems and communications software and applications; and

(12) other experts that the Assistant Secretary considers appropriate.

(d) SCOPE OF REPORT.—The Assistant Secretary shall—

(1) limit the report required by subsection (a) to mobile service networks;

(2) exclude consideration of 5G protocols and networks in the report required by subsection (a);

(3) limit the assessment required by subsection (b)(1) to vulnerabilities that have been shown to be—

(A) exploited in non-laboratory settings; or

(B) feasibly and practicably exploitable in real-world conditions; and

(4) consider in the report required by subsection (a) vulnerabilities that have been effectively mitigated by manufacturers of mobile phones and other mobile devices.

(e) FORM OF REPORT.—

(1) CLASSIFIED INFORMATION.—The report required by subsection (a) shall be produced in unclassified form but may contain a classified annex.

(2) POTENTIALLY EXPLOITABLE UNCLASSIFIED INFORMATION.—The Assistant Secretary shall redact potentially exploitable unclassified information from the report required by subsection (a) but shall provide an unredacted form of the report to the committees described in such subsection.

(f) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) ADVERSARY.—The term “adversary” includes—

(A) any unauthorized hacker or other intruder into a mobile service network; and

(B) any foreign government or foreign non-government person engaged in a long-term pattern or serious instances of conduct significantly adverse to the national security of the United States or security and safety of United States persons.

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

(3) ENTITY.—The term “entity” means a partnership, association, trust, joint venture, corporation, group, subgroup, or other organization.

(4) INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY.—The term “intelligence community” has the meaning given that term in section 3 of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3003).

(5) MOBILE COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT OR SERVICE.—The term “mobile communications equipment or service” means any equipment or service that is essential to the provision of mobile service.

(6) MOBILE SERVICE.—The term “mobile service” means, to the extent provided to United States customers, either or both of the following services:

(A) Commercial mobile service (as defined in section 332(d) of the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 332(d))).

(B) Commercial mobile data service (as defined in section 6001 of the Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act of 2012 (47 U.S.C. 1401)).

(7) PERSON.—The term “person” means an individual or entity.

(8) UNITED STATES PERSON.—The term “United States person” means—

(A) an individual who is a United States citizen or an alien lawfully admitted for permanent residence to the United States;

(B) an entity organized under the laws of the United States or any jurisdiction within

the United States, including a foreign branch of such an entity; or

(C) any person in the United States.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. LATTA) and the gentlewoman from California (Ms. ESHOO) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Ohio.

GENERAL LEAVE

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

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

There was no objection.

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

I rise in support of H.R. 1123, the Understanding Cybersecurity of Mobile Networks Act.

In recent years, we have seen a rise in large-scale cybersecurity attacks that put Americans at risk. While mobile service providers take numerous steps to address vulnerabilities in their networks, threats to our mobile networks continue to exist.

To sufficiently address threats across networks, Congress needs a sophisticated and comprehensive assessment of what vulnerabilities persist, what issues have been resolved, and where mobile cybersecurity policymaking should be focused.

The Understanding Cybersecurity of Mobile Networks Act requires the National Telecommunications and Information Administration, NTIA, to submit to Congress a comprehensive report examining the cybersecurity of existing wireless networks and vulnerabilities to cyberattacks and surveillance by adversaries.

This bipartisan bill will ensure that communication networks are safe and protect the privacy and security of the American people.

I thank the gentlewoman from California's 16th District (Ms. ESHOO) and the gentlewoman from Florida's Third District (Mrs. CAMMACK) for leading this bipartisan legislation, and I urge my colleagues to support it.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise this evening in strong support of H.R. 1123, the Understanding Cybersecurity of Mobile Networks Act. It is bipartisan legislation, and I am proud to have authored it.

Every single day Americans make calls, they send texts, and they access data on 2G, 3G, and 4G networks.

Yet, we lack a comprehensive assessment of what vulnerabilities exist on these networks, what issues have been resolved, and where mobile cybersecurity policymaking should be focused.

That is what this legislation addresses. It requires the NTIA, as the chairman said, in consultation with the Department of Homeland Security, to

conduct a comprehensive study on the cybersecurity vulnerabilities of these networks and report those findings to Congress.

Americans need to trust the networks that they use and know that Congress is working to ensure that these networks are safe. This bill will help us accomplish that.

I thank Congresswoman KAT CAMMACK for her partnership, and I urge all of my colleagues to support the passage of H.R. 1123.

Mr. Speaker, I don't believe I have anyone on this side that wishes to speak, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from Florida (Mrs. CAMMACK).

Mrs. CAMMACK. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 1123, the Understanding Cybersecurity of Mobile Networks Act.

H.R. 1123 would require the National Telecommunications and Information Administration, in partnership with relevant agencies and other stakeholders, to study the current state of U.S. mobile communications networks and to report to Congress on its findings.

This report is developed by compiling government and nongovernmental research and would assess the cybersecurity of these networks and vulnerabilities in the networks or mobile devices for cyberattacks and surveillance conducted by our adversaries.

Americans rely on their phones and mobile networks more than ever to communicate with family and friends and to conduct business all across the country.

At the same time, cybersecurity threats to these essential U.S. communications networks have never been higher.

Accordingly, Congress must be informed of these threats and any successful tools or methods used to counter or mitigate existing cyber threats. This bill would do just that by simply providing Congress an overview of the status of mobile network cybersecurity, which would include the degree to which cyber vulnerabilities have been addressed, are being addressed, or will be addressed.

The report required by this bill takes an important first step in tackling network security by informing Congress, stakeholders, and most important, the American people of the security or lack thereof of these vital mobile networks.

I am so proud to lead this bill along with my colleague, Ms. ESHOO, and I thank my good friend, our chairman of the subcommittee, for his leadership on this important issue.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all my colleagues to vote in support of this bill.

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, cyberattacks are increasing in this country, not decreasing. Again, that is why this bipartisan bill will ensure that communications networks are

safe and that they will protect the privacy and security of the American people.

Mr. Speaker, I urge support of this very important legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. LATTA) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1123, as amended.

The question was taken.

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

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

The yeas and nays were ordered.

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

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 6:30 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 5 o'clock and 46 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1830

AFTER RECESS

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

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Proceedings will resume on questions previously postponed.

Votes will be taken in the following order:

Motions to suspend the rules and pass:

H.R. 1226; and

H.R. 1123.

The first electronic vote will be conducted as a 15-minute vote. Pursuant to clause 9 of rule XX, remaining electronic votes will be conducted as 5-minute votes.

WOUNDED WARRIOR ACCESS ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1226) to amend title 38, United States Code, to allow for the electronic request of certain records, and for other purposes, as amended, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. BOST) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 422, nays 0, not voting 12, as follows:

[Roll No. 132]

YEAS—422

Adams	Dean (PA)	Jackson (TX)
Aderholt	DeGette	Jackson Lee
Aguilar	DeLauro	Jacobs
Alford	DelBene	James
Allen	Deluzio	Jayapal
Allred	DeSaulnier	Jeffries
Amodei	DesJarlais	Johnson (GA)
Armstrong	Diaz-Balart	Johnson (LA)
Arrington	Dingell	Johnson (OH)
Auchincloss	Doggett	Johnson (SD)
Babin	Donalds	Jordan
Bacon	Duarte	Joyce (OH)
Baird	Duncan	Joyce (PA)
Balderson	Dunn (FL)	Kamlager-Dove
Balint	Edwards	Kaptur
Banks	Ellzey	Kean (NJ)
Barr	Emmer	Keating
Barragán	Escobar	Kelly (IL)
Bean (FL)	Eshoo	Kelly (MS)
Beatty	Espallat	Kelly (PA)
Bentz	Estes	Khanna
Bera	Evans	Kigans (VA)
Bergman	Ezell	Kildee
Beyer	Fallon	Killey
Bice	Feenstra	Kilmer
Biggs	Ferguson	Kim (CA)
Bilirakis	Finstad	Kim (NJ)
Bishop (GA)	Fischbach	Krishnamoorthi
Bishop (NC)	Fitzgerald	Kuster
Blumenauer	Fitzpatrick	Kustoff
Blunt Rochester	Fleischmann	LaHood
Boebert	Fletcher	LaLota
Bonamici	Flood	LaMalfa
Bost	Foster	Lamborn
Bowman	Foushee	Landsman
Boyle (PA)	Fox	Langworthy
Brecheen	Frankel, Lois	Larsen (WA)
Brown	Franklin, C.	Larson (CT)
Brownley	Scott	Latta
Buck	Frost	LaTurner
Bucshon	Fry	Lawler
Budzinski	Fulcher	Lee (CA)
Burchett	Gaetz	Lee (FL)
Burgess	Gallagher	Lee (NV)
Burlison	Gallego	Lee (PA)
Bush	Garamendi	Leger Fernandez
Calvert	Garbarino	Lesko
Cammack	Garcia (IL)	Letlow
Caraveo	Garcia (TX)	Levin
Carbajal	Garcia, Mike	Lofgren
Cárdenas	Garcia, Robert	Loudermilk
Carey	Jimenez	Lucas
Carl	Golden (ME)	Luetkemeyer
Carson	Goldman (NY)	Luna
Carter (GA)	Gomez	Luttrell
Carter (LA)	Gonzales, Tony	Mace
Carter (TX)	Gonzalez,	Magaziner
Cartwright	Vicente	Malliotakis
Casar	Good (VA)	Mann
Case	Gooden (TX)	Manning
Casten	Gosar	Massie
Castor (FL)	Gottheimer	Mast
Chavez-DeRemer	Granger	Matsui
Cherfilus-	Graves (LA)	McBath
McCormick	Graves (MO)	McCarthy
Chu	Green (TN)	McCaull
Ciilline	Green, Al (TX)	McClain
Ciscomani	Greene (GA)	McClintock
Clark (MA)	Griffith	McCollum
Clarke (NY)	Grothman	McCormick
Cline	Guest	McGarvey
Cloud	Guthrie	McGovern
Clyburn	Hagaman	McHenry
Clyde	Harder (CA)	Meeks
Cohen	Harris	Menendez
Cole	Harshbarger	Meng
Collins	Hayes	Meuser
Comer	Hern	Mfume
Connolly	Higgins (LA)	Miller (IL)
Correa	Higgins (NY)	Miller (OH)
Costa	Hill	Miller (WV)
Courtney	Himes	Miller-Meeks
Craig	Hinson	Mills
Crane	Horsford	Molinaro
Crawford	Houchin	Moolenaar
Crenshaw	Houlahan	Mooney
Crockett	Hoyer	Moore (AL)
Crow	Hoyle (OR)	Moore (UT)
Cuellar	Hudson	Moran
Curtis	Huffman	Morelle
D'Esposito	Huizenga	Moskowitz
Davids (KS)	Hunt	Moulton
Davidson	Issa	Mrvan
Davis (IL)	Ivey	Mullin
Davis (NC)	Jackson (IL)	Murphy
De La Cruz	Jackson (NC)	Nadler

Napolitano	Ryan	Thanedar
Neal	Salazar	Thompson (CA)
Neguse	Salinas	Thompson (MS)
Nehls	Sánchez	Thompson (PA)
Newhouse	Santos	Tiffany
Nickel	Sarbanes	Timmons
Norcross	Scalise	Titus
Norman	Scanlon	Tlaib
Nunn (IA)	Schakowsky	Tokuda
Oberholte	Schiff	Tonko
Ocasio-Cortez	Schneider	Torres (CA)
Ogles	Scholten	Torres (NY)
Omar	Schweikert	Trahan
Owens	Scott (VA)	Trone
Pallone	Scott, Austin	Turner
Palmer	Scott, David	Underwood
Panetta	Self	Valadao
Pappas	Sessions	Van Drew
Pascarell	Sewell	Van Dyne
Payne	Sherman	Van Orden
Peltola	Sherrill	Vargas
Perez	Simpson	Vasquez
Perry	Slotkin	Veasey
Peters	Smith (MO)	Velázquez
Pettersen	Smith (NE)	Wagner
Pfluger	Smith (NJ)	Walberg
Pingree	Smith (WA)	Waltz
Pocan	Smucker	Wasserman
Porter	Sorensen	Schultz
Posey	Soto	Waters
Pressley	Spanberger	Watson Coleman
Quigley	Spartz	Weber (TX)
Ramirez	Stansbury	Webster (FL)
Raskin	Stanton	Wenstrup
Reschenthaler	Stauber	Westerman
Rodgers (WA)	Steel	Wexton
Rogers (AL)	Stefanik	Wild
Rogers (KY)	Steil	Williams (GA)
Rose	Stevens	Williams (NY)
Rosendale	Stewart	Williams (TX)
Ross	Strickland	Wilson (FL)
Rouzer	Strong	Wilson (SC)
Roy	Swalwell	Wittman
Ruiz	Sykes	Womack
Ruppersberger	Takano	Yakum
Rutherford	Tenney	Zinke

NOT VOTING—12

Buchanan	Lieu	Pence
Castro (TX)	Lynch	Phillips
Cleaver	Moore (WI)	Schrier
Grijalva	Pelosi	Steube

□ 1855

Mr. HARRIS changed his vote from “nay” to “yea.”

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

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, March 1, 2023.

Hon. KEVIN MCCARTHY,
Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: I have the honor to transmit herewith a copy of a letter received from Ms. Susan J. Beals, Commissioner, Commonwealth of Virginia Department of Elections, indicating that, according to the unofficial results for the Special Election held February 21, 2023, the Honorable Jennifer McClellan was elected for Representative to Congress for the Fourth Congressional District, Commonwealth of Virginia.

With best wishes, I am,

Sincerely,

CHERYL L. JOHNSON,
Clerk.

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA,
DEPARTMENT OF ELECTIONS,
Richmond, VA, March 1, 2023.

Hon. CHERYL L. JOHNSON,
Clerk, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MS. JOHNSON: This is to advise you that the unofficial results of the Special Election held on Tuesday, February 21, 2023 for Representative in Congress from the 4th Congressional District of Virginia, show that Jennifer McClellan received 82,040 votes or 74.41% of the total number of votes cast for that office.

It would appear from these unofficial results that Jennifer McClellan was elected as Representative in Congress from the 4th Congressional District of Virginia.

To the best of our knowledge and belief at this time, there is no contest to this election.

As soon as the official results are certified to this office by all localities involved, an official Certificate of Election will be prepared for transmittal as required by law.

Sincerely,

SUSAN J. BEALS,
Commissioner.

SWEARING IN OF THE HONORABLE JENNIFER L. MCCLELLAN OF VIRGINIA, AS A MEMBER OF THE HOUSE

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the gentlewoman from Virginia, the Honorable Jennifer L. McClellan, be permitted to take the oath of office today.

Her certificate of election has not arrived, but there is no contest and no question has been raised with regard to her election.

The SPEAKER. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Virginia?

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER. Will the Representative-elect and the Members of the Virginia delegation present themselves in the well.

All Members will rise and the Representative-elect will please raise her right hand.

Mrs. MCCLELLAN appeared at the bar of the House and took the oath of office, as follows:

Do you solemnly swear or affirm that you will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that you will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; that you take this obligation freely, without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion; and that you will well and faithfully discharge the duties of the office on which you are about to enter, so help you God.

The SPEAKER. Congratulations, you are now a Member of the 118th Congress.

WELCOMING THE HONORABLE JENNIFER L. MCCLELLAN TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

The SPEAKER. Without objection, the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. SCOTT) is recognized for 1 minute.

There was no objection.

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today as the dean of the Virginia

congressional delegation, who you see in the well, to introduce and welcome to Congress the newest Representative from the Commonwealth of Virginia, JENNIFER MCCLELLAN.

Representative MCCLELLAN was born in Petersburg, Virginia, and is the daughter of educators at Virginia State University, an HBCU in Virginia's Fourth Congressional District, which she now represents. She is a graduate of the University of Richmond and received her law degree from the University of Virginia.

A dedicated public servant, Representative MCCLELLAN has represented the Richmond area in the House of Delegates and the Senate of Virginia for the last 17 years. Through her time in the Virginia General Assembly, she has been a committed and principled legislator working to expand access to voting rights, reproductive rights, and environmental protections in the Commonwealth of Virginia. She has successfully sponsored more than 350 pieces of legislation during her tenure in the Virginia General Assembly.

She lives in Richmond with her husband, David Mills, and their two children, Jackson and Samantha. With her victory in last month's special election, she made history as the first Black woman ever elected to Congress from Virginia.

I know she will continue making history with her steadfast commitment to the Fourth Congressional District, fighting for their voices to be heard in this Chamber, and I know she will also carry on the legacy of her predecessor, our dear late friend, the Congressman from the Fourth District, Donald McEachin.

Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to now yield to the gentlewoman from Virginia (Mrs. MCCLELLAN).

Mrs. MCCLELLAN. Mr. Speaker, I thank Representative SCOTT for his introduction. I also thank the Members of the Virginia delegation, and my new colleagues.

I rise as the newest Member of Virginia's Fourth Congressional District and the first African-American woman elected to this body from the Commonwealth of Virginia. I thank the voters of the Fourth Congressional District for placing their trust in me to serve in this, the people's House.

Today, I succeed, but can never replace, A. Donald McEachin, who was a friend, mentor, and colleague whom I served with in the Virginia House of Delegates and succeeded in the Senate in Virginia. I stand on his shoulders. I stand on the shoulders of John Mercer Langston, the first African American to represent Virginia, also from the Fourth District.

Mr. Speaker, I did not make this journey alone, and I thank my friends, family, and supporters who have supported me along the way.

First and foremost, I thank my husband, David Mills. I thank my son, Jackson, who is excited to show off his dance moves, and my daughter, Samantha.

I thank my mother, Lois McClellan. She will be the first to tell you that she is half responsible for me. She and my late father, Dr. James F. McClellan, Jr.—on whose Bible I took the oath of office—are why I am here.

I grew up listening to their stories of their childhood during the Depression, coming of age during World War II and its aftermath, and raising a family through the tumult of the 1960s and 1970s. They saw the best of government in the New Deal. They saw the worst of government in Jim Crow.

Their stories and the love of history that they sparked in me taught me at a young age that at its best, government is a force for helping people and solving problems. At its worst, government is a force that oppresses some for the benefit of a few.

Their stories sparked a desire to dedicate myself to making a government by, of, and for the people actually work for the people, solving problems and making their lives and communities better.

That desire led me to serve in the Virginia General Assembly for 18 sessions where, as the daughter and granddaughter of men who paid poll taxes and the great-granddaughter of a man who took a literacy test and had to find three White men to vouch for him to be able to vote, I was able to pass over 370 pieces of legislation, including the Voting Rights Act of Virginia.

I stand on the shoulders of my parents, grandparents, and great-grandparents, recognizing that in a lot of ways I am fighting the same fights that they did, and I stand here to ensure that my children and yours don't have to fight those same fights.

I am honored, humbled, and excited to get to work with you for the people of Virginia's Fourth Congressional District and this great Nation of ours.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. Under clause 5(d) of rule XX, the Chair announces to the House that in light of the administration of the oath to the gentlewoman from Virginia, the whole number of the House is 435.

UNDERSTANDING CYBERSECURITY OF MOBILE NETWORKS ACT

The SPEAKER. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1123) to direct the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information to submit to Congress a report examining the cybersecurity of mobile service networks, and for other purposes, as amended, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. LATTA) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended.

This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 393, nays 22, not voting 19, as follows:

[Roll No. 133]

YEAS—393

Adams	DesJarlais	Johnson (SD)
Aderholt	Diaz-Balart	Jordan
Aguilar	Dingell	Joyce (OH)
Alford	Donalds	Joyce (PA)
Allen	Duarte	Kamlager-Dove
Allred	Duncan	Kaptur
Amodei	Dunn (FL)	Kean (NJ)
Armstrong	Edwards	Keating
Arrington	Ellzey	Kelly (IL)
Ashcincloss	Emmer	Kelly (MS)
Babin	Escobar	Kelly (PA)
Bacon	Eshoo	Khanna
Balderson	Espallat	Kiggans (VA)
Balint	Estes	Kildee
Banks	Evans	Kiley
Barr	Ezell	Kilmer
Barragán	Fallon	Kim (CA)
Bean (FL)	Feenstra	Kim (NJ)
Beatty	Finstad	Krishnamoorthi
Bentz	Fischbach	Kuster
Bera	Fitzgerald	Kustoff
Bergman	Fitzpatrick	LaHood
Beyer	Fleischmann	LaLota
Bice	Fletcher	LaMalfa
Bilirakis	Flood	Lamborn
Bishop (GA)	Foster	Landsman
Blumenauer	Foushee	Langworthy
Blunt Rochester	Fox	Larsen (WA)
Bonamici	Frankel, Lois	Larson (CT)
Bost	Franklin, C.	Latta
Bowman	Scott	LaTurner
Brown	Frost	Lawler
Brownley	Fry	Lee (CA)
Bucshon	Fulcher	Lee (FL)
Budzinski	Gallagher	Lee (NV)
Burgess	Gallego	Lee (PA)
Bush	Garamendi	Leger Fernandez
Calvert	Garbarino	Lesko
Cammack	Garcia (IL)	Letlow
Caraveo	Garcia (TX)	Levin
Carbajal	Garcia, Mike	Lofgren
Cárdenas	Garcia, Robert	Loudermilk
Carey	Gimenez	Lucas
Carl	Golden (ME)	Luetkemeyer
Carson	Goldman (NY)	Luna
Carter (GA)	Gomez	Luttrell
Carter (LA)	Gonzales, Tony	Mace
Carter (TX)	Gonzalez,	Magaziner
Cartwright	Vicente	Malliotakis
Casar	Gooden (TX)	Mann
Case	Gottheimer	Manning
Casten	Granger	Mast
Castor (FL)	Graves (LA)	Matsui
Chavez-DeRemer	Graves (MO)	McBath
Cherfilus-	Green (TN)	McCaul
McCormick	Green, Al (TX)	McClain
Chu	Griffith	McClellan
Cicilline	Grothman	McClintock
Ciscomani	Guest	McCollum
Clark (MA)	Guthrie	McGarvey
Clarke (NY)	Hageman	McGovern
Cline	Harder (CA)	McHenry
Cloud	Harshbarger	Meeks
Clyburn	Hayes	Menendez
Clyde	Hern	Meng
Cohen	Higgins (NY)	Meuser
Cole	Hill	Mfume
Comer	Himes	Miller (OH)
Connolly	Hinson	Miller (WV)
Correa	Horsford	Miller-Meeks
Costa	Houchin	Mills
Courtney	Houlahan	Molinaro
Craig	Hoyer	Moolenaar
Crawford	Hoyle (OR)	Mooney
Crenshaw	Hudson	Moore (AL)
Crockett	Huffman	Moore (UT)
Crow	Huizenga	Moore (WI)
Cuellar	Hunt	Moran
Curtis	Issa	Morelle
D'Esposito	Ivey	Moskowitz
Davids (KS)	Jackson (IL)	Moulton
Davidson	Jackson (NC)	Mrvan
Davis (IL)	Jackson (TX)	Mullin
Davis (NC)	Jackson Lee	Murphy
De La Cruz	Jacobs	Nadler
Dean (PA)	James	Napolitano
DeGette	Jayapal	Neal
DeLauro	Jeffries	Neguse
DelBene	Johnson (GA)	Nehls
Deluzio	Johnson (LA)	Newhouse
DeSaulnier	Johnson (OH)	Nickel

Norcross	Scalise	Thompson (MS)
Norman	Scanlon	Thompson (PA)
Nunn (IA)	Schakowsky	Tiffany
Oberholte	Schiff	Timmons
Ocasio-Cortez	Schneider	Titus
Omar	Scholten	Tlaib
Owens	Schweikert	Tokuda
Pallone	Scott (VA)	Tonko
Palmer	Scott, Austin	Torres (CA)
Panetta	Scott, David	Torres (NY)
Pappas	Self	Trahan
Pascrell	Sessions	Trone
Payne	Sewell	Underwood
Pelosi	Sherman	Valadao
Perez	Sherrill	Van Drew
Peters	Simpson	Van Dyne
Pettersen	Slotkin	Van Orden
Pfleger	Smith (MO)	Vargas
Pingree	Smith (NE)	Vasquez
Pocan	Smith (NJ)	Veasey
Porter	Smith (WA)	Wagner
Posey	Smucker	Walberg
Pressley	Sorensen	Waltz
Quigley	Soto	Wasserman
Ramirez	Spanberger	Schultz
Raskin	Spartz	Stansbury
Reschenthaler	Stansbury	Stanton
Rodgers (WA)	Staubert	Staubert
Rogers (AL)	Steel	Stefanik
Rogers (KY)	Rose	Steil
Rose	Ross	Stevens
Rouzer	Rouzer	Stewart
Ruiz	Ruiz	Strickland
Ruppersberger	Ruppersberger	Strong
Rutherford	Rutherford	Swalwell
Ryan	Ryan	Sykes
Salazar	Salazar	Takano
Salinas	Salinas	Tenney
Sánchez	Sánchez	Thanedar
Santos	Santos	Thompson (CA)
Sarbanes	Sarbanes	

NAYS—22

Biggs	Crane	McCormick
Bishop (NC)	Gaetz	Miller (IL)
Boebert	Good (VA)	Ogles
Brecheen	Gosar	Perry
Buck	Greene (GA)	Rosendale
Burchett	Harris	Roy
Burlison	Higgins (LA)	
Collins	Massie	

NOT VOTING—19

Baird	Grijalva	Steube
Boyle (PA)	Lieu	Turner
Buchanan	Lynch	Velázquez
Castro (TX)	Peltola	Williams (TX)
Cleaver	Pence	Wilson (SC)
Doggett	Phillips	
Ferguson	Schrier	

□ 1916

Messrs. CRANE and BISHOP of North Carolina changed their vote from "yea" to "nay."

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

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Ms. SCHRIER. Mr. Speaker, due to illness, I was unable to be present today. Had I been present, I would have voted: "yea" on rollcall No. 132 and "yea" on rollcall No. 133.

HONORING GEORGE SCHWARZ AS GRAND MARSHAL

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

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor George Schwarz, who was chosen to be the grand marshal for this year's Savannah St. Patrick's Day Parade.

Mr. Schwarz, a graduate of Jenkins High School, has spent his entire life living in and serving Savannah. His dedication to his hometown is matched by his pride in his Irish heritage.

Mr. Schwarz has served on the parade council for almost 40 years; a council that his father and grandfather served on as well.

Being chosen to be the grand marshal for this parade is the highest honor for any Savannahian with Irish blood, and I cannot think of anyone more deserving than Mr. Schwarz.

To be a grand marshal is no small honor. It is a recognition of years of hard work. He knows this parade so well that I have even heard that if he is given a random parade float number, he can tell you exactly what floats will come before and after that one.

I know that Mr. Schwarz will make a great grand marshal, and I look forward to seeing the parade he puts on.

HONORING SARAH KEYS EVANS

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

Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ensure Sarah Keys Evans' name is engraved in history forever.

We are taught about Rosa Parks, but Sarah Keys Evans' story occurred well before Ms. Parks, and please allow me to share with you her story.

Mr. Speaker, it was August 1, 1952, when Ms. Evans, an enlistee in the Women's Army Corps, boarded a bus for Washington, North Carolina, on leave from Fort Dix to visit her parents.

It was a long trip, so she took the most comfortable seat she could find. However, the bus driver demanded Ms. Evans give up her seat. When she refused, the police took her into custody where she spent 13 hours in jail in Roanoke Rapids, North Carolina, and paid a \$25 fine for disorderly conduct.

I recently introduced a bill that would honor Sarah Keys Evans with a Congressional Gold Medal, an honor she is more than deserving of. Indeed, she is a trailblazer, and this is a significant part of not only women's history but American history.

WELCOMING NURSING AND RESPIRATORY THERAPY STUDENTS AND PROFESSIONALS FROM WEST COAST UNIVERSITY AND AMERICAN CAREER COLLEGE

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

Ms. VAN DUYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and welcome to Washington, D.C., a group of dedicated nursing and respiratory therapy students and professionals from West Coast University and American Career College.

West Coast University first opened its Dallas, Texas, campus in 2012 and

has since established a state-of-the-art facility in Richardson, providing important education to thousands of students.

These colleges play a vital role in expanding access to nursing education and addressing workforce shortages among healthcare professionals across the United States. They are committed to preparing the next generation of healthcare professionals to meet our country's rising demand for care.

As the daughter of a nurse, I know firsthand that our healthcare workers are our heroes. My mom worked the graveyard shift so she could be there to tuck my brother and I into bed and be home for us when we woke up.

Please join me in welcoming these fine students to our Nation's Capital as they share with Congress their experience, passion, and perspective on providing quality nursing and healthcare.

CELEBRATING WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

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

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate Women's History Month.

It is important to celebrate the contributions women have made to our country.

For example, Katherine Johnson, Dorothy Vaughan, and Mary Jackson helped put a man on the Moon.

Mary McLeod Bethune was an educator and served as an adviser to three U.S. Presidents.

Dorothy Height was considered the godmother of the women's movement for her work to advance gender equality.

Charlotte Ray was the first female, African-American lawyer in the United States.

Ida Wells was born into slavery and became an outspoken advocate for women's issues.

Dr. Rebecca Lee Crumpler dedicated her life to caring for low-income women across the East Coast.

These women are a few of the many talented ones who have benefited our country, and I get the honor of seeing their legacy in the work of the many brilliant women making history in the U.S. Congress today.

COMMENDING SOUTHWEST FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

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

Mr. DONALDS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and commend Fort Myers' Southwest Florida International Airport, better known as RSW, for being ranked the number one airport in the United States of America, according to Travel Lens U.S.A. Airport Report.

As the Member of Congress that proudly represents RSW, I am excited

to stand here today to shine light on this distinct accolade within my district. In 2022, RSW set a record for the total number of passengers, despite the severe impact stemming from Hurricane Ian.

To be frank, there are many reasons why a record number of Americans are visiting and moving to southwest Florida. The inherent beauty of RSW speaks for itself—now imagine the stunning beauty throughout my entire district.

I can confidently say that I have the most beautiful district in the country and the best district overall, especially considering how many Members come and visit my district.

Finally, I want to share a few quick statistics. The average wait time at RSW is only 16 minutes. It is second in the Nation for the lowest amount of carbon emissions per passenger. Number three, it has the fourth highest passenger satisfaction rating in the United States of America.

Once again, I congratulate RSW for receiving this great honor for being ranked America's best airport.

BILINGUALISM IS A TREASURE

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

Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ. Mr. Speaker, 50 years ago today, New Mexico was the first State to adopt a law that recognizes language and culture are inseparable, that students learn better if they take the language from their kitchen into their classroom.

Fifty years ago, my parents helped write and pass the Bilingual Multicultural Education Act so Keres, Tiwa, Tewa, Towa, Dine, Apache, Zuni, Spanish, and ASL would be taught in our schools.

Like many New Mexicans, they understood the importance of culturally relevant content. Today, 70 percent of New Mexico school districts have bilingual multicultural instruction.

Bilingualism is a treasure. Nearly 22 percent of the U.S. speaks a language other than English at home, and roughly 245 indigenous languages are spoken across the country.

Studies have shown that having a second language helps students be better problem solvers, more creative, able to concentrate, and communicate better.

“Que viva nuestra herencia y cultura.” “Long live our heritage and culture.”

□ 1930

PRESERVING SOCIAL SECURITY AND MEDICARE

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

Mr. LAWLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call on this body to work in a

bipartisan way to preserve Social Security and Medicare.

As I have said time and again when meeting with constituents, I am fully committed not only to protecting Social Security and Medicare for current and near retirees but also strengthening and preserving these programs for future generations.

I was proud to sign on to H. Res. 109, which reaffirms this commitment, and to cosponsor H.R. 82, the Social Security Fairness Act, another important measure.

Those who have paid into Social Security should not have their benefits reduced, especially given the affordability crisis impacting so many families across my district and the country, including our seniors, who are among the hardest hit by inflation and rising costs.

It is incumbent on all of us to never cease fighting for the millions of Americans who have paid into and rely on these crucial programs. We must preserve them for future generations.

STANDING WITH ORGANIZED LABOR

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

Mr. MRVAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 20, the Richard L. Trumka Protecting the Right to Organize Act of 2023, legislation that honors the name and tireless advocacy of my friend who passed away all too soon.

Throughout my career in public office, I have been proud to stand with organized labor and American workers. Unions are the backbone of the north-west Indiana economy, and we must do all we can to fight for the right to collectively bargain.

The PRO Act improves the ability for all workers to form a union and improve their ability to collectively bargain for fair wages, safe working conditions, access to healthcare benefits, and a secure retirement.

I appreciate the continued leadership of Ranking Member BOBBY SCOTT and my colleagues on the Education and Workforce Committee, and I encourage all of my colleagues to join me in standing with our workers in supporting the PRO Act.

PROTECTING CHILDREN

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

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, just a few weeks ago, I declared this year the year of the child. In the course of that moment, I have seen the abuse of children around the world.

In Ukraine, Russia has stolen 700,000 children, all the way to the United States of America and the State of Texas, where the State education agency is attempting to take over the sev-

enth-largest school district in the Nation, the Houston Independent School District, where the children have been performing at their very best, even in spite of the pandemic.

There has been a law that was passed that suggested that if the schools had a number of years of what we call failing grades, then it would immediately throw them into the hands of the State agency that has no capability of running a school system; no capability of dealing with teachers and raising their salaries; no capability of dealing with parents, support staff, and excellent children and their performance.

I am asking the U.S. Department of Education and President Biden to step in to protect school districts across America and to keep them from the political football that happens with Republican Governors who are attempting to make an example of these school districts.

These children are brilliant. They can learn. They are majority-minority, and they can learn. I believe it is important that school districts be allowed to teach with the teachers' and parents' lead and not to be taken over by a board of managers that answers to no one.

DEFENDING VOTING RIGHTS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. LUTTRELL). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 9, 2023, the gentlewoman from Florida (Mrs. CHERFILUS-McCORMICK) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. CHERFILUS-McCORMICK. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the subject of today's Special Order, which is voting rights.

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

There was no objection.

Mrs. CHERFILUS-McCORMICK. Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I rise today to coanchor the CBC Special Order hour along with my distinguished co-lead, Representative JACKSON.

For the next 60 minutes, members of the CBC will have an opportunity to speak directly to the American people on voting rights, an issue of great importance to the Congressional Black Caucus, Congress, constituents we represent, and all Americans.

In 2018, Florida voters overwhelmingly approved Amendment 4, with more than 64 percent of the voters. This historic constitutional amendment automatically restored voting rights to most Floridians with past convictions who had completed the terms of their sentence.

Before this vote, Florida was one of only four States that enacted permanent felony disenfranchisement, which affected about 1.7 million felons.

However, in June 2019, Governor Ron DeSantis signed a misguided law that prohibited returning citizens from voting unless they pay off certain legal financial obligations imposed by a court pursuant to a felony conviction.

This abhorrent, undemocratic law has created a pay-to-vote system in the State of Florida and overwhelmingly targets Black and Brown communities.

Florida has no centralized system to tell what a person might owe, so it is often impossible for people with past convictions and election officials to know who is eligible to vote.

Last year, the DeSantis administration started prosecuting people with past convictions for making honest mistakes about their eligibility, intimidating potential voters, and further undermining the rights that Amendment 4 gave to millions of Floridians.

Many of the people arrested were told by local election officials that they were eligible to vote. Due to the confusing law that Tallahassee Republicans put into law, these officials mistakenly misled these individuals by telling them that they were eligible to vote.

Armed with the new election police unit, the DeSantis administration arrested 20 people who were among the 11 million Floridians who voted in the 2020 election.

The Republicans in Tallahassee and Washington are using fear and misinformation to disenfranchise millions of voters because they know their policies are not popular.

It is time that Governor DeSantis and the Florida Legislature honor the will of our constituents and implement Amendment 4 as it is written.

It is now my privilege to yield to the gentlewoman from Alabama (Ms. SEWELL).

Ms. SEWELL. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to join with my CBC colleagues in commemorating the 58th anniversary of Bloody Sunday and to call on my colleagues to take action to protect our most valuable and sacred right to vote.

As the daughter of Selma, Alabama, it was in my hometown of Selma, exactly 58 years ago, where John Lewis and the foot soldiers shed blood on the Edmund Pettus Bridge for the equal right of all Americans to vote.

It was in Selma where ordinary Americans peacefully protested so that every American could enjoy the full promise of our democracy.

It was in Selma where these brave foot soldiers were met with tear gas and unspeakable violence, but we know that their sacrifice was not in vain.

Indeed, it was the courage and tenacity of those brave foot soldiers that brought us the Voting Rights Act of 1965 and provided Federal oversight to ensure that no State could restrict the right to vote based on the color of a person's skin.

This past weekend, I was proud to welcome President Biden and a bipartisan delegation of congressional colleagues to Alabama to commemorate the anniversary of Bloody Sunday.

I applaud the President for his appearance at the Edmund Pettus Bridge and his dedication and recommitment to ensuring that our history is never forgotten. Coming to lay eyes on the faces and places of the movement is, indeed, a brave and powerful thing to do.

I also acknowledge that this year was different. It was different not only because the President came to visit us but also because, on January 12, my hometown of Selma suffered a major disaster with a tornado that destroyed thousands of properties in Selma.

So, the President's visit was twofold. It was both an acknowledgment of the importance of voting rights but also an acknowledgment that he and the Federal Government will be there to help my hometown rebuild. After all, Selma is a custodian of America's history. We are merely the custodians of that history.

I honor and applaud my colleagues of the CBC for doing this Special Order hour on voting rights, and I want to say that it is very important that we not only talk about voting rights but that we do something about voting rights.

We passed the John Robert Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act, which I am so proud to sponsor and be the author of, twice out of the House of Representatives. Both times, it languished over in the Senate because of an archaic procedural rule called the filibuster.

We need to not give up and be tireless in our efforts to ensure that every American has the right to vote. After all, we in the CBC understand all too well that we would not be here if it weren't for the sacrifices of those who came before us, who laid their lives on the line so that this country could live up to its highest ideals of democracy and equality for all.

Again, I commend the CBC and my colleagues tonight. I am honored to join you in making sure that we keep this alive.

It was John Lewis who said that the vote is the most precious, fundamental right in our society. He also reminded us that our struggle is not a struggle for 1 day, 1 week, or 1 year. Our struggle, the struggle for voting rights, is a struggle of a lifetime.

We in the CBC are committed to making sure that we pass the John Robert Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act named after our beloved John Lewis.

I thank you for allowing me to begin this Special Order hour, and I again commend my colleagues for joining us in the fight to make sure that all Americans have access to the ballot box.

Mrs. CHERFILUS-McCORMICK. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from

Nevada (Mr. HORSFORD), the chair of the Congressional Black Caucus.

Mr. HORSFORD. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleagues in the Congressional Black Caucus and Representative SHEILA CHERFILUS-McCORMICK and Representative JONATHAN JACKSON for organizing this Special Hour order and leading as coanchors this evening.

As chairman of the Congressional Black Caucus, I rise today to join my colleagues in this hour focused on the push for voting rights.

Today, March 7, is the 58th anniversary of Bloody Sunday, which occurred in Selma, Alabama, at the Edmund Pettus Bridge. That day, people gathered to march to the capital of Alabama, but they only made it a few miles before State troopers beat the protesters and shed blood on the bridge and streets of Selma.

Among the marchers was a 25-year-old young man named John Lewis. Years before he would come to join us here in the Halls of Congress, he was a civil rights leader and activist.

Some today might call him woke by their standards, and he was, in fact, woke: woke to disenfranchisement of Black men and women in the South, and woke to the fact that in Dallas County, Alabama, where he marched and where the police beat him, Black folks made up more than half of the population but somehow only made up 2 percent of the registered voters.

When the late Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., was arrested in Selma a few months earlier, he wrote in *The New York Times*: "This is Selma, Alabama. There are more Negroes in jail with me than there are on the voting rolls."

In the nearby town of Marion, tensions hit a fever pitch when, on February 18, 1965, State troopers clubbed protesters and fatally shot 26-year-old Jimmie Lee Jackson, an African-American demonstrator trying to protect his mother, who was being struck by police.

Civil rights leaders planned to take their cause directly to Alabama Governor George Wallace on a 54-mile march from Selma to the State capital of Montgomery.

□ 1945

Although Wallace ordered state troopers "to use whatever means are necessary to prevent a march," approximately 600 voting rights advocates set out from the Brown Chapel AME Church on Sunday, March 7.

I was honored to join my colleague, Representative TERRI SEWELL, and other Members, at Brown Chapel AME Church just this Sunday.

The demonstrators marched peacefully through downtown Selma. As they began to cross the bridge spanning the Alabama River, the marchers who gazed up could see the name of a Confederate general and grand dragon of the Alabama Ku Klux Klan, Edmund Pettus, staring right back at them in big block letters emblazoned across that bridge.

Soon after, the melee began and the police took out their batons and tear gas to attack the peaceful marchers. John Lewis later testified in court that he was knocked to the ground and was hit in the head with a nightstick by a state trooper.

What was different from this march, and this fight, was the many television cameras that captured the brutal moments on film and aired them across the country. It was a turning point in the fight for civil rights and for voting rights, just months after the Civil Rights Act of 1964 had been signed into law.

I had the opportunity, as I said, to join some of my colleagues in Selma, in Birmingham, and in Montgomery this weekend which, I may add, is now represented by our colleague in the Congressional Black Caucus, Congresswoman TERRI SEWELL. I was pleased that President Biden was there with us recognizing the need for our renewed action on voting rights for all.

The John R. Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act would ensure every American can exercise their vote. As the conscience of the Congress, the Congressional Black Caucus has always held voting rights at the forefront of our efforts in Congress.

Let me just say this: This is the first time in nearly 40 years that reauthorization of sections of the Voting Rights Act have not been passed in a bipartisan way, in nearly 40 years.

There have been previous Congresses where this was never controversial; the idea of reauthorizing one of our most fundamental rights as American citizens, the right to vote.

So my question to my colleagues on the other side is: Why won't you join with us, as your colleagues in previous Congresses have done, to reauthorize the John R. Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act?

We are calling on you today to join with us to protect and restore the sacred right to vote. We understand that this legislation must be passed. This is not a Republican, a Democrat, or an Independent issue. This is not a Black, Brown or White issue. This is a fundamental issue around voting rights.

Mr. Speaker, I thank you for the time for the Congressional Black Caucus today and, again, thank all of my colleagues who have joined us on the floor this evening, and to our great co-chairs, Representative CHERFILUS-McCORMICK and Representative JACKSON for leading this Special Order hour.

Let's pass the John R. Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act this Congress.

Mrs. CHERFILUS-McCORMICK. Mr. Speaker, I thank Chairman HORSFORD for spearheading our Special Order today.

I now have the privilege of yielding to the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. JACKSON), my co-anchor.

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from the State of Florida, the Honorable SHEILA CHERFILUS-McCORMICK.

There are too many people who believe that what happened in Selma is about the past, when really it is about the future. That city, this movement, and perhaps most of all, this dedication to freedom, to equity, and equality, is not, nor has it ever been merely a moment in time.

Let us be very clear: We do not go to Selma every year to remember. There is nothing wrong with remembering. In fact, America would be a better place if she was willing to get over her historical amnesia.

There is a place in the body politic of this Nation for the act of remembering; no doubt about it. But what happened in Selma on this date, it is not some fossilized moment in American history.

What happened there was that ordinary people decided that they wanted their country to be a better place. They decided to dig again the wells of democracy which had been severely tampered with by racism, sexism, poverty, anti-Blackness, anti-Semitism, and everything else that made America woeful in the eyes of the marginalized and the oppressed.

The Founding Fathers had their role and their place, but everyone could not drink from their wells. Those were privileged wells. The wells that they dug had pretty stones, but the water was muddy.

What happened in Selma is that an entire generation decided to clean up the well. They decided to dig deeper wells. The people who marched there were of the opinion that everybody has a right to drink from the great springs of democracy.

They fundamentally believed that if you are a citizen of this country, then no one has the right to tell you that you don't have access to the constitutional ideals that make democracy worth the trouble of being democratic.

Amelia Boynton and Jimmy Lee Jackson took democracy in America in their own hands and saved America from Americanism.

My father is famous for saying that hands that used to pick cotton are now picking Presidents, and he is absolutely right. But today we need to understand that those same hands are the only reason that democracy survives in this country.

Do you think the insurrection of January 6 was the first time democracy was in trouble in this country?

As the Bible says, be not deceived.

When women are not safe, and Black people cannot vote, and Jewish people are put upon, and poor people are denied dignity and resources, the fact of the matter is this: Democracy in this country was already on life support, and has been so for a long time.

But in 1965, ordinary people pumped life back into this democracy. Reverend Martin Luther King worked on the heart. Reverend Howard Thurman and Reverend Benjamin Mays worked on the minds. Ella Baker, Fannie Lou Hamer, and Diane Nash worked on its bones.

Everyday people, before those names, some of which you don't know, breathed life back into the American experience and, in a manner of speaking, told Lazarus to rise up from that grave.

The Selma movement took an emaciated commitment to its constitution and anemic political system and dared to put meat on the bone.

In 2023, the fight for democracy is not over. As of January 25, at least 150 proposed restrictive voting bills have been introduced in 32 States, threatening to disenfranchise millions of voters.

In Texas, five election interference bills have already been introduced this year alone, and in North Carolina, the Supreme Court of the U.S. has heard disturbing arguments in the *Moore v. Harper* case. This case seeks to establish the "independent state legislature" theory, which would prohibit State supreme courts from interpreting whether laws passed by the State legislature are constitutional under their constitutions.

These efforts to limit access to the ballot box and undermine the will of the people underscore the commitment, the importance of continuing the fight for democracy and upholding the values that we were defending in Selma.

When we go to Selma, we go not simply to show up to remember, we go every year to renew our commitment to the America that was created by freedom fighters.

The America created not in the purity of a hall in Philadelphia, but on a bridge in Alabama dripping with blood.

We show up every year to let it be known that we are not going back.

We are going annually to leave no room for doubt.

This is our country. We were born here, and until all of us are free, none of us can make a claim for freedom.

We go to Selma every year so that the bigots and the racists, and the sexists, and the supremacists will know that we will not be moved.

We don't show up in Selma every year for Reverend Martin Luther King. We come for our children, and our grandchildren, and our great-grandchildren, and generations yet unborn.

We go to Selma to make it clear that as long as we have anything to say about it, a government of the people, by the people, and for the people, and for all the people, shall not perish from the Earth.

Mrs. CHERFILUS-McCORMICK. Mr. Speaker, it is now my privilege to yield to the gentleman from New Jersey, the Honorable DONALD PAYNE, Jr.

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from Florida for the opportunity to speak here tonight.

As I knew before, I have just learned again, you should not follow any speaker with the last name Jackson.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 58th anniversary of the march from Selma to Montgomery, and support the need to pass critical legis-

lation to protect the right to vote for all Americans.

In 1964, our Nation passed the Civil Rights Act. It established clearly that the rights described in the U.S. Constitution applied to all Americans, regardless of color.

The question I have, though, and I will raise in the future is: Why do we have to continually ask for that right every 25 years?

That right should have been given in 1964 and been a permanent right.

So as we get through this piece of legislation, I will start to raise that question: Why is it we have to come every 25 years and ask for a right that we deserve?

But there were still political structures in place that denied African Americans the right to vote. So African Americans mobilized and promoted voter registration throughout the country, especially in the southern U.S. States.

Few places in the country were as segregated as the State of Alabama. In some Alabama counties, African Americans represented half of the population, but they only represented 2 percent of registered voters.

At the time, activists engaged in peaceful protests to attack the Jim Crow laws that kept African Americans off the voter rolls. They were arrested and beaten for their efforts.

When famed civil rights leader Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. was arrested during one of these protests, he said that there were more African Americans in jail than on the local voter rolls.

Finally, 600 brave Americans, led by 25-year-old hero, John Lewis, planned to march from Selma, Alabama, to Montgomery. They wanted to discuss voter segregation with the Alabama Governor and renowned racist, George Wallace.

They marched across the now famous Edmund Pettus Bridge in Selma, in the hopes that they could find justice. Instead, they were beaten by White state troopers and sheriff's deputies in a day known as "Bloody Sunday."

We have come a long way in this country from the evils of that era, but there are some people that are looking to set the clock back. The forces of racism and prejudice have found new voices these days, and they are trying to undo the work that we have done to create an equal society.

In 2022, there were 11 laws passed in 8 States to restrict voting rights, and another 408 bills to restrict voting rights were considered in 39 States.

In Georgia, you are not even allowed to provide water to hot and tired voters waiting in line.

Right now, there is a battle to secure voting rights for every citizen in our country. There are still people who think all Americans do not deserve the right to vote, and they target our African-American communities directly.

It makes me furious that we have to go through this cycle every 15 to 20

years, as I stated, to keep our right to vote. That is why we must pass the John R. Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act.

This bill puts people over politics to protect their voting rights. It establishes Election Day as a national holiday. It allows voting to be more accessible for all Americans, and it ends partisan gerrymandering of congressional districts.

□ 2000

Even more important, States with a history of voter discrimination and suppression would need Federal approval before they could change their voting laws.

There has never been a more important time to pass this bill than right now.

I am fighting to secure the right to vote for all Americans, especially African Americans. That is why I helped pass the Freedom to Vote: John R. Lewis bill in the previous Congress and why I am here helping support this bill's passage in this Congress.

Mr. Speaker, let us put people over politics and pass this bill now.

Mrs. CHERFILUS-McCORMICK. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. CARTER).

Mr. CARTER of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, I thank the distinguished gentleman from Illinois and the distinguished gentlewoman from Florida for the opportunity to speak.

The late Congressman John Lewis once said: "Your vote is precious, almost sacred. It is the most powerful nonviolent tool we have to create a more perfect union." Few truer words have been spoken.

Over the weekend, I had the privilege of joining President Biden and my colleagues in Alabama to commemorate the 58th anniversary of Bloody Sunday. We traced the steps of incredible brave soldiers. What a blessing to feel their heartbeats in the wind.

I will make my thoughts on this trip concise. We must protect the right to vote. Fair representation is a cornerstone of our democracy. A war was fought to give every American of every race one vote. For voters today, voters tomorrow, and all of those who sacrificed for the sacred right to vote, we must pass the John R. Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act to restore the vote for all.

In every fashion, in every avenue, we will continue to battle to protect this sacred right and strengthen the very foundation of our democracy.

Mrs. CHERFILUS-McCORMICK. Mr. Speaker, I thank so much Representative TROY CARTER for his words.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. VEASEY).

Mr. VEASEY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from Florida and the gentleman from Illinois for putting together this Special Order hour to talk about something that is very important, and that is voting rights in this country.

On the anniversary of Bloody Sunday, that happened in Selma, Alabama, 58 years ago, a group of courageous civil rights activists were brutally attacked on the Edmund Pettus Bridge in that city as they marched against legalized segregation, legalized apartheid in America, and voter suppression. One of these activists who was beaten within an inch of his life was our friend and late colleague John Lewis.

Now, nearly six decades later, I am very sad to report to you that a lot of these attacks are starting to take place again, but in a different type of a way, because people are clever. You heard Lee Atwater, on his deathbed, say that if you say it that way, people will stop listening to you, so you have got to say it this way. So people have become very clever about how they unveil these attacks on people's voting rights.

I want to start in my home State of Texas. You know, something interesting, after the Voting Rights Act was passed, for decades, we were probably the leaders when it came to expanding voting rights for citizens in the State of Texas. We had a very generous early vote period; a very generous vote-by-mail period; easy to be able to register to vote; felons could vote after they were no longer, as they say, on paper; and it was a place that enfranchised lots of people.

But now, the right to vote in Texas is under attack. There are six bills in the State of Texas that are moving through the legislature. One is trying to make it illegal for people to vote on college campuses, where election officials can't hold elections on college campuses. That is how crazy and desperate this has gotten. I will talk about that cleverness and how people try to say things a little bit differently because they know if they just blurt it outright that they will just get completely taken to task on that.

So in my home county of Tarrant County, where Fort Worth is located, our county judge and district attorney had a press conference a few weeks ago and said that they were going to use taxpayer dollars to create a voter integrity employee, to presumably try to find someone Black or Hispanic that they could hold up and showcase as committing voter fraud. That is how crazy it has gotten, that people would actually be so desperate that they want to try to find somebody that they can hold up as a political ploy to try and further advance their careers. It is crazy, it is unjust, and we can't let this happen.

Sadly, Republican-led States across our Nation are following Texas' dangerous lead.

That is the reason why I founded the Congressional Voting Rights Caucus. As a Member of the Congressional Black Caucus, I urge us to do everything we can to pass the John Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act and get it signed into law. Because I have got to tell you, this cleverness that is

happening right now, it is just going to continue to increase and increase and increase. People are going to say: No, no, no, that doesn't mean that; you can't compare it to then. But like Lee Atwater said, you have to change the wording, because if you don't, people will stop listening to you. That is what is happening now.

We have got to do everything we can to make sure that all Americans, not just people that are going to support us, because that is what we are fighting right now in Europe is that sort of crazy thought. We need everybody, people that are going to be for us and against us, to have the right to vote in this country, because that is what our Constitution is all about.

If you really believe in that, then you will uphold the right of all Americans to be able to exercise their suffrage in this country.

Mrs. CHERFILUS-McCORMICK. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Ohio (Mrs. SYKES).

Mrs. SYKES. Mr. Speaker, let me first start by acknowledging my colleagues from the great States of Illinois and Florida for organizing this Special Order hour to discuss protecting the Voting Rights Act.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to emphasize the most sacred right we have as Americans, a cornerstone of our democracy, the freedom to vote.

Mr. Speaker, you may know that on January 6, 2023, exactly 2 years after the antidemocratic insurrection on this Nation's Capitol, my home State, the State of Ohio, enacted one of the strictest, most restrictive antivoter laws in the entire country. This law works to silence the voice of Ohioans, including my constituents in Ohio's 13th Congressional District, by creating deliberate barriers to voting, including reducing the number of early voting hours and enacting unnecessarily strict photo ID requirements, one of the most stringent in the country.

Just a few weeks ago, the largest county in Ohio's 13th Congressional District had the fourth highest amount of names purged from the voter rolls, over 5,000 of the 125,000 statewide.

But this blatant attack on freedom to vote is not just a phenomenon in my home State of Ohio. No, Mr. Speaker, since the 2022 election, 19 states have enacted laws that make it harder for Americans to cast their ballot.

Mr. Speaker, remember it was the Voting Rights Act of 1965, a bipartisan piece of legislation, that ensured that States who are plenty happy to disenfranchise Black and Brown voters had to take additional steps to ensure and allow people to vote.

It is our duty as Representatives elected by the people of these United States to put people over politics and do everything within our power to strengthen our democracy and protect the sacred right to vote in free, fair, and secure elections.

We must restore the protections of the Voting Rights Act and take the

necessary steps to ensure access to the ballot box by passing the John Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act and the Freedom to Vote Act.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to rise to the urgency of this moment by using every tool at our disposal to protect the right to vote. Our democracy simply cannot wait. Equal access to the ballot for every American must be our focus.

Mrs. CHERFILUS-McCORMICK. Mr. Speaker, I thank Representative EMILIA SYKES.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Pennsylvania (Ms. LEE).

Ms. LEE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I thank our convenors for the opportunity today to talk about this important issue of protecting our voting rights.

I am one of the new wave of younger Black legislators who never had the opportunity to meet or serve with Representative John Lewis but who are now tasked with finishing what he started.

It is disappointing that we still have a need to explain the urgency of voting rights. But during a time when Black history is under attack, I will still give a brief course, as some of my colleagues here have done.

Today, on March 7, but in 1965, 58 years ago and over two decades before I was born, John Lewis and his comrades risked their lives to demand more of our democracy on what is now known as Bloody Sunday.

You see, months before Bloody Sunday, civil rights organizers celebrated the passage of the landmark Civil Rights Act of 1964, but they demanded more: the right to vote.

So 58 years ago, John Lewis joined over 600 others, marched across the Edmund Pettus Bridge, where they were brutalized by police simply for demanding access to the right to vote, the right to be a full citizen in our democracy just like everyone else, a right that is under attack once again today.

Just saying the right to vote is incomplete. There are still multiple impediments today toward what is really at risk: access to our democracy.

We must fight to modernize voting; we must fight against unduly burdensome voter ID laws; we must fight against gerrymandering; and we must fight to get money out of politics, which locks us out of our fully representative democracy.

Voting rights is a question of economic justice, of racial justice, of LGBTQ rights and women's rights. All our rights are at stake when we vote and, indeed, when we are denied the right to vote.

It is often said that my ancestors died for the right to vote, but I believe that that doesn't paint the entire picture. They died for our right to participate fully in American society and citizenship, to not only vote but to self-determine, to run, to serve, to lead.

I regret that I was never able to call Representative John Lewis a colleague,

but I feel a sense of urgency to finish what he started. I strongly urge my colleagues across the aisle to support the John Lewis Voting Rights Act, and I similarly urge them to wake up or move out of the way.

Mrs. CHERFILUS-McCORMICK. Mr. Speaker, I thank Representative LEE for her words.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE).

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, let me thank the gentlewoman from Florida and the gentleman from Illinois for their distinguished leadership of the CBC Special Order and to acknowledge our chairman, STEVE HORSFORD, and the leadership to be able to acknowledge a very important moment.

Mr. Speaker, this is a time that draws memories, it draws emotions, and it draws a lot of tears.

I am very privileged and honored to have worked for the Southern Christian Leadership Conference as a college student in a program called SCOPE. How fortunate I was in the aftermath of the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King to meet his foot soldiers, which included James Orange, Hosea Williams, Andy Young, Reverend Dr. Ralph Abernathy, and a young man by the name of Jesse Louis Jackson, who we are privileged and honored to be able to not only know but to have his wisdom and his brilliance in leadership even with us today.

Amongst those great leaders was a young man as well by the name of John Lewis, who continued, in his admiration for Dr. King, his own journey and fight. He was in the Freedom Riders, beaten at that time, as fellow riders, who did not look like him, were beaten bloody and even lost their life. Many Americans don't recall that history. Some call it the second civil war and the aftermath the second reconstruction.

□ 2015

There were many people who were willing to sacrifice their lives because of the right to vote—the right to vote, which was denied. The amazing aspect of their fight was that it was non-violent.

They trained extensively to suffer at lunch counters. They were spit upon, beaten, hit in the head, pulled off the stools. There were multiple movements that could contribute to this question of civil rights and voting rights.

Many people were reminded of the “I Am a Man” campaign to try to bring dignity to garbage workers and sanitation workers that Dr. King fought for in Memphis, Tennessee, where he saw his untimely and brutal death.

This weekend was a commemoration of Bloody Sunday. Bloody Sunday actually happened on March 7, 1965.

Mr. Speaker, we are here on this day, the actual March 7, 1965. It was a group of nonviolent churchgoers, one might say, that walked across the Edmund Pettus Bridge to be able to make a move from Selma, Alabama, to Mont-

gomery to show the State of Alabama and then-Governor Wallace, a raging segregationist, who later was reformed and reborn—to be able to say that they needed the right to vote or to show our President, our southern President, Lyndon Baines Johnson, that they needed the right to vote.

It was that march that was bloody. John Lewis was beaten near death, and others were beaten. Preceding that, Jimmie Lee Jackson was shot dead.

A little girl named Sheyann, who was 8 years old, was there this weekend. She was there, as we were all there, in memory of John Lewis, Martin King, Hosea Williams, many other foot soldiers, and the women that were involved as well from Alabama and the surrounding South.

We gathered together, Members of Congress, the Congressional Black Caucus, Cabinet officers, and the President of the United States, to say that Congress has not done its job.

The demise of the Voting Rights Act started with the Shelby case in 2013 in Alabama. It was simply a case of a city council person trying to get and make sure that he had fairness with every person having a right to vote. Unfortunately, the case went up to the United States Supreme Court, and the arguments were shocking to most of us.

It was: Why do we need this? We have thousands of African-American elected officials. Yes, they had been gained by the 1965 Voting Rights Act, but it was clear that if you are able to get rid of polio because we have the polio vaccine, as one Justice said—as I recall, it was Justice Ginsburg—then why would you get rid of the polio vaccine just because you have been able to get rid of polio because of the vaccine? Why would you get rid of the Voting Rights Act, particularly section 5, just because you have found some progress?

Mr. Speaker, I can tell you that as we have seen the loss of the Voting Rights Act in 2013, we have not been able to reauthorize a simple bill that was four or five pages long that simply says that you have the right to vote unfettered. It doesn't have color in it. It indicates no person can be discriminated against.

Yet, we have seen a mountain of discriminatory laws, voter suppression; purging; gerrymandering; not getting a drink of water; cutting out hours, if you will, with respect to voting, making sure that people who work night shifts can't vote, people who work hourly wages can't vote; no same-day registration. Here we are in 2023.

Mr. Speaker, I would offer to say that we are long overdue with the Voting Rights Act. It is really crafted in the Constitution because the 15th Amendment said we have the right to vote unfettered without discrimination; the 14th Amendment, equal protection of the law; and, of course, the 13th Amendment, so personal to many of us of African descent and those who are the descendants of enslaved Africans. It was the 13th Amendment where

the United States said for once that slavery was over.

Voting rights capture the very essence of who we are as a democracy.

To Selma, I thank you for being another cradle of democracy. For those marches of those individuals and children, Mr. Speaker, were utilized—it was a children's march that was utilized in order to ensure that we could vote.

As a Member of the United States Congress and the Judiciary Committee, I have been part of a bipartisan reauthorization of the Voting Rights Act. It was in 2006, and it extended the Voting Rights Act for 25 years. We passed the P.L. 109-246, H.R. 9.

It is well known that large numbers of Members of the House—bipartisan—voted for the Voting Rights Act, and 98 Members of the Senate. This is the reauthorization. We also renamed it the Fannie Lou Hamer, Rosa Parks, and Coretta Scott King Voting Rights Act Reauthorization. Ultimately, at a later time, we added the Honorable Barbara Jordan and a number of other Texans who were engaged in voting empowerment, and we did it in a bipartisan manner.

It troubles me that we cannot come together and pass a voting rights bill that does nothing but allow Americans to vote. The Shelby case has dismantled the infrastructure of safe voting, constitutional privileges of equal protection of the law, and of course, the fear of voting—people being arrested just for activating the right to vote, not being cautioned that they may not have had their registration right but put in jail—outright intimidation.

It is important for us to be on the floor today to be able to reinforce and to extend a hand of friendship and partnership. Why can't we reauthorize this bill? Why can't the Senate accept the John Robert Lewis Voting Enhancement Act with a new formula dealing with section 4 that deals with the formula under section 5? I am pleading with our colleagues to do so.

It is important, as I conclude my remarks, to recognize that voting is unfettered, and it is a choice of the American people. In this democracy—a two-party system most often, though there are other parties—we are either elected or unelected. That is the greatness of America.

Over the years, we have accepted the peaceful transfer of power until that day, January 6, 2021. I hope we will never see that day again.

That is no excuse for not passing the Voting Rights Act. It is no excuse for not recognizing that the importance of the Voting Rights Act is wrapped up in the history of African Americans, even though voting is for everyone. It is wrapped up in our basic history of not being counted as a whole person in the Constitution. As slaves, we were never able to even muster that sacred right to vote.

Landed people voted; unlanded did not. White women didn't have the right

to vote, and unlanded people did not have the right to vote, if I might use that term.

Over the years, things changed. A brief moment of reconstruction that was just like a blink of an eye—barely even saw it. Then we went into the darkness of Jim Crowism and the viciousness of the Klan, which lasted into the 20th century.

I would think with that kind of history, America, which is the greatest country in the world and has overcome so much, would want to be that bright and shining city on the hill, to be able to show the world what democracy really is and what voting really is, that you can oppress people at one point and lift them up at another point. You can oppress the descendants of enslaved Africans. You can oppress slaves. You can do it into the 1800s and into the 1900s. Yet, you can do better.

Mr. Speaker, I would also say that we must not be afraid of the kind of words that make us a great country. Let us not be afraid of diversity, equity, and inclusiveness. When has that ever hurt anyone?

It only says that all of us, whether you are a person of faith or otherwise—I say all of God's children, but if you are not, it says all Americans, patriots, have every right to be in this country with all the benefits of the Constitution.

I do believe in the Declaration of Independence, that we all are created equal with certain inalienable rights of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

Let me also say to you, as we look at this idea of voting, African Americans and others, Americans, have fought in every war. We have been in every war from the Revolutionary War. We have shed blood in every single war and conflict alongside our brothers who don't look like us.

Mr. Speaker, in my final words, we have not been able to study slavery the way we should have. We did have Juneteenth. I hope that we will have the whole Nation celebrating Juneteenth, a Federal holiday that acknowledges the time of slavery and late time of release out of Texas 2 years later.

What we have not done is we have not passed H.R. 40, a simple bill, just a commission to study slavery and develop reparation proposals. What would that be? Just an analysis of the economic, social, psychological, health, and educational impact of slavery in this Nation and why the trajectory shows that the indicia of how African Americans are today in America is related to the connection of slavery.

Every discipline will show that our numbers are down. We should not be judged by—wealthy this person and wealthy that person. You need to look at the respective communities, rural and urban, and you will find Black people without healthcare, large numbers; without wealth, large numbers; without psychological, scientific, and socio-

logical analysis. We can do something and bring this country together.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that reparations and the legislation of H.R. 40, an executive order that the President could do tomorrow, would be a healing, restoring, and repairing time in our life.

Mr. Speaker, I conclude my remarks by citing Harriet Tubman, one of the greatest generals we ever had, who freed many slaves, risked her life to go back to get those who were not free. She was part of the Underground Railroad, and it keeps me going.

Just like the words of John Lewis: Never give up, never give in, never give out.

In the framework of freeing the slaves, if you hear the dogs, keep on going. If you see the lights, keep on going. If you hear the noise, keep on going.

Mr. Speaker, if you want a taste of freedom, we need to keep on going. That is America. I hope tonight that my colleagues and those who are viewing us will keep on going, for freedom is before us, and we need to keep on going.

Mr. Speaker, I have said it once and I will continue to say it until it gets done: we have to pass the Voting Rights Act, which corrects the damage done in recent years to the Voting Rights Act of 1965 and commits the national government to protecting the right of all Americans to vote free from discrimination and without injustices that previously prevented them from exercising this most fundamental right of citizenship.

We cannot have free and fair elections without this essential legislation.

In the 58 years since its passage on this day in 1965, the Voting Rights Act has safeguarded the right of Americans to vote and stood as an obstacle to many of the more egregious attempts by certain states and local jurisdictions to game the system by passing discriminatory changes to their election laws and administrative policies.

Mr. Speaker, for most of the past 56 years, support for the Voting Rights Act and protecting, preserving, and expanding the right to vote of all Americans has been an issue that Americans have supported in overwhelming numbers across the nation.

On July 9, 1965, the House passed the Voting Rights Act by a 333–85 vote, with Democrats voting 221–61 and Republicans 112–24. The House later approved the VRA conference report on August 3 by a 328–74 vote (Democrats 217–54, Republicans 111–20).

The Senate passed the VRA on August 4 by a 79–18 vote, with Democrats voting 49–17 and Republicans 30–1 and this landmark legislation, P.L. 89–10, was signed into law by President Lyndon Johnson as on August 6, 1965.

Five years later, on June 22, 1970, the VRA was renewed for five years as Public Law 91–285, passing the House by a vote of 272–132 and the Senate by a vote of 64–12.

Five years after that, on June 4, 1975, Congress extended the VRA for seven years, enacting Public Law 94–73, with majorities of 341–70 in the House and 77–12 in the Senate, and on June 29, 1982, a Republican-controlled Senate joined with a Democratic House

to pass Public Law 97–205, extending the VRA for 10 years, with the vote in the Senate of 85–8 and the vote in the House of 389–24.

Ten years later, the bipartisan Voting Rights Language Assistance Act was passed as Public Law 102–344 on August 26, 1992. And on July 27, 2006, the Voting Rights Act was extended for 25 years when the Congress passed Public Law 109–246 (H.R. 9), the Fannie Lou Hamer, Rosa Parks, and Coretta Scott King Voting Rights Act Reauthorization and Amendments Act of 2006. The vote for H.R. 9 was 390–33 in the House and 98–0 in the Senate.

Every extension of the Voting Rights Act was signed into law by a Republican President, from Richard Nixon to Gerald Ford to Ronald Reagan to George H.W. Bush, and George W. Bush.

This chain of bipartisan support for voting rights stood solid and unbreakable until the Supreme Court's horrendous decision in *Shelby County v. Holder*, 570 U.S. 529 (2013).

Between 1982 and June 25, 2013, Section 5 of the VRA stopped more than 1,000 discriminatory voting changes in their tracks, including 107 discriminatory changes in Texas.

Mr. Speaker, I was a member of this Committee in 2006 when, led by Republican Chairman James Sensenbrenner, it compiled a 15,000 page record documenting the continuing need for the Voting Rights Act, and especially its Section 5 preclearance provisions, and reported favorably H.R. 9, the legislation reauthorizing the Voting Rights Act for 25 years, which in turned passed the House by an overwhelming 390–33 vote and passed the Senate by a unanimous 98–0 vote.

I was never prouder to be an American and a Member of Congress than I was the day I attended White House signing ceremony where President George W. Bush signed the bill into law.

So, it really should not have been necessary and urgent for us to be here, as the Voting Rights Act was authorized until 2031.

But on June 25, 2013, the Supreme Court decided *Shelby County v. Holder*, 570 U.S. 193 (2013), which invalidated Section 4(b) of the VRA, and paralyzed the application of the VRA's Section 5 preclearance requirements, which protect minority voting rights where voter discrimination has historically been the worst.

The current conservative Supreme Court majority has simply never understood, or refuses to accept, the fundamental importance of the right to vote, free of discriminatory hurdles and obstacles.

It was predicted at the time by me and other defenders of the precious right to vote that the Supreme Court's misguided and naive decision would usher in a wave of state and local initiatives intended to suppress and nullify the rights of black Americans, persons of color, young adults, and marginalized communities to exercise the most basic act in the political process: voting.

As we have seen in recent elections, this prediction has tragically come to pass.

To increase transparency and to ensure there is time for effective remedial action, the Voting Rights Act should be strengthened by adding a new section that requires each State and subdivision to identify all new laws, regulations, or policies that include voting qualifications or prerequisites to voting covered by the Act and ensure that no covered practice is implemented unless it has been precleared.

It is useful, Mr. Speaker, to recount how we arrived at this day.

The reason it is important to review this history is so that we always remember the true and fundamental purpose of the Voting Rights Act, and that was to protect and empower black Americans, who had for two centuries been exploited, victimized, persecuted, scapegoated, cheated, and treated with both benign and malignant neglect all because they were excluded from participating in the political process and the making of decisions that affected their lives.

It is interesting to note the absence of the current frantic efforts to disenfranchise black voters and other person of color had no antecedent in 1994, when unexpectedly Republicans won the House majority for the first time in 40 years and majorities in several state legislatures across the country.

Nor did it happen in the after of the 2010 elections when Republicans recaptured the House majority after holding the White House for two consecutive terms.

What accounts for the lack of vote suppression action then and the desperate actions we see now?

I believe the answer is clear and simple: 29 years ago in 1994, and as recent as 13 years ago in 2010, conservative Republicans still believed they could compete for democratic political power fair and square and that ideas and principles could attract majority support.

With the demographic changes and generational replacement taking place in America, the maturation and coming of age of the beneficiaries of the Great Society, and the rise of what social and political scientist call the "Obama Coalition," they no longer believe that.

They now hold it as an article of faith that they cannot win if they do not cheat; instead of taking their ideas and arguments to the voters, they have opted to change the rules so they can handpick the voters.

They have disenfranchised voters, but voters have continuously overcome those efforts.

Black voters in Georgia, Pennsylvania, Michigan, and Wisconsin braved a deadly pandemic to exercise their right to vote in an act of political self-defense against the most corrupt, incompetent, indifferent, and racist administration since the end of the Civil War.

In so doing, they vindicated and made prophetic the words of President Lyndon B. Johnson, the greatest legislative strategist and tactician of our lifetime, who saw clearly the need and power for good of the Voting Rights Act:

"The vote is the most powerful instrument ever devised by man for breaking down injustice and destroying the terrible walls which imprison men because they are different from other men."

Fifty-eight years ago today, in Selma, Alabama, hundreds of heroic souls risked their lives for freedom and to secure the right to vote for all Americans by their participation in marches for voting rights on "Bloody Sunday," "Turnaround Tuesday," or the final, completed march from Selma to Montgomery.

Those "foot soldiers" of Selma, brave and determined men and women, boys and girls, persons of all races and creeds, loved their country so much that they were willing to risk their lives to make it better, to bring it even closer to its founding ideals.

The foot soldiers marched because they believed that all persons have dignity and the

right to equal treatment under the law, and in the making of the laws, which is the fundamental essence of the right to vote.

On that day, Sunday, March 7, 1965, more than 600 civil rights demonstrators, including our beloved former colleague, the late Congressman John Lewis of Georgia, were brutally attacked by state and local police at the Edmund Pettus Bridge as they marched from Selma to Montgomery in support of the right to vote.

"Bloody Sunday" was a defining moment in American history because it crystallized for the nation the necessity of enacting a strong and effective federal law to protect the right to vote of every American.

No one who witnessed the violence and brutally suffered by the foot soldiers for justice who gathered at the Edmund Pettus Bridge will ever forget it; the images are deeply seared in the American memory and experience.

The Voting Rights Act of 1965 was critical to preventing brazen voter discrimination violations that historically left millions of African Americans disenfranchised.

In 1940, for example, there were less than 30,000 African Americans registered to vote in Texas and only about 3% of African Americans living in the South were registered to vote.

Poll taxes, literacy tests, and threats of violence were the major causes of these racially discriminatory results.

After passage of the Voting Rights Act in 1965, which prohibited these discriminatory practices, registration and electoral participation steadily increased to the point that by 2012, more than 1.2 million African Americans living in Texas were registered to vote.

In 1964, the year before the Voting Rights Act became law, of there were approximately 300 African Americans in public office, including just three in Congress.

Few, if any, African Americans held elective office anywhere in the South.

Because of the Voting Rights Act, in 2007 there were more than 9,100 black elected officials, including 46 members of Congress, the largest number ever.

Mr. Speaker, the Voting Rights Act opened the political process for many of the approximately 6,000 Hispanic public officials that have been elected and appointed nationwide, including more than 275 at the state or federal level, 32 of whom serve in Congress.

Native Americans, Asians and others who have historically encountered harsh barriers to full political participation also have benefited greatly.

We must all do our part to preserve this most important legislation because it was earned with the sacrifices and the lives of our ancestors.

The right to vote is a "powerful instrument that can break down the walls of injustice" and must be protected against attack from all enemies, foreign and domestic, using all the legal tools at our disposal.

I look forward to the discussion of these matters with our witnesses.

Mrs. CHERFILUS-McCORMICK. Mr. Speaker, I would inquire as to how much time is remaining.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentlewoman from Florida has 8 minutes remaining.

Mrs. CHERFILUS-McCORMICK. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. JACKSON).

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, on this day, March 7, I would like to also share reflections that I have had with the House regarding Mrs. Mamie Till, the mother of Emmett Till, a resident of the First Congressional District of Illinois.

Mr. Speaker, I had the privilege, better than 3 weeks ago, to attend the screening of the "Till" movie in the White House under the Presidency of Joseph R. Biden.

My remarks are as follows: Mr. Speaker, I rise today to give special recognition to Mr. Andy Jassy, chief executive officer of Amazon, for his inspiring contribution to the making of the major motion picture "Till," a movie about the life and martyrdom of Emmett Till.

Mr. Jassy's participation is of special importance to me, not only as an African American but as a Representative of the First Congressional District of Illinois.

Emmett Till lived and is now buried in the First Congressional District. Were he alive today, I very well could be his constituent in the First District or he could have been mine.

Sadly, we live in a world where the prospects of Black life continue to diminish. Emmett Till never got to live out his days in peace. He never got to pursue the best of what he had to offer the world.

It is important that we remember that Emmett Till was actually a human being.

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Emmett Till was not, first and foremost, a victim, nor was he merely a symbol of racial antipathy in America. Emmett Till was a young man of tremendous compassion—a compassion not just for his family, but for his community as well.

Emmett dreamed of becoming a motorcycle policeman. It is said by those who knew him well, that Emmett had a joy for life, an infectious personality, and a remarkable sense of humor. In the eyes of those who loved him, Emmett was a boy who knew no limitations. He was what we should be and what we should value in all children in America, namely limitless.

There is nothing more tragic than such a bright light should be needlessly extinguished, that such a treasure should be buried in the ground, and that such a crime against humanity should have taken place.

I remember having been with Mrs. Rosa Parks, and my father Reverend Jackson asked her: Why did she not get up off of that bus in 1955?

She said that it was because she saw Emmett's picture and could not go back.

That indeed laid a foundation of a resurgence of a civil rights era.

I should also mention that the First Congressional District is not only where Emmett lived his life, but it is also the place where his mother kept sleepless sentinel over the memory and

body of her son in a way most reminiscent of Antigone.

Mamie Till courageously fought for accountability and justice not just for her child alone. After the murder of her son, Mamie Till lived her life dedicated to the proposition that all children have a right to be safe and protected.

Without title or position, the mother of Emmett Till committed herself to the eradication of hatred in America, the kind of hatred that killed her son and the kind of hatred that continues to limit the horizons of millions of Blacks because of the color of their skin.

Mamie Till not only was a resident of the First Congressional District, she was the conscience of the community. Having already taken a moral stand, Mrs. Till was the quintessential American mother: Fearless and tenacious and yet somehow endowed with a generosity of spirit that not even the most sullen of hearts could resist her light. To meet her was to meet someone so singularly dedicated to equality that one could not be in her presence without being fundamentally transformed.

I am particularly proud to say that Mamie Till was a close friend of my family, and I have known her all of my life. Both my mother and father loved and admired her, and she must never be forgotten.

This is why the contribution of Mr. Jesse Williams is so significant. The murder and martyrdom of Emmett Till was not only tragic in its own right, but it points the way to a larger and fundamental truth of the American experience. From the years 1882 until 1968, approximately 4,742 people were lynched in America. Most of them were African Americans. The overwhelming majority were innocent, murdered without provocation, and perhaps, most importantly, all of them American citizens trying to secure for themselves the benefits of America.

But because we live in a nation dangerously preoccupied with the impediments of race, over 4,000 of its citizens—Emmett Till being one of them—lost their lives in the unintelligent and uncompromising shadows of hatred. This is why the film sponsored by Mr. Jesse and Amazon is of such critical importance in this era.

Given the fact that we are living in a time when government institutions are trying to erase uncomfortable and inconvenient aspects of American history, cultural artifacts must be rendered beyond reach of state sanctions and curriculum.

Mr. Faulkner said long ago that the center must hold, the truth must be preserved, and everything else is a lie. Nations that build their tomorrows on a cacophony of falsehoods are not worthy of the future they presume. But when we tell the truth, when we tell our story, then we are in the moment a better nation.

This is why what Mr. Jesse has done. This is what all of the makers of the movie "Till" have collaborated to cre-

ate. They, much like the best of the Nation's creative forces, have given us something to consider, something to think about, and something to make us remember lest we fall victim to the most egregious historical infraction: the very act of forgetting.

While it is true that no company is without spot or blemish and since there are no immaculate corporations, it is no less the case, however, that Mr. Jesse's commitment to the making of this important cultural artifact is a watershed moment not only because of the movie's artistic content, but also because it raises the bar on how we might judge the value of corporate citizenship.

Fifty years ago, Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr., reminded us that in some situations, cowardice will ask: Is it safe?

Expedience will ask: Is it popular?

But conscience must ask: Is it right?

Prayerfully, I long for the day when we might look back upon the significant corporate and cultural collaboration and the emergence of a new American corporate consciousness. I think it is not a stretch to suggest that more American companies need to publicly align themselves with the truth of American history.

Mr. Jesse has certainly done that. He has reminded us that despite the inherent value of selling, we must put aside selling items sometimes to make a profit in order to do what is right for our Nation and the world.

Mr. Speaker, yesterday, we honored and commemorated the memory of Emmett Till. I had the pleasure of attending the White House screening of the movie "Till." Emmett Till was only 14 years old when he was brutally beaten, shot, and dumped into the Tallahatchie River. It was horrific tragedy that sent shockwaves across the Nation, exposing the deep-seated racism and hatred that existed in the South during that time.

But it was also a pivotal moment that helped to galvanize a generation of civil rights activists, including my father and countless others, who were determined to fight for equality and justice for all.

I find it significant to mention that Emmett Till was born the same year as my father. As a son of the civil rights movement, I know that Till's murder touched the hearts of many and inspired them to take action. One of those people was Rosa Parks, who attended a rally in Alabama in 1955, where she heard Mississippi activist Dr. T.R.M. Howard speak about Till. Years later, my father asked Rosa Parks why she refused to move to the back of the bus, and she replied, "I thought of Emmett Till and I couldn't go back."

Thank you, President Biden for hosting this screening of "Till" at the White House. Your decision to share this important story with the country demonstrates your commitment to the fight for racial justice and your understanding of the importance of educating the public on the history of our Nation. Additionally, I want to thank Congress and the President for signing the Emmett Till Anti-Lynching Act into law, which makes lynching a federal crime. This historic legislation sends a clear message that the United States will no longer tolerate the senseless and brutal acts of racial violence that have scarred our Nation for too long.

Emmett Till's story is a painful reminder of the injustices and violence that Black people have endured for centuries in this country. But it is also a testament to the courage a resilience of those who fought for justice, and a call to action for all of us to continue that fight.

Mrs. CHERFILUS-McCORMICK. Mr. Speaker, I thank Representative JACKSON for his remarks.

I ask, Mr. Speaker, that we secure voting rights for all Americans. We must honor the legacy of civil rights advocates like John Lewis and those who came before by standing strong in the face of adversity. Every American deserves to be able to vote freely without the fear of reprisal.

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

PUBLICATION OF COMMITTEE RULES

RULES OF THE COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES FOR THE 118TH CONGRESS

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES,
Washington, DC, March 7, 2023.

Hon. KEVIN MCCARTHY,
Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to clause 2(a)(2) of House of Representatives Rule XI, I submit the rules of the Committee on Natural Resources for the 118th Congress for publication in the Congressional Record. The rules were adopted by a quorum of the Committee at its organizational meeting on February 1, 2023.

Sincerely,

BRUCE WESTERMAN,
Chairman.

RULE 1. RULES OF THE HOUSE; VICE CHAIRS

(a) Applicability of House Rules.

(1) The Rules of the House of Representatives, so far as they are applicable, are the rules of the Committee on Natural Resources (hereinafter in these rules referred to as the "Committee") and its Subcommittees.

(2) Each Subcommittee is part of the Committee and is subject to the authority, direction and rules of the Committee. References in these rules to "Committee" and "Chair" shall apply to each subcommittee and its Chair wherever applicable.

(3) House Rule XI is incorporated and made a part of the rules of the Committee to the extent applicable.

(b) Vice Chair.—Unless inconsistent with other rules, the Chair shall designate a Vice Chair of the Committee and appoint Vice Chairs of the Subcommittees. If the Chair of the Committee or Subcommittee is not present at any meeting of the Committee or Subcommittee, as the case may be, the Vice Chair shall preside. If the Vice Chair is not present, the Ranking Member of the Majority party on the Committee or Subcommittee who is present, or the Chair's designee, shall preside at that meeting.

RULE 2. MEETINGS IN GENERAL

(a) Scheduled Meetings.—The Committee shall meet at 10 a.m. the first Wednesday of each month when the House is in session if so noticed by the Chair under Committee Rule 3(a). The Committee shall also meet at the call of the Chair subject to advance notice to all Members of the Committee. Special meetings shall be called and convened by the Chair as provided in clause 2(c)(1) of House Rule XI. Any Committee meeting or hearing that conflicts with a party caucus, conference, or similar party meeting shall be

rescheduled at the discretion of the Chair, in consultation with the Ranking Minority Member. The Committee may not sit during a joint session of the House and Senate or during a recess when a joint meeting of the House and Senate is in progress.

(b) Open Meetings.—Each meeting for the transaction of business, including the markup of legislation, and each hearing of the Committee or a Subcommittee shall be open to the public, except as provided by clause 2(g) and clause 2(k) of House Rule XI.

(c) Broadcasting.—Whenever a meeting for the transaction of business, including the markup of legislation, or a hearing is open to the public, that meeting or hearing shall be open to coverage by audio and visual recordings in accordance with clauses 2(a)(1) and 4 of House Rule XI. The provisions of clause 4(f) of House Rule XI are specifically made part of these rules by reference. To the maximum extent practicable, the Committee shall provide audio and visual coverage of each hearing or meeting for the transaction of business in a manner that allows the public to easily listen to and view the proceedings, and maintain the recordings of such coverage in a manner that is easily accessible to the public. Operation and use of any Committee internet broadcast system shall be fair, and nonpartisan, and in accordance with clause 4(b) of House Rule XI and all other applicable rules of the Committee and the House.

(d) Authorization and Oversight Plan.—No later than March 1 of the first session of each Congress, the Committee shall prepare and submit its authorization and oversight plan for that Congress in accordance with clause 2(d) of House Rule X.

RULE 3. MEETING AND HEARING PROCEDURES IN GENERAL

(a) Notice and Information for Members and the Public.

(1) The Chair shall publicly announce the date, place and subject matter of a Committee hearing or meeting in accordance with clause 2(g)(3) of House Rule XI.

(2) A hearing or meeting may begin sooner if the Chair, with the concurrence of the Ranking Minority Member, determines that there is good cause to begin the meeting or hearing sooner, or if the Committee so determines by majority vote. In these cases, the Chair shall publicly announce the meeting or hearing at the earliest possible time. The Committee shall promptly notify the Daily Digest Clerk of the Congressional Record and shall promptly make publicly available in electronic form the appropriate information as soon as possible after the public announcement is made.

(3) To the extent practicable, a background memorandum prepared by the Majority staff summarizing the major provisions of any bill being considered by the Committee, including the need for the bill and its effect on current law, will be available for the Members of the Committee and the public no later than 48 hours before the meeting.

(b) Public Availability of Markup Text.—At least 24 hours prior to the markup of any legislation (or at the time of an announcement under paragraph (a)(2) above made within 24 hours before such meeting), the Chair shall cause the text of such legislation to be made publicly available in electronic form.

(c) Meetings and Hearings to Begin Promptly.—Each meeting or hearing of the Committee shall begin promptly at the time stipulated in the public announcement of the meeting or hearing.

(d) Addressing the Committee.—A Committee Member may address the Committee or a Subcommittee on any bill, motion, or other matter under consideration or may

question a witness at a hearing only when recognized by the Chair for that purpose. The time a Member may address the Committee or Subcommittee for any purpose or to question a witness shall be limited to five minutes, except as provided in Committee Rule 4(f), and except that the Chair may extend this time period equally for the majority and minority party for the purpose of Members questioning a witness who requires an interpreter. In recognizing Members to question witnesses, the Chair shall take into consideration the ratio of the Majority to Minority Members present and shall establish the order of recognition for questioning in a manner so as not to disadvantage the Members of the Majority or the Members of the Minority. Members shall limit remarks to the subject matter under consideration.

(e) Quorums.

(1) A majority of the Members of the Committee shall constitute a quorum for the reporting of any measure or recommendation, the authorizing of a subpoena under Committee Rule 4(d); the closing of any meeting or hearing to the public under clause 2(g)(1), clause 2(g)(2)(A) and clause 2(k)(5)(B) of House Rule XI; and the releasing of executive session materials under clause 2(k)(7) of House Rule XI. Testimony and evidence may be received at any hearing at which there are at least two Members of the Committee present. For the purpose of transacting all other business of the Committee, one-third of the Members shall constitute a quorum.

(2) When a call of the roll is required to ascertain the presence of a quorum, the offices of all Members shall be notified, and the Members shall have not less than 15 minutes to prove their attendance. The Chair shall have the discretion to waive this requirement when a quorum is actually present or whenever a quorum is secured and may direct the Director of Legislative Operations or their designee to note the names of all Members present within the 15-minute period.

(f) Participation of Members in Committee and Subcommittees.

(1) Any Member of the Committee may sit with any Subcommittee during any meeting or hearing, and by unanimous consent of the Members of the Subcommittee may participate in such meeting or hearing. However, a Member who is not a Member of the Subcommittee may not vote on any matter before the Subcommittee, be counted for purposes of establishing a quorum, or raise points of order.

(2) Any Member of the House who is not a Member of the Committee may sit with the full Committee or any Subcommittee during any meeting or hearing, and by unanimous consent of the Members of the Committee or Subcommittee may participate in such meeting or hearing. Unless otherwise provided by unanimous consent, such participation includes but is not limited to the right to seek recognition, to submit materials for the record as described in Committee Rule 3(o), and to introduce a constituent witness as described in Committee Rule 4(f)(1). However, a Member of the House who is not a Member of the Committee may not vote on any matter, be counted for purposes of establishing a quorum, raise points of order, or offer motions.

(g) Proxies.—No vote in the Committee or its Subcommittees may be cast by proxy.

(h) Recorded Votes.—Recorded votes shall be ordered on the demand of one-fifth of the Members present, or by any Member in the apparent absence of a quorum.

(i) Postponed Recorded Votes.

(1) Subject to paragraph (2), the Chair may, after consultation with the Ranking Minority Member, postpone further proceedings when a recorded vote is ordered on the question of approving any measure or matter or

adopting an amendment. The Chair shall resume proceedings on a postponed request at any time after reasonable notice, but no later than the next meeting day.

(2) Notwithstanding any intervening order for the previous question, when proceedings resume on a postponed question under paragraph (1), an underlying proposition shall remain subject to further debate or amendment to the same extent as when the question was postponed.

(3) This rule shall apply to Subcommittee proceedings.

(j) Privileged Motions.—A motion to recess from day to day, a motion to recess subject to the call of the Chair (within 24 hours), and a motion to dispense with the first reading (in full) of a bill or resolution if printed or electronic copies are available and have been properly circulated by the Director of Legislative Operations or their designee, are non-debatable motions of high privilege.

(k) Layover and Copy of Bill.—No measure or recommendation reported by a Subcommittee shall be considered by the Committee until two calendar days from the time of Subcommittee action. No bill shall be considered by the Committee unless a copy has been delivered to the office of each Member of the Committee requesting a copy. These requirements may be waived by a majority vote of the Committee at the time of consideration of the measure or recommendation.

(l) Access to Dais and Conference Room.—Access to the hearing rooms' daises (and to the conference rooms adjacent to the Committee hearing rooms) shall be limited to Members of Congress and employees of the Committee during a meeting or hearing of the Committee, except that Committee Members' personal staff may be present on the daises if their employing Member is the author of a bill or amendment under consideration by the Committee, but only during the time that the bill or amendment is under active consideration by the Committee.

(m) Cellular Telephones and other Electronic Devices.—During a meeting or hearing of the Committee, ringing or audible sounds or conversational use of cellular telephones or other electronic devices is prohibited on the Committee dais or in the Committee hearing rooms.

(n) Motion to go to Conference with the Senate.—The Chair may offer a motion under clause 1 of House Rule XXII whenever the Chair considers it appropriate.

(o) Materials for Record.—Other than witness questions for the hearing record, materials must be submitted within 10 business days following the last day of the hearing or meeting. Witness questions for the hearing record must be submitted to the Director of Legislative Operations or their designee within 3 business days following the last day of the hearing. The materials submitted must address the subject matter of the hearing or meeting. Only a Member of the Committee (including a Member participating as provided in Committee Rule 3(f)) or an invited witness may submit materials for inclusion in the hearing or meeting record.

RULE 4. HEARING PROCEDURES

(a) Written Statement; Oral Testimony.—Witnesses who are to appear before the Committee or a Subcommittee shall file with the Director of Legislative Operations or their designee, at least two business days before the day of their appearance, a written statement of their proposed testimony, including to the extent practicable English translations of any portions not in English. Witnesses shall limit their oral presentation to a five-minute summary of the written statement, unless the Chair, in consultation with the Ranking Minority Member, extends this

time period. Subject to the approval of the Committee, the Chair may waive oral testimony of any witness who has submitted written testimony for the record. Any witness appearing before the Committee shall remain available for questioning by the Committee, unless excused by the Chair. In addition, a witness appearing in a nongovernmental capacity shall file such disclosure materials required by clause 2(g)(5) of House Rule XI. Any witness appearing in a nongovernmental capacity shall also disclose any current or pending litigation that involves the Federal Government. Failure to comply with these disclosure requirements may result in the exclusion of the written testimony from the hearing record and/or the barring of an oral presentation of the testimony. Disclosure materials may be signed electronically.

(b) Minority Witnesses.—When any hearing is conducted by the Committee or any Subcommittee upon any measure or matter, the Minority party Members on the Committee or Subcommittee shall be entitled, upon request to the Chair by a majority of those Minority Members before the completion of the hearing, to call witnesses selected by the Minority to testify with respect to that measure or matter during at least one day of hearings thereon.

(c) Information for Members.—After announcement of a hearing, the Committee shall make available as soon as practicable to all Members of the Committee a tentative witness list and to the extent practicable the Majority staff shall make publicly available a memorandum explaining the subject matter of the hearing (including relevant legislative reports and other necessary material). In addition, the Chair shall make available to the Members of the Committee any official reports from departments and agencies on the subject matter as they are received.

(d) Subpoenas.

(1) The Chair of the Committee may authorize and issue a subpoena under clause 2(m) of House Rule XI.

(2) The Committee may authorize and issue a subpoena under clause 2(m) of House Rule XI if authorized by a majority of the Members voting.

(3) Subpoenas shall be signed only by the Chair of the Committee. Subpoenas may be served by any person designated by the Chair.

(e) Oaths.—The Chair of the Committee, the Chairs of the Subcommittees, or any Member designated by the Chair may administer oaths to any witness before the Committee. All witnesses appearing in hearings may be administered the following oath by the Chair or his designee prior to receiving the testimony: "Do you solemnly swear or affirm, under penalty of law, that the testimony that you are about to give is the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help you God?"

(f) Opening Statements; Questioning of Witnesses.

(1) Opening Statements may be made by the Chair and the Ranking Member or their designee. Such Statements shall be limited to five minutes in length. If a witness scheduled to testify at any hearing of the Committee is a constituent of a Member of the Committee (including a Member participating under Committee Rule 3(f)), that Member may be recognized for up to 30 seconds to briefly introduce the witness at the hearing.

(2) The questioning of witnesses in Committee and Subcommittee hearings may be initiated by the Chair, followed by the Ranking Minority Member and all other Members alternating between the Majority and Minority parties. In recognizing Members to question witnesses, the Chair shall take into con-

sideration the ratio of the Majority to Minority Members present and shall establish the order of recognition for questioning in a manner so as not to disadvantage the Members of the Majority or the Members of the Minority. A motion is in order to allow designated Majority and Minority party Members to question a witness for a specified period to be equally divided between the Majority and Minority parties. This period shall not exceed one hour in the aggregate.

(g) Claims of Privilege.—Claims of common-law privileges made by witnesses in hearings, or by interviewees or deponents in investigations or inquiries, are applicable only at the discretion of the Chair, subject to appeal to the Committee.

RULE 5. FILING OF COMMITTEE REPORTS

(a) Duty of Chair.—Whenever the Committee authorizes the favorable reporting of a measure from the Committee, the Chair or the Chair's designee shall report the same to the House of Representatives and shall take all steps necessary to secure its passage without any additional authority needing to be set forth in the motion to report each individual measure. In appropriate cases, the authority set forth in this rule shall extend to moving in accordance with the Rules of the House of Representatives that the House be resolved into the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for the consideration of the measure; and to moving in accordance with the Rules of the House of Representatives for the disposition of a Senate measure that is substantially the same as the House measure as reported. Subject to the approval of the Chair and the Ranking Minority Member, staff may make necessary technical and conforming changes to measures that the Committee has authorized to be reported favorably.

(b) Filing.—A report on a measure that has been approved by the Committee shall be filed within seven calendar days (exclusive of days on which the House of Representatives is not in session) after the day on which there has been filed with the relevant Full Committee staff a written request, signed by a majority of the Members of the Committee, for the reporting of that measure. Upon the filing with the relevant Full Committee staff of this request, the staff shall transmit immediately to the Chair notice of the filing of that request.

(c) Supplemental, Additional, Dissenting, or Minority Views.—Any Member may, if notice is given by any Member at the time a measure or matter is approved by the Committee, file supplemental, additional, dissenting, or minority views. These views must be in writing and signed by each Member joining therein and be filed with the Committee Chief Counsel not less than two additional calendar days (excluding Saturdays, Sundays and legal holidays except when the House is in session on those days) of the time the bill or resolution is approved by the Committee. This paragraph shall not preclude the filing of any supplemental report on any measure or matter that may be required for the correction of any technical error in a previous report made by the Committee on that bill or resolution.

(d) Review by Members.—Each Member of the Committee shall be given an opportunity to review each proposed Committee report before it is filed with the Clerk of the House of Representatives. Nothing in this paragraph extends the time allowed for filing supplemental, additional, dissenting, or minority views under paragraph (c).

(e) Disclaimer.—All Committee or Subcommittee reports printed and not approved by a majority vote of the Committee or Subcommittee, as appropriate, shall contain the following disclaimer on the cover of the report: "This report has not been officially

adopted by the {Committee on Natural Resources} {Subcommittee} and therefore may not necessarily reflect the views of its Members."

RULE 6. ESTABLISHMENT OF SUBCOMMITTEES; FULL COMMITTEE JURISDICTION; BILL REFERRALS

(a) Subcommittees.—There shall be five standing Subcommittees of the Committee, with the following jurisdiction and responsibilities:

Subcommittee on Federal Lands

(1) Measures and matters related to the National Park System and its units, including Federal reserved water rights.

(2) The National Wilderness Preservation System.

(3) Wild and Scenic Rivers System, National Trails System, national heritage areas and other national units established for protection, conservation, preservation or recreational development, other than coastal barriers.

(4) Military parks and battlefields, national cemeteries administered by the Secretary of the Interior, parks in and within the vicinity of the District of Columbia and the erection of monuments to the memory of individuals.

(5) Federal and non-Federal outdoor recreation plans, programs and administration including the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965 and the Outdoor Recreation Act of 1963.

(6) Preservation of prehistoric ruins and objects of interest on the public domain and other historic preservation programs and activities, including national monuments, historic sites and programs for international cooperation in the field of historic preservation.

(7) Matters concerning the following agencies and programs: Urban Parks and Recreation Recovery Program, Historic American Buildings Survey, Historic American Engineering Record, and U.S. Holocaust Memorial.

(8) Public lands generally, including measures or matters relating to entry, easements, withdrawals, grazing, and Federal reserved water rights.

(9) Forfeiture of land grants and alien ownership, including alien ownership of mineral lands.

(10) Cooperative efforts to encourage, enhance, and improve international programs for the protection of the environment and the conservation of natural resources otherwise within the jurisdiction of the Subcommittee.

(11) Forest reservations, including management thereof, created from the public domain.

(12) Public forest lands generally, including measures or matters related to entry, easements, withdrawals, grazing, and Federal reserved water rights.

(13) General and continuing oversight and investigative authority over activities, policies, and programs within the jurisdiction of the Subcommittee.

Subcommittee on Water, Wildlife and Fisheries

(1) Generation and marketing of electric power from Federal water projects by Federally chartered or Federal regional power marketing authorities.

(2) All measures and matters concerning water resources planning conducted pursuant to the Water Resources Planning Act, water resource research and development programs, and saline water research and development.

(3) Compacts relating to the use and apportionment of interstate waters, water rights, and major interbasin water or power movement programs.

(4) All measures and matters pertaining to irrigation and reclamation projects and other water resources development and recycling programs, including policies and procedures.

(5) Indian water rights and settlements.

(6) Activities and programs of the Water Resources and Ecosystem Mission Areas or their successors within the U.S. Geological Survey.

(7) The Endangered Species Act.

(8) Fisheries management and fisheries research generally, including the management of all commercial and recreational fisheries (including the reauthorization of the Magnuson Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act), interjurisdictional fisheries, international fisheries agreements, aquaculture, seafood safety, and fisheries promotion.

(9) All matters pertaining to the protection of coastal and marine environments, estuarine protection, and coastal barriers.

(10) Oceanography.

(11) Ocean engineering, including materials, technology, and systems.

(12) Marine sanctuaries.

(13) U.N. Convention on the Law of the Sea.

(14) All matters regarding Antarctica within the Committee's jurisdiction.

(15) Sea Grant programs and marine extension services.

(16) Cooperative efforts to encourage, enhance and improve international programs for the protection of the environment and the conservation of natural resources otherwise within the jurisdiction of the Subcommittee.

(17) Coastal zone management.

(18) Wildlife resources, including research, restoration, and conservation.

(19) Measures and matters related to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, including ecological services, fish and aquatic conservation, international affairs, migratory birds, national wildlife refuge system, wildlife and sport fish restoration, and the Lacey Act.

(20) General and continuing oversight and investigative authority over activities, policies, and programs within the jurisdiction of the Subcommittee.

Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources

(1) Planning for and development of energy from solar and wind resources on land belonging to the United States, including the outer Continental Shelf.

(2) All matters and measures affecting geothermal resources.

(3) Marine hydrokinetic energy development on the outer Continental Shelf.

(4) All matters related to the leasing, development, and conservation of fossil fuel resources belonging to the United States, including on the outer Continental Shelf and land where the surface is owned by entities other than the United States, including decommissioning of relevant facilities and reclamation of affected areas.

(5) Mitigation of energy and mining related impacts on Federal lands and resources.

(6) Terrestrial and geological sequestration of carbon dioxide, except for matters involving implementation of land or forestry management strategies.

(7) All measures and matters concerning the Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement.

(8) All measures and matters concerning the U.S. Geological Survey, except for the activities and programs of the Water Resources and Ecosystem Mission Areas or their successors.

(9) Collection and management of energy and mineral revenues.

(10) Mining interests generally, including all matters involving mining regulation and

enforcement, including the reclamation of mined lands, the environmental effects of mining, mineral land laws and claims, long-range mineral programs, and seabed mining.

(11) Conservation of United States uranium supply.

(12) Geospatial data collection and management, except for nautical charts (or data collected by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration).

(13) Helium supply and management of the Federal helium program.

(14) Rights-of-way over public lands for pipeline transportation of oil, natural gas, carbon dioxide, helium, and hydrogen.

(15) Measures and matters concerning the transportation of natural gas from or within Alaska and disposition of oil transported by the trans-Alaska oil pipeline.

(16) Cooperative efforts to encourage, enhance and improve international programs for the protection of the environment and the conservation of natural resources otherwise within the jurisdiction of the Subcommittee.

(17) Rights-of-way over public lands for energy-related transmission.

(18) All matters relating to mineral withdrawals on public lands and public forest lands.

(19) General and continuing oversight and investigative authority over activities, policies, and programs within the jurisdiction of the Subcommittee.

Subcommittee on Indian and Insular Affairs

(1) All matters related to the Federal trust responsibility to Native Americans and the sovereignty of Native Americans.

(2) Measures relating to the welfare of Native Americans, including management of Indian lands in general and special measures relating to claims that are paid out of Indian funds.

(3) All matters regarding Native Alaskans.

(4) All matters regarding the relations of the United States with Native Americans and Native American tribes, including special oversight functions under House Rule X.

(5) All matters regarding Native Hawaiians.

(6) All matters regarding insular areas of the United States.

(7) All measures or matters regarding the Freely Associated States.

(8) General and continuing oversight and investigative authority over activities, policies, and programs within the jurisdiction of the Subcommittee.

Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations

(1) Primary and general oversight and investigative authority on all activities, policies, and programs within the jurisdiction of the Committee under House Rule X.

(b) Full Committee.—The following measures and matters shall be retained at the Full Committee:

(1) Environmental and habitat measures of general applicability, including the National Environmental Policy Act.

(2) Cooperative efforts to encourage, enhance, and improve international programs for the protection of the environment and the conservation of natural resources otherwise within the jurisdiction of the Full Committee.

(3) All other measures and matters retained by the Full Committee, including those retained under Committee Rule 6(e).

(4) General and continuing oversight and investigative authority over activities, policies, and programs within the jurisdiction of the Full Committee.

(c) Ex-officio Members.—The Chair and Ranking Minority Member of the Committee may serve as ex-officio Members of each standing Subcommittee to which the Chair

or the Ranking Minority Member have not been assigned. Ex-officio Members shall have the right to fully participate in Subcommittee activities but may not vote and may not be counted in establishing a quorum.

(d) Powers and Duties of Subcommittees.—Each Subcommittee is authorized to meet, hold hearings, receive evidence and report to the Committee on all matters within its jurisdiction. Each Subcommittee shall review and study on a continuing basis the application, administration, execution and effectiveness of those statutes, or parts of statutes, the subject matter of which is within that Subcommittee's jurisdiction; and the organization, operation, and regulations of any Federal agency or entity having responsibilities in or for the administration of such statutes, to determine whether these statutes are being implemented and carried out in accordance with the intent of Congress. Each Subcommittee shall review and study any conditions or circumstances indicating the need for enacting new or supplemental legislation within the jurisdiction of the Subcommittee. Each Subcommittee shall have general and continuing oversight and investigative authority over activities, policies, and programs within the jurisdiction of the Subcommittee.

(e) Referral to Subcommittees; Recall.

(1) Except as provided in paragraph (2) and for those measures or matters retained at the Full Committee, every legislative measure or other matter referred to the Committee shall be referred to the maximum extent possible to the Subcommittee of jurisdiction within two weeks of the date of its referral to the Committee. If any measure or matter is within or affects the jurisdiction of one or more Subcommittees, the Chair may refer that measure or matter simultaneously to two or more Subcommittees for concurrent consideration or for consideration in sequence subject to appropriate time limits, or divide the matter into two or more parts and refer each part to a Subcommittee.

(2) The Chair, with the approval of a majority of the Majority Members of the Committee, may refer a legislative measure or other matter to a select or special Subcommittee. A legislative measure or other matter referred by the Chair to a Subcommittee may be recalled from the Subcommittee for direct consideration by the Full Committee, or for referral to another Subcommittee, provided Members of the Committee receive one-week's written notice of the recall and a majority of the Members of the Committee do not object. In addition, a legislative measure or other matter referred by the Chair to a Subcommittee may be recalled from the Subcommittee at any time by majority vote of the Committee for direct consideration by the Full Committee or for referral to another Subcommittee.

(f) Consultation.—Each Subcommittee Chair shall consult with the Chair of the Full Committee prior to setting dates for Subcommittee meetings and hearings with a view toward avoiding whenever possible conflicting Committee and Subcommittee meetings and hearings.

(g) Vacancy.—A vacancy in the membership of a Subcommittee shall not affect the power of the remaining Members to execute the functions of the Subcommittee.

RULE 7. TASK FORCES, SPECIAL OR SELECT SUBCOMMITTEES

(a) Appointment.—The Chair of the Committee is authorized, after consultation with the Ranking Minority Member, to appoint Task Forces, or special or select Subcommittees, to carry out the duties and functions of the Committee.

(b) Ex-officio Members.—The Chair and Ranking Minority Member of the Committee

may serve as ex-officio Members of each Task Force, or special or select Subcommittee if they are not otherwise Members. Ex-officio Members shall have the right to fully participate in activities but may not vote and may not be counted in establishing a quorum.

(c) Party Ratios.—The ratio of Majority Members to Minority Members, excluding ex-officio Members, on each Task Force, special or select Subcommittee shall be as close as practicable to the ratio on the Full Committee.

(d) Temporary Resignation.—Members can temporarily resign their position on a Subcommittee to serve on a Task Force, special or select Subcommittee without prejudice to the Member's seniority on the Subcommittee.

(e) Chair and Ranking Minority Member.—The Chair of any Task Force, or special or select Subcommittee shall be appointed by the Chair of the Committee. The Ranking Minority Member shall select a Ranking Minority Member for each Task Force, or standing, special or select Subcommittee.

RULE 8. RECOMMENDATION OF CONFEREES

Whenever it becomes necessary to appoint conferees on a particular measure, the Chair shall recommend to the Speaker as conferees those Majority Members primarily responsible for the measure. Similarly, the Ranking Member shall recommend to the Minority Leader as conferees those Minority Members primarily responsible for the measure. The ratio of Majority Members to Minority Members recommended for conferences shall be no greater than the ratio on the Committee.

RULE 9. COMMITTEE RECORDS

(a) Segregation of Records.—All Committee records shall be kept separate and distinct from the office records of individual Committee Members serving as Chairs or Ranking Minority Members. These records shall be the property of the House and all Members shall have access to them in accordance with clause 2(e)(2) of House Rule XI.

(b) Availability.—The Committee shall make available to the public for review at reasonable times in the Committee office transcripts of public meetings and hearings, except those that are unrevised or unedited and intended solely for the use of the Committee.

(c) Archived Records.—Records of the Committee that are deposited with the National Archives shall be made available for public use pursuant to House Rule VII. The Chair shall notify the Ranking Minority Member of any decision, pursuant to clause 3(b)(3) or clause 4 of House Rule VII, to withhold, or to provide a time, schedule or condition for availability of, any record otherwise available. At the written request of any Member of the Committee, the matter shall be presented to the Committee for a determination and shall be subject to the same notice and quorum requirements for the conduct of business under Committee Rule 3.

(d) Records of Closed Meetings.—Notwithstanding the other provisions of this rule, no records of Committee meetings or hearings that were closed to the public pursuant to the Rules of the House of Representatives shall be released to the public unless the Committee votes to release those records in accordance with the procedure used to close the Committee meeting.

(e) Classified Materials.—All classified materials shall be maintained in an appropriately secured location and shall be released only to authorized persons for review, who shall not remove the material from the Committee offices without the written permission of the Chair.

(f) Committee Information Available for the Public.—As required by the Rules of the House of Representatives, the Chair shall cause to be made available publicly in electronic form the following:

(1) a record of the votes on any question on which a recorded vote is taken.

(2) copies of all amendments adopted, voted down, or withdrawn.

(3) the rules of the Committee, once adopted, and any amendments thereto, in accordance with clause 2(a)(2) of House Rule XI.

(4) the statements required under clause 2(g)(5) of House Rule XI, with appropriate redactions to protect the privacy of the witness.

RULE 10. COMMITTEE BUDGET AND EXPENSES

(a) Budget.—At the beginning of each Congress, after consultation with the Chair of each Subcommittee and the Ranking Minority Member, the Chair shall present to the Committee for its approval a budget covering the funding required for staff, travel, and miscellaneous expenses.

(b) Expense Resolution.—Upon approval by the Committee of each budget, the Chair, acting pursuant to clause 6 of House Rule X, shall prepare and introduce in the House a supporting expense resolution, and take all action necessary to bring about its approval by the Committee on House Administration and by the House of Representatives.

(c) Amendments.—The Chair shall report to the Committee any amendments to each expense resolution and any related changes in the budget.

(d) Additional Expenses.—Authorization for the payment of additional or unforeseen Committee expenses may be procured by one or more additional expense resolutions processed in the same manner as set out under this rule.

(e) Monthly Reports.—Copies of each monthly report prepared by the Chair for the Committee on House Administration that shows expenditures made during the reporting period and cumulative for the year, anticipated expenditures for the projected Committee program, and detailed information on travel, shall be available to each Member.

RULE 11. COMMITTEE STAFF

(a) Rules and Policies.—Committee staff are subject to the provisions of clause 9 of House Rule X, as well as any written personnel policies the Committee may from time to time adopt.

(b) Majority and Nonpartisan Staff.—The Chair shall appoint, determine the remuneration of, and may remove, the legislative and administrative employees of the Committee not assigned to the Minority. The legislative and administrative staff of the Committee not assigned to the Minority shall be under the general supervision and direction of the Chair, who shall establish and assign the duties and responsibilities of Committee staff and delegate any authority the Chair determines appropriate.

(c) Minority Staff.—The Ranking Minority Member of the Committee shall appoint, determine the remuneration of, and may remove, the legislative and administrative staff assigned to the Minority within the budget approved for those purposes. The legislative and administrative staff assigned to the Minority shall be under the general supervision and direction of the Ranking Minority Member of the Committee who may delegate any authority the Ranking Member determines appropriate.

(d) Availability.—The skills and services of all Committee staff shall be available to all Members of the Committee.

RULE 12. COMMITTEE TRAVEL

In addition to any written travel policies the Committee may from time to time

adopt, all travel of Members and staff of the Committee or its Subcommittees to hearings, meetings, conferences, and investigations, including all foreign travel, must be authorized by the Full Committee Chair prior to any public notice of the travel and prior to the actual travel. In the case of Minority staff, all travel shall first be approved by the Ranking Minority Member. Funds authorized for the Committee under clauses 6 and 7 of House Rule X are for expenses incurred in the Committee's activities within the United States.

RULE 13. CHANGES TO COMMITTEE RULES

The rules of the Committee may be modified, amended, or repealed by a majority vote of the Committee provided that written notice of the proposed change has been provided to each Member of the Committee prior to the meeting date on which the changes are to be discussed and voted on consistent with Committee Rule 3(a). A change to the rules of the Committee shall be published in the Congressional Record no later than 30 days after its approval and made publicly available in electronic form.

RULE 14. OTHER PROCEDURES

The Chair may establish procedures and take actions as may be necessary to carry out the rules of the Committee or to facilitate the effective administration of the Committee, in accordance with the rules of the Committee and the Rules of the House of Representatives.

RULE 15. DEPOSITION AUTHORITY

The Regulations for the Use of Deposition Authority as issued by the Committee on Rules pursuant to H. Res. 5 titled—Adopting the Rules of the House of Representatives for the One Hundred Eighteenth Congress, and for other purposes—are incorporated by reference and shall be considered the rules of the Committee.

RULE 16. FORUMS AND ROUNDTABLES

(a) Generally.—At the beginning of each forum or roundtable hosted by the Committee, the Member convening the forum or roundtable shall make the following statement: "This event is not an official hearing or meeting of the House Committee on Natural Resources. Documents produced to support this forum may not necessarily reflect the views of the Committee or its Members."

(b) Disclaimer.—All documents generated for the purpose of a Committee forum or roundtable shall contain the following disclaimer on the cover of the document: "This document has not been officially adopted by the {Committee on Natural Resources} {Subcommittee} and therefore may not necessarily reflect the views of its Members."

RULE 17. MEMBER DAY HEARING REQUIREMENT

To the extent required by House Rules, the Committee or each Subcommittee thereof (other than the Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations) shall hold a hearing at which it receives testimony from Members, Delegates, and the Resident Commissioner on proposed legislation within its jurisdiction.

ADJOURNMENT

Mrs. CHERFILUS-McCORMICK. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 8 o'clock and 35 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Wednesday, March 8, 2023, at 10 a.m. for morning-hour debate.

OATH OF OFFICE MEMBERS, RESIDENT COMMISSIONER, AND DELEGATES

The oath of office required by the sixth article of the Constitution of the United States, and as provided by section 2 of the act of May 13, 1884 (23 Stat. 22), to be administered to Members, Resident Commissioner, and Delegates of the House of Representatives, the text of which is carried in 5 U.S.C. 3331:

"I, AB, do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; that I take this obligation freely, without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion; and that I will well and faithfully discharge the duties of the office on which I am about to enter. So help me God."

has been subscribed to in person and filed in duplicate with the Clerk of the House of Representatives by the following Member of the 118th Congress, pursuant to the provisions of 2 U.S.C. 25:

JENNIFER L. MCCLELLAN, Fourth District of Virginia.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

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

EC-555. A letter from the Regulations Coordinator, Center for Disease Control and Prevention, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's final rule — Possession, Use, and Transfer of Select Agents and Toxins — Addition of SARS-CoV/SARS-CoV-2 Chimeric Viruses Resulting From Any Deliberate Manipulation of SARS-CoV-2 To Incorporate Nucleic Acids Coding for SARS-CoV Virulence Factors to the HHS List of Select Agents and Toxins [Docket No.: CDC-2021-0119] (RIN: 0920-AA79) received March 1, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-556. A letter from the Associate Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Air Plan Approval; Florida; Update to Materials Incorporated by Reference [EPA-R04-OAR-2022-0012; FRL-9727-01-R4] received February 24, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-557. A letter from the Associate Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Significant New Use Rules on Certain Chemical Substances (21-3.5e) [EPA-HQ-OPPT-2021-0568; FRL-9779-02-OCSPP] (RIN: 2070-AB27) received February 24, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-558. A letter from the Associate Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Air Plan Approval; Kentucky; Revision to Federally Enforceable

District Origin Operating Permits [EPA-R04-OAR-2022-0727; FRL-10421-02-R4] received February 24, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-559. A letter from the Associate Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Air Plan Approval; Mississippi; PSD and Air Quality Modeling Infrastructure Requirements for the 2015 8-hour Ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standards [EPA-R04-OAR-2021-0947; FRL-10473-02-R4] received February 24, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-560. A letter from the Associate Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's direct final rule — Vermont: Final Authorization of State Hazardous Waste Management Program Revisions [EPA-R01-RCRA-2022-0864; FRL-10508-02-R1] received February 24, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-561. A letter from the Associate Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Zein; Exemption from the Requirement of a Tolerance [EPA-HQ-OPP-2022-0364; FRL-10641-01-OCSPP] received February 24, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-562. A letter from the Associate Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Various Fragrance Components in Pesticide Formulations; Tolerance Exemption [EPA-HQ-OPP-2020-0297; FRL-10642-01-OCSPP] received February 24, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-563. A letter from the Associate Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — 2-Propenoic acid, methyl-, polymer with butyl 2-propenoate and methyl 2-methyl-2-propenoate compd. with 2-amino-2-methyl-1-propanol; Tolerance Exemption [EPA-HQ-OPPT-2022-0931; FRL-10650-01-OCSPP] received February 24, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-564. A letter from the Associate Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Propanoic acid, 3-hydroxy-(hydroxymethyl)-2-methyl-, polymer with 2-amino-2-methyl-1-propanol, a-hydro-w-hydroxypoly[oxy(methyl-1,2-ethanediyl)], 5-isocyanato-1-

(isocyanatomethyl)-1,3,3-trimethylcyclohexane and methyloxirane polymer with oxirane ether with 4,4'-(1-methylethylidene)bis[phenol] (2:1), polyethylene-polypropylene glycol 2-aminopropyl Me ether-blocked, compds. with 2-amino-2-methyl-1-propanol; Tolerance Exemption [EPA-HQ-OPP-2022-0935; FRL-10656-01-OCSPP] received February 24, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-565. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a Determination Under Section 506(a)(1) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 to Provide Military Assistance to Ukraine; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-566. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a Memorandum of Justification for the drawdown of defense articles and services and military education and training under section 506(a)(1) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 to provide immediate military assistance to Ukraine; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-567. A letter from the Deputy General Counsel for Operations, Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting two (2) notifications of a nomination, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 3349(a); Public Law 105-277, Sec. 151(b); (112 Stat. 2681-614); to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

EC-568. A letter from the Departmental Privacy Officer, Office of Law Enforcement and Security, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule — Privacy Act Regulations; Exemption for the Personnel Security Program Files System [DOI-2022-0015; 234D0102DM, DLSN00000.000000, DS65100000, DX.65101] (RIN: 1090-AB16) received March 1, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

EC-569. A letter from the Biologist, Office of Protected Resources, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final determination — 2023 Annual Determination To Implement the Sea Turtle Observer Requirement [Docket No.: 230119-0018] (RIN: 0648-BL37) received March 2, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

EC-570. A letter from the Biologist, Office of Protected Resources, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's temporary rule — Taking of Marine Mammals Incidental to Commercial Fishing Operations; Atlantic Large Whale Take Reduction Plan Regulations [Docket No.: FR-230130-0030] (RIN: 0648-BM05) received March 6, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

EC-571. A letter from the Staff Director, Commission on Civil Rights, transmitting an advisory that the Commission recently renewed the charter of its federal advisory committees; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-572. A letter from the Agency Representative, Patent and Trademark Office, Department of Commerce, transmitting the Department's final rule — USPTO Officially Transitions to Issuing Electronic Patent Grants in 2023 [Docket No.: PTO-P-2021-0007] (RIN: 0651-AD54) received March 2, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-573. A letter from the United States Trade Representative, Executive Office of the President, transmitting the 2023 Trade Policy Agenda and 2022 Annual Report of the President of the United States on the Trade Agreement Program, pursuant to 19 U.S.C. 2213(a); Public Law 93-618, Sec. 163(a) (as amended by Public Law 100-418, Sec. 1641); (102 Stat. 1271) and 19 U.S.C. 3534; Public Law 103-465, Sec. 124; (108 Stat. 4832); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

EC-574. A letter from the Chief, Trade and Commercial Regulations Branch, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Department of Homeland Security, Department of the Treasury, transmitting the Department's final rule — Extension of Import Restrictions on Archaeological and Ethnological Materials of Libya [CBP Dec. 23-03] (RIN: 1515-AE79) received March 3, 2023, pursuant

to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

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

Mr. MASSIE: Committee on Rules. House Resolution 199. Resolution providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 140) to amend title 5, United States Code, to prohibit Federal employees from advocating for censorship of viewpoints in their official capacity, and for other purposes; providing for consideration of the joint resolution (H.J. Res. 27) providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Department of the Army, Corps of Engineers, Department of Defense and the Environmental Protection Agency relating to "Revised Definition of 'Water of the United States'"; and providing for consideration of the bill (S. 619) to require the Director of National Intelligence to declassify information relating to the origin of COVID-19, and for other purposes (Rept. 118-7). Referred to the House Calendar.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. CISCOMANI (for himself, Mr. MCGARVEY, Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS, Mrs. KIGGANS of Virginia, and Ms. BUDZINSKI):

H.R. 1378. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to establish an internship program within the Board of Veterans' Appeals, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

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

H.R. 1379. A bill to permit a registered investment company to omit certain fees from the calculation of Acquired Fund Fees and Expenses, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. CURTIS (for himself and Mr. NEGUSE):

H.R. 1380. A bill to require the Secretary of Agriculture and the Secretary of the Interior to issue guidance on climbing management in designated wilderness areas, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committee on Agriculture, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. AGUILAR (for himself and Mr. STANTON):

H.R. 1381. A bill to provide that individuals who are beneficiaries of deferred action, deferred enforced departure, or temporary protected status shall be treated in the same manner as citizens of the United States for purposes of determining the eligibility of such individuals to serve as officers or employees of Congress; to the Committee on House Administration.

By Mr. BARR (for himself, Mrs. KIM of California, Mr. DONALDS, Mr. DAVIDSON, Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas, Mr. MOONEY, Mr. FLOOD, Mr. HILL, Mr. EMMER, Mr. MEUSER, Mr. STEIL, Mr. FITZGERALD, Mr. LOUDERMILK, Mrs.

HOUCHIN, Mr. LUETKEMEYER, Mrs. WAGNER, Mr. LAWLER, Ms. DE LA CRUZ, Mr. TIMMONS, and Mr. POSEY):

H.R. 1382. A bill to change the Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection into an independent agency named the Consumer Financial Empowerment Agency, to transition the Agency to the regular appropriations process, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Ms. BROWNLEY:

H.R. 1383. A bill to amend the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972 to direct the Secretary of Commerce to establish a climate impact management plan for the conservation of certain marine mammal species, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. BUCHANAN (for himself and Mr. PANETTA):

H.R. 1384. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to increase the income cap for and make permanent the mortgage insurance premium deduction; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. CARTER of Georgia (for himself, Ms. CLARKE of New York, and Mr. SESSIONS):

H.R. 1385. A bill to amend title XXVII of the Public Health Service Act to improve health care coverage under vision and dental plans, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Ms. CLARKE of New York (for herself, Ms. ADAMS, Ms. NORTON, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. MCGOVERN, Ms. TOKUDA, Mr. BOWMAN, Mr. GARCIA of Illinois, Ms. TLAIB, Mr. VARGAS, Ms. JACOBS, Ms. BARRAGAN, Mr. CASAR, Ms. MENG, Mr. WILLIAMS of Georgia, Mr. TRONE, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, and Mr. IVEY):

H.R. 1386. A bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to provide for the automatic acquisition of citizenship for certain children born outside the United States to a parent who is or becomes a United States citizen, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. CLEAVER (for himself, Mr. BOWMAN, Ms. BROWN, Ms. BUSH, Mr. CARSON, Mr. CASTEN, Mr. CICILLINE, Mr. DESAULNIER, Mrs. DINGELL, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Mr. GOTTHEIMER, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. IVEY, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Mr. KILDEE, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY, Ms. KUSTER, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Mr. LYNCH, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Ms. MENG, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Mr. MOSKOWITZ, Mr. MULLIN, Mr. NADLER, Ms. NORTON, Mr. RASKIN, Ms. ROSS, Ms. SANCHEZ, Ms. SCANLON, Ms. SEWELL, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Ms. TITUS, Mr. TONKO, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, Ms. WILSON of Florida, and Ms. CASTOR of Florida):

H.R. 1387. A bill to amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to increase civics education programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. CRAWFORD (for himself, Mr. TURNER, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. WITTMAN, Mr. SMITH of Missouri, Mr. LAHOOD, Mr. CLOUD, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Mrs. LESKO, Mr. WOMACK, Mr. HERN, Mr. PFLUGER, Mr. BALDERSON, Ms. DE LA CRUZ, Mr. BOST, Mr. ZINKE, Mr. MOORE of Alabama, Mr. BABIN, Mr. DIAZ-BALART, Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania, Mr. CARTER of Georgia, Mr. JACKSON of Texas, Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana, Mr. WESTERMAN, Mr. MANN, Mr. FLEISCHMANN, Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. JOHNSON of

South Dakota, Mr. TONY GONZALES of Texas, Mr. NEHLS, Mr. SCHWEIKERT, Mr. EMMER, Mr. HILL, Mr. HARRIS, Mr. FERGUSON, Mr. VAN ORDEN, Mr. KELLY of Mississippi, Mr. ROGERS of Alabama, Mr. BURCHETT, Mr. GRAVES of Missouri, and Mr. COHEN):

H.R. 1388. A bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury mint coins to honor and memorialize the tragedy of the Sultana steamboat explosion of 1865; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. CROW (for himself, Mr. BACON, and Mr. PETERS):

H.R. 1389. A bill to provide the Secretary of Energy with the authority to enter into contracts and cooperative agreements to improve the resilience of defense critical electric infrastructure and reduce the vulnerability of critical defense facilities to the disruption of the supply of electric energy to those facilities; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. CUELLAR (for himself and Ms. MACE):

H.R. 1390. A bill to amend title 31, United States Code, to require the Chief Operating Officer of each agency to compile a list of unnecessary programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

By Mr. D'ESPOSITO (for himself, Mr. MOLINARO, Mr. LAWLER, Mr. LALOTA, Mr. LANGWORTHY, and Mr. WILLIAMS of New York):

H.R. 1391. A bill to prohibit Members of the House of Representatives who are convicted of offenses involving financial or campaign finance fraud from receiving compensation for biographies, media appearances, or expressive or creative works, and for other purposes; to the Committee on House Administration.

By Mr. DAVIDSON:

H.R. 1392. A bill to reauthorize the National Flood Insurance Program through December 31, 2024; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania (for herself and Ms. MACE):

H.R. 1393. A bill to amend the Controlled Substances Act to define currently accepted medical use with severe restrictions, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. FALLON (for himself, Mr. CARTER of Georgia, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. CLOUD, Mr. ROSENDALE, Mr. CRENshaw, Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana, Mrs. MILLER of Illinois, Mr. LAMBORN, Mr. BIGGS, Mr. JACKSON of Texas, and Mr. GOODEN of Texas):

H.R. 1394. A bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to clarify that expedited removal of inadmissible arriving aliens applies regardless of where the alien is encountered or apprehended, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. FITZPATRICK (for himself, Mr. EVANS, Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, Mr. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, Ms. HOULAHAN, Ms. NORTON, Ms. SCANLON, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Ms. WILD, Mr. KIM of New Jersey, Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania, and Mr. MOLINARO):

H.R. 1395. A bill to amend the Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation Act to reauthorize Delaware River Basin conservation programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, for a period to be

subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. GARAMENDI (for himself and Mr. THOMPSON of California):

H.R. 1396. A bill to modify the boundary of the Berryessa Snow Mountain National Monument to include certain Federal land in Lake County, California, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. GOLDEN of Maine (for himself, Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, Ms. PINGREE, and Mr. FULCHER):

H.R. 1397. A bill to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to exempt certain 16- and 17-year-old individuals employed in timber harvesting entities or mechanized timber harvesting entities from child labor laws, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. GOODEN of Texas (for himself, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mr. POSEY, and Mr. LAMBORN):

H.R. 1398. A bill to establish the CCP Initiative program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. GREENE of Georgia (for herself, Mrs. MILLER of Illinois, Mr. GOSAR, Mr. GOODEN of Texas, Mr. GROTHMAN, Mr. DUNCAN, Mrs. LUNA, Mrs. HARSHBARGER, Mr. NORMAN, Mr. NEHLS, Mr. GOOD of Virginia, Mr. HERN, Mr. ROSENDALE, Mr. BABIN, Mr. LAMBORN, Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana, Mr. STEUBE, Ms. HAGEMAN, Mrs. LESKO, and Mr. BIGGS):

H.R. 1399. A bill to amend chapter 110 of title 18, United States Code, to prohibit gender affirming care on minors, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committees on Ways and Means, Energy and Commerce, and Education and the Workforce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. GRIJALVA (for himself, Mr. SABLON, Ms. PLASKETT, Mr. MOYLAN, Mrs. GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN, and Mrs. RADEWAGEN):

H.R. 1400. A bill to direct the Interagency Council on Statistical Policy to develop a plan to collect and publish statistics regarding the Territories of the United States in the same manner as statistics are collected and reported by Federal agencies for the several States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. GUEST (for himself, Mr. TRONE, Mr. EZELL, Ms. CRAIG, Mrs. CHAVEZ-DEEMER, Mrs. LEE of Nevada, Mr. TONY GONZALES of Texas, and Ms. TITUS):

H.R. 1401. A bill to require the Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection to regularly review and update policies and manuals related to inspections at ports of entry; to the Committee on Homeland Security, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. HIGGINS of New York (for himself and Mr. LAHOOD):

H.R. 1402. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to provide coverage for boxing-

based exercise classes for veterans diagnosed with certain movement disorders, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Ms. HOULAHAN (for herself and Mr. BAIRD):

H.R. 1403. A bill to amend the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act to create a new national program to support mid-career workers, including workers from underrepresented populations, in reentering the STEM workforce, by providing funding to small- and medium-sized STEM businesses so the businesses can offer paid internships or other returnships that lead to positions above entry level; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Ms. JAYAPAL (for herself, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. BOWMAN, Ms. BUSH, Mr. CASAR, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Ms. LEE of California, Ms. NORTON, Ms. PRESSLEY, and Ms. TLAB):

H.R. 1404. A bill to prohibit biometric surveillance by the Federal Government without explicit statutory authorization and to withhold certain Federal public safety grants from State and local governments that engage in biometric surveillance; to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. JOYCE of Ohio (for himself, Ms. TITUS, Mrs. WAGNER, and Ms. SLOTKIN):

H.R. 1405. A bill to improve services for trafficking victims by establishing, in Homeland Security Investigations, the Investigators Maintain Purposeful Awareness to Combat Trafficking Trauma Program and the Victim Assistance Program; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania (for himself and Mr. PETERS):

H.R. 1406. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to permanently extend certain in-home cardiopulmonary rehabilitation flexibilities established in response to COVID-19, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. KILDEE (for himself, Ms. TENNEY, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania, and Mr. PASCRELL):

H.R. 1407. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to modify the private business use requirements for bonds issued for lead service line replacement projects; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. LAMBORN (for himself, Ms. TENNEY, Mr. BACON, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. KUSTOFF, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. VARGAS, Mr. ROY, Mr. BABIN, Mr. DUNN of Florida, Mr. GOTTHEIMER, Mr. SMITH of Nebraska, and Mr. MILLER of Ohio):

H.R. 1408. A bill to deter foreign financial institutions from providing banking services for the benefit of foreign terrorist organizations and from facilitating or promoting payments for acts of terrorism; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. LUETKEMEYER:

H.R. 1409. A bill to amend the Federal Deposit Insurance Act to revise the membership requirements for the Board of Directors of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. LUETKEMEYER:

H.R. 1410. A bill to amend the Consumer Financial Protection Act of 2010 to make the Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection an independent Consumer Financial Protection Commission, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. LUETKEMEYER:

H.R. 1411. A bill to require Senate confirmation of Inspector General of the Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability, and in addition to the Committee on Financial Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. MATSUI (for herself, Ms. BONAMICI, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Mr. GRIJALVA, and Mr. CARTER of Louisiana):

H.R. 1412. A bill to establish the Foundation for Digital Equity, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mrs. McCLAIN (for herself, Ms. HOULAHAN, Mr. JACKSON of North Carolina, Ms. ROSS, and Mr. WITTMAN):

H.R. 1413. A bill to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to expand or otherwise modify an existing national cemetery to ensure that full military honors are provided at such cemetery, to require the Secretary of Defense and the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to jointly submit to Congress a report containing a proposal to increase national cemetery capacity and an assessment of the criteria for interment at Arlington National Cemetery, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, and in addition to the Committee on Armed Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. McHENRY (for himself, Mr. TORRES of New York, Mr. DAVIDSON, Mr. KHANNA, Mr. EMMER, Mr. SWALWELL, Mr. SCHWEIKERT, Mr. SOTO, and Mr. HILL):

H.R. 1414. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to clarify the definition of broker, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Financial Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin (for herself and Ms. LEE of California):

H.R. 1415. A bill to amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to provide grants to hire and retain school social workers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Ms. NORTON:

H.R. 1416. A bill to amend title 5, United States Code (commonly referred to as the Inspector General Act of 1978), to establish a Federal Retirement Thrift Investment Board Inspector General, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

By Mr. NUNN of Iowa:

H.R. 1417. A bill to repeal the provision of law that provides automatic pay adjustments for Members of Congress; to the Committee on House Administration, and in addition to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. PENCE (for himself and Ms. SCHRIER):

H.R. 1418. A bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to reauthorize user fee programs relating to new animal drugs and generic new animal drugs; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. ROSENDALE (for himself, Mr. ZINKE, and Ms. HAGEMAN):

H.R. 1419. A bill to direct the Secretary of the Interior to issue a new rule removing the Northern Continental Divide Ecosystem population of grizzly bears from the Federal list of endangered and threatened wildlife; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. SABLAN:

H.R. 1420. A bill to modify the requirement to remain outside of the United States for Commonwealth Only Transitional Workers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. SCHRIER (for herself and Mr. FITZPATRICK):

H.R. 1421. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to increase the limitation of the exclusion for dependent care assistance programs; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. SIMPSON:

H.R. 1422. A bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to improve oral health care and dental benefits under the Medicaid program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. SMITH of Washington (for himself, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. CARSON, Ms. NORTON, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. TRONE, Mrs. CHERFILUS-McCORMICK, and Ms. TLAIB):

H.R. 1423. A bill to authorize the Secretary of Health and Human Services, acting through the Assistant Secretary for Mental Health and Substance Use, to award grants to States, territories, political subdivisions of States and territories, Tribal governments, and consortia of Tribal governments to establish an unarmed mobile crisis response program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Ms. SPANBERGER (for herself and Mr. FITZPATRICK):

H.R. 1424. A bill to amend the Keep Kids Fed Act of 2022 to extend additional reimbursement rates for certain child nutrition programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. TIFFANY (for himself, Mr. BIGGS, Mrs. BOEBERT, Mr. FITZGERALD, Mr. GOODEN of Texas, Mr. GOSAR, Mrs. HARSHBARGER, Mrs. HOUCIN, Mrs. MILLER of Illinois, Mr. NEHLS, Mr. ROY, Mr. SELF, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. STEIL, and Ms. TENNEY):

H.R. 1425. A bill to require any convention, agreement, or other international instrument on pandemic prevention, preparedness, and response reached by the World Health Assembly to be subject to Senate ratification; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Ms. TOKUDA (for herself and Mr. CASE):

H.R. 1426. A bill to amend the Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990 to establish a floriculture and nursery plant health initiative, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Mr. TRONE (for himself, Mr. CORREA, Ms. NORTON, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, and Mr. SMITH of Washington):

H.R. 1427. A bill to amend the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 to limit the use of business integrity and reputation factors when determining the eligibility of a retail food store or a wholesale food concern to be ap-

proved to redeem supplemental nutrition assistance program benefits; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Mr. TRONE (for himself, Mr. JOYCE of Ohio, Ms. MACE, Ms. PINGREE, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Ms. TITUS, and Ms. BONAMICI):

H.R. 1428. A bill to amend the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 to repeal the prohibition for certain individuals convicted of a felony offense to participate in hemp production, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Mr. TRONE (for himself, Mr. SARBANES, Mr. RASKIN, Mr. MFUME, Mr. HOYER, Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, and Mr. IVEY):

H.R. 1429. A bill to provide for a Federal partnership to ensure educational equity and quality; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. VALADAO:

H.R. 1430. A bill to direct the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture to use certain previously completed environmental assessments and environmental impact statements to satisfy the review requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committee on Agriculture, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. VELAZQUEZ:

H.R. 1431. A bill to amend the Fair Housing Act, to prohibit discrimination based on use of section 8 vouchers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services, and in addition to the Committees on Ways and Means, and the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. WENSTRUP (for himself and Mr. PANETTA):

H.R. 1432. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for the deductibility of charitable contributions to certain organizations for members of the Armed Forces; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Ms. WILD:

H.R. 1433. A bill to suspend the provision of security assistance to the Philippines until the Government of the Philippines has made certain reforms to the military and police forces, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committee on Financial Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. POSEY (for himself, Mr. KILDEE, Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana, Mr. PASCRELL, Mr. LATTA, Ms. SEWELL, Mr. KHANNA, Mr. DELUZIO, Mr. MURPHY, and Ms. TENNEY):

H.J. Res. 39. A joint resolution disapproving the rule submitted by the Department of Commerce relating to "Procedures Covering Suspension of Liquidation, Duties and Estimated Duties in Accord With Presidential Proclamation 10414"; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Ms. TENNEY (for herself, Mr. MOYLAN, Mr. MOORE of Alabama, Mr. BOST, Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS, Ms. STEFANIK, Mrs. BICE, and Mr. SANTOS):

H.J. Res. 40. A joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States to prohibit voting in Federal, State, or local elections by individuals who are not citizens of the United States; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. STEIL (for himself and Mr. MORELLE):

H. Res. 197. A resolution providing for the expenses of certain committees of the House of Representatives in the One Hundred Eighteenth Congress; to the Committee on House Administration.

By Mrs. KIM of California (for herself, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Mrs. RODGERS of Washington, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. TONKO, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, Mrs. LEE of Nevada, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Ms. MACE, Ms. LEE of California, and Ms. KAPTUR):

H. Res. 198. A resolution recognizing Girl Scouts of the United States of America on its 111th birthday and celebrating its legacy of providing girls with a safe, inclusive space where they can explore their world, build meaningful relationships, and have access to experiences that prepare them for a life of leadership; to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

By Ms. CHU (for herself, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. LYNCH, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. TAKANO, Mr. GOMEZ, Ms. MENG, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. MULLIN, Ms. ROSS, Mr. GREEN of Texas, Mr. SWALWELL, Ms. DELBENE, Mr. BERA, Ms. CROCKETT, Ms. JACOBS, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. KHANNA, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. NICKEL, Mr. PANNETTA, Mr. SCHIFF, Ms. LOFGREN, Ms. NORTON, Ms. MATSUI, Mr. DESAULNIER, Mrs. LEE of Nevada, Ms. WILD, Mr. LIEU, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, Mr. GOLDMAN of New York, Ms. TOKUDA, Mr. NEGUSE, Mr. CORREA, Mr. PASCRELL, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. KILMER, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Ms. TITUS, Ms. JAYAPAL, Mr. SABLAN, Mr. BOWMAN, Mr. SHERMAN, Ms. STEVENS, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. KIM of New Jersey, Mr. CASE, Mr. CARSON, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY, Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Mr. ESPAILLAT, and Mr. COSTA):

H. Res. 200. A resolution condemning the horrific shootings that occurred in Monterey Park, California, on January 21, 2023, and in Half Moon Bay, California, on January 23, 2023, honoring the memory of the victims of the attacks, expressing condolences and support to all those impacted by these tragedies, and reaffirming the House of Representatives' commitment to supporting the Asian-American and Pacific Islander community; to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

By Mr. D'ESPOSITO (for himself, Mr. MOLINARO, Mr. LAWLER, Mr. LALOTA, Mr. LANGWORTHY, and Mr. WILLIAMS of New York):

H. Res. 201. A resolution amending the Rules of the House of Representatives to prohibit a Member who is indicted for an offense involving financial or campaign finance fraud from receiving compensation for biographies, media appearances, or expressive or creative works, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Rules.

By Ms. GREENE of Georgia (for herself, Mr. GOSAR, Mr. HUNT, Mrs. MILLER of Illinois, Mr. MCCORMICK, Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana, Mr. BIGGS, and Mr. SANTOS):

H. Res. 202. A resolution deeming certain conduct of members of Antifa as domestic terrorism and designating Antifa as a domestic terrorist organization; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin (for herself and Ms. LEE of California):

H. Res. 203. A resolution expressing support for the designation of the week beginning March 5, 2023, as "School Social Work

Week"; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Ms. SCHAKOWSKY (for herself, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. RUIZ, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. CARSON, Mr. COHEN, Mr. DOGGETT, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Ms. JAYAPAL, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. MOULTON, Ms. NORTON, Ms. PORTER, Ms. PRESSLEY, Ms. ROSS, Mr. SOTO, Ms. TLAI, Mr. TRONE, and Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN):

H. Res. 204. A resolution honoring the life of Dr. Paul Farmer by recognizing the duty of the Federal Government to adopt a 21st-century global health solidarity strategy and take actions to address past and ongoing harms that undermine the health and well-being of people around the world; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY AND SINGLE SUBJECT STATEMENTS

Pursuant to clause 7(c)(1) of rule XII and Section 3(c) of H. Res. 5 the following statements are submitted regarding (1) the specific powers granted to Congress in the Constitution to enact the accompanying bill or joint resolution and (2) the single subject of the bill or joint resolution.

By Mr. CISCOMANI:

H.R. 1378.

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

Article 1, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

To strengthen workforce development at the Department of Veterans' Affairs

By Mr. SHERMAN:

H.R. 1379.

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

Article 1, Section 8, Clauses 1 and 18 of the United States Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is:

Financial Services

By Mr. CURTIS:

H.R. 1380.

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

Article 4, Section 3

The single subject of this legislation is:

management of federal lands.

By Mr. AGUILAR:

H.R. 1381.

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

Article 1, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

To allow DACA, TPS and DED beneficiaries to work in Congress.

By Mr. BARR:

H.R. 1382.

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

Article 1, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is:

To change the Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection into an independent agency named the Consumer Financial Empowerment Agency, to transition the Agency to the regular appropriations process, and for other purposes.

By Ms. BROWNLEY:

H.R. 1383.

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

Article I, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is: Marine mammal protection

By Mr. BUCHANAN:

H.R. 1384.

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

This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I, Section 8, Clause 1 of the United States Constitution. The single subject of this legislation is:

Federal taxation

By Mr. CARTER of Georgia:

H.R. 1385.

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

Article 1, Section 8 of the Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

To amend title XXVII of the Public Health Service Act to improve health care coverage under vision and dental plans, and for other purposes.

By Ms. CLARKE of New York:

H.R. 1386.

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

Title I, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

Immigration

By Mr. CLEAVER:

H.R. 1387.

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

Article 1, Section 8, of the United States Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is:

The subject of this bill is civics education.

By Mr. CRAWFORD:

H.R. 1388.

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

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3 of the U.S. Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is:

To require the Treasury Department to mint coins to commemorate the Sultana Steamboat disaster, which is the greatest maritime disaster in U.S. history.

By Mr. CROW:

H.R. 1389.

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

Article 1, Section 8, United States Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is:

to provide the Secretary of Energy with the authority to enter into contracts and cooperative agreements to improve the resilience of defense critical electric infrastructure and reduce the vulnerability of critical defense facilities to the disruption of the supply of electric energy to those facilities.

By Mr. CUELLAR:

H.R. 1390.

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

Article 1, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

To amend title 31, United States Code, to require the Chief Operating Officer of each agency to compile a list of unnecessary programs.

By Mr. D'ESPOSITO:

H.R. 1391.

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

Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution of the United States

The single subject of this legislation is:

To prohibit Members of the House of Representatives who are convicted of offenses involving financial or campaign finance fraud from receiving compensation for biographies, media appearances, or expressive or creative works.

By Mr. DAVIDSON:

H.R. 1392.

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

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

The single subject of this legislation is:
The National Flood Insurance Program
By Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania:

H.R. 1393.

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

Article 1, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:
Drug Therapies

By Mr. FALLON:

H.R. 1394.

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

Article I, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:
Immigration Reform

By Mr. FITZPATRICK:

H.R. 1395.

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

Article I, Section VIII, Clause 18

The single subject of this legislation is:
Conservation

By Mr. GARAMENDI:

H.R. 1396.

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

Article IV, Section 3, Clause 2 of the U.S. Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:
Public Lands and Natural Resources

By Mr. GOLDEN of Maine:

H.R. 1397.

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

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3 of the U.S. Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:
Training young loggers

By Mr. GOODEN of Texas:

H.R. 1398.

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

The Constitutional authority on which this bill rests is the power of Congress to lay and collect taxes, duties, imposts, and excises to pay the debts and provide for the common Defense and general welfare of the United States, as enumerated in Article I, Section 8, Clause 1. Thus, Congress has the authority not only to increase taxes, but also, to reduce taxes to promote the general welfare of the United States of America and her citizens. Additionally, Congress has the Constitutional authority to regulate commerce among the States and with Indian Tribes, as enumerated in Article I, Section 8, Clause 3.

The single subject of this legislation is:

This bill would codify the “China Initiative” created by the Department of Justice in 2018. The China Initiative was established to prevent spying by the Chinese Communist Party on U.S. intellectual property and academic institutions by conducting research and investigations to identify and prosecute anyone engaged in trade secret theft, hacking, and economic espionage.

By Ms. GREENE of Georgia:

H.R. 1399.

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

Article I, Section 8, United States Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

To amend chapter 110 of title 18, United States Code, to prohibit gender affirming care on minors, and for other purposes.

By Mr. GRIJALVA:

H.R. 1400.

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

Article. IV. Section 3. Clause 2. “The Congress shall have Power to dispose of and make all needful Rules and Regulations respecting the Territory or other Property be-

longing to the United States; and nothing in this Constitution shall be so construed as to Prejudice any Claims of the United States, or of any particular State.”

The single subject of this legislation is:
Equitable Statistics Collection for the U.S. Territories

By Mr. GUEST:

H.R. 1401.

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

Article I, Section 8.

The single subject of this legislation is:

To require the Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection to review and update policies and manuals at least every three years related to inspections at ports of entry to help prevent the smuggling of drugs and humans along the border.

By Mr. HIGGINS of New York:

H.R. 1402.

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

Article 1, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:
Health care

By Ms. HOULAHAN:

H.R. 1403.

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

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

The single subject of this legislation is:
Legislating

By Ms. JAYAPAL:

H.R. 1404.

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

This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I of the United States Constitution and its subsequent amendments, and further clarified and interpreted by the Supreme Court of the United States.

The single subject of this legislation is:

To prohibit biometric surveillance by the Federal Government without explicit statutory authorization and to withhold certain federal public safety grants from State and local governments that engage in biometric surveillance.

By Mr. JOYCE of Ohio:

H.R. 1405.

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

Article 1, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

Department of Homeland Security efforts to combat human trafficking

By Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania:

H.R. 1406.

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

Clause 1 of Section 8 of Article I of the United States Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is:

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to permanently extend certain in-home cardiopulmonary rehabilitation flexibilities established in response to COVID-19

By Mr. KILDEE:

H.R. 1407.

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

Article 1, Section 8.

The single subject of this legislation is:

Tax

By Mr. LAMBORN:

H.R. 1408.

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

Art. I, Sec. 8 “To regulate commerce with foreign nations . . .”

The single subject of this legislation is:

This bill expands the institutional factors the Department of the Treasury must consider when making a finding that a foreign financial institution is of primary money

laundering concern and is therefore subject to special measures, including the prohibition of opening or maintaining correspondent accounts in U.S financial institutions.

By Mr. LUETKEMEYER:

H.R. 1409.

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

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

The single subject of this legislation is:

To amend the Federal Deposit Insurance Act to revise the membership requirements for the Board of Directors of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, and for other purposes.

By Mr. LUETKEMEYER:

H.R. 1410.

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

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 of the U.S. Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is:

To amend the Consumer Financial Protection Act of 2010 to make the Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection an independent Consumer Financial Protection Commission, and for other purposes.

By Mr. LUETKEMEYER:

H.R. 1411.

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

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

The single subject of this legislation is:

To require Senate confirmation of Inspector General of the Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection, and for other purposes.

By Ms. MATSUI:

H.R. 1412.

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

Article 1, Section 8 of the United States Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

To establish the Foundation for Digital Equity, and for other purposes.

By Mrs. MCCLAIN:

H.R. 1413.

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

Article 1, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

To require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to expand or otherwise modify an existing national cemetery to ensure that full military honors are provided at such cemetery.

By Mr. MCHENRY:

H.R. 1414.

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

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1:

The Congress shall have Power To lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises, to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defence and general Welfare of the United States; but all Duties, Imposts and Excises shall be uniform throughout the United States:

The single subject of this legislation is:

Clarify Internal Revenue Code related to digital asset reporting.

By Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin:

H.R. 1415.

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

Article 1 Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

Improving access to school social workers.

By Ms. NORTON:

H.R. 1416.

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

clause 18 of section 8 of article I of the Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

This bill would establish a Federal Retirement Thrift Investment Board Inspector General.

By Mr. NUNN of Iowa:

H.R. 1417.

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

Article 1, Section 8 of the United States Constitution

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

The single subject of this legislation is:

To eliminate automatic pay adjustments for Members of Congress.

By Mr. PENCE:

H.R. 1418.

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

Article 1 Section 8 Clause 3 of the U.S. Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

To amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to reauthorize user fee programs relating to new animal drugs and generic new animal drugs.

By Mr. ROSENDALEI:

H.R. 1419.

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

Article 1, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

This legislation would remove certain grizzly bear ecosystems from the Federal list of endangered species.

By Mr. SABLAN:

H.R. 1420.

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

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following: Under Article 1, Section 8, Clauses 4 and Article IV, Section 3, Clause 2 of the Constitution of the United States.

The single subject of this legislation is:

Northern Marianas workforce improvement

By Ms. SCHRIER:

H.R. 1421.

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

Article I of the United States Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is:

Child care

By Mr. SIMPSON:

H.R. 1422.

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

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

To amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to improve oral health care and dental benefits under the Medicaid program, and for other purposes.

By Mr. SMITH of Washington:

H.R. 1423.

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

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 1

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18

The single subject of this legislation is:

Emergency crisis response

By Ms. SPANBERGER:

H.R. 1424.

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

U.S. Constitution, Article I, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

To extend the increased reimbursement rate for school meal programs.

By Mr. TIFFANY:

H.R. 1425.

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

Article II, Section 2, Clause 2.

The single subject of this legislation is:

Requiring any agreement related to pandemic response reached by the World Health Assembly to be subject to Senate ratification.

By Ms. TOKUDA:

H.R. 1426.

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

Article 1, Section 8, Clauses 1 and 18 of the United States Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is:

Amending the Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990 to establish a Floriculture and Nursery Plant Health Initiative.

By Mr. TRONE:

H.R. 1427.

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

Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution of the United States.

The single subject of this legislation is:

The SNAP Second Chance Act would limit the USDAs authority to deny small businesses seeking to be authorized SNAP program vendors due to a previous criminal conviction.

By Mr. TRONE:

H.R. 1429.

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

Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution of the United States.

The single subject of this legislation is:

This bill supports innovative educational policies to promote equitable academic outcomes.

By Mr. VALADAO:

H.R. 1430.

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

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

The single subject of this legislation is:

To increase American energy production and restore energy leadership by streamlining energy project related processes and requirements.

By Ms. VELÁZQUEZ:

H.R. 1431.

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

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1: The Congress shall have Power to . . . provide for the . . . general Welfare of the United States; . . .

The single subject of this legislation is:

This bill pertains to the operations and oversight of the Department of Housing and Urban Development's Section 8 Program.

By Mr. WENSTRUP:

H.R. 1432.

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

Article I, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

Tax

By Ms. WILD:

H.R. 1433.

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

Art. 1, Sec. 8, Cl. 1, 3, 18

The single subject of this legislation is:

Human rights.

By Mr. POSEY:

H.J. Res. 39.

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

Article I, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

A Congressional Review Act resolution disapproving a Department of Commerce rule (87 Fed. Reg. 56868).

By Ms. TENNEY:

H.J. Res. 40.

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

Article 5

The single subject of this legislation is:

Prohibits Non-Citizen Voting in Elections

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

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

H.R. 5: Mr. LANGWORTHY, Mr. BUCSHON, Mr. LATURNER, Mr. ADERHOLT, Mr. FERGUSON, Mr. POSEY, Mr. NEHLS, Mr. AMODEI, Mrs. FISCHBACH, Mrs. BICE, Mr. LAMALFA, Mr. CARTER of Georgia, Mr. BAIRD, Mr. MORAN, Mr. OGLES, and Mr. C. SCOTT FRANKLIN of Florida.

H.R. 7: Mr. SMITH of Nebraska, Mr. MILLER of Ohio, Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky, and Mr. BILIRAKIS.

H.R. 27: Ms. LEE of Florida.

H.R. 51: Mr. LANDSMAN.

H.R. 82: Ms. DELAURO, Mr. FLEISCHMANN, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Mr. BOWMAN, and Mr. SCHIFF.

H.R. 152: Mrs. LUNA.

H.R. 268: Mr. SCHIFF.

H.R. 309: Ms. BUSH, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, and Mr. MCGOVERN.

H.R. 343: Mr. BERGMAN and Mr. MCCORMICK.

H.R. 396: Ms. BALINT, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Ms. PLASKETT, Mr. BOWMAN, and Mr. CARSON.

H.R. 406: Mr. KILDEE.

H.R. 427: Mr. YAKYM and Mr. GOSAR.

H.R. 467: Mrs. BICE and Mr. CARTER of Texas.

H.R. 480: Mr. CARTWRIGHT.

H.R. 491: Ms. BUSH, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. CRAIG, Mr. CASAR, Mr. CARSON, and Ms. ROSS.

H.R. 496: Mr. BUCSHON and Ms. LETLOW.

H.R. 502: Mr. PAPPAS and Mr. VAN ORDEN.

H.R. 506: Ms. STRICKLAND and Mr. EVANS.

H.R. 516: Mr. SWALWELL.

H.R. 521: Mrs. BOEBERT.

H.R. 528: Mr. C. SCOTT FRANKLIN of Florida.

H.R. 537: Mr. STEUBE, Mr. LIEU, Mr. RUPERSBERGER, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Mr. FLEISCHMANN, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. MOULTON, Ms. STEVENS, Mr. CARBAJAL, Mr. MORELLE, Ms. ROSS, Mr. JACKSON of North Carolina, and Mr. CROW.

H.R. 555: Mr. LAWLER.

H.R. 564: Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana and Mr. ARRINGTON.

H.R. 565: Ms. UNDERWOOD.

H.R. 585: Mrs. PELTOLA.

H.R. 589: Mr. CÁRDENAS, Mr. AUCHINCLOSS, Mr. NICKEL, Ms. SPANBERGER, Mr. SIMPSON, Mr. DUARTE, and Mr. TRONE.

H.R. 594: Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia.

H.R. 603: Mr. VAN DREW, Mr. TONKO, and Mr. SORENSEN.

H.R. 625: Ms. STRICKLAND.

H.R. 632: Mr. EZELL, Mr. CLINE, Mrs. LESKO, Mr. JACKSON of Texas, and Mr. BABIN.

H.R. 645: Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN and Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi.

H.R. 651: Mr. BLUMENAUER.

H.R. 652: Mr. BLUMENAUER.

H.R. 667: Mr. GREEN of Texas.

H.R. 705: Mr. MAST, Mr. ZINKE, Mrs. LESKO, and Mr. LAHOOD.

H.R. 734: Mr. GOSAR, Mr. GIMENEZ, Ms. HAGEMAN, Mr. MCCLINTOCK, Mr. BARR, Mr. CLINE, Mr. POSEY, Mr. ADERHOLT, Mr. FITZGERALD, Mr. CARTER of Texas, Mr. GOODEN of Texas, Mr. MOORE of Alabama, Mr. EZELL, Mr. CURTIS, Mr. ROSE, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Ms. STEFANIK, Mr. ESTES, Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana, Mr. OWENS, Mr. WESTERMAN, Mr. COMER, Mr. WALTZ, Mr. CRAWFORD, and Mrs. CAMMACK.

H.R. 767: Mr. SCHIFF, Ms. BALINT, and Mr. BOWMAN.

H.R. 776: Mr. SELF.

H.R. 800: Mr. GROTHMAN, Mr. WILLIAMS of New York, Ms. MACE, Mr. CARTER of Texas, Mr. NICKEL, Mr. FERGUSON, Mr. BABIN, and Mr. EDWARDS.

H.R. 801: Mr. ALLEN.

H.R. 807: Mr. MOSKOWITZ, Mr. HUDSON, and Mr. LALOTA.

H.R. 813: Ms. STRICKLAND.

H.R. 815: Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS, Mr. LAMBORN, Mr. LAWLER, and Mrs. SPARTZ.

H.R. 830: Mr. VEASEY, Ms. ROSS, and Mr. KILMER.

H.R. 857: Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana and Mr. YAKYM.

H.R. 858: Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana.

H.R. 871: Ms. DEGETTE.

H.R. 911: Mr. SCHIFF.

H.R. 915: Mr. VAN ORDEN, Ms. HOULAHAN, Mr. STAUBER, and Mr. NEHLS.

H.R. 916: Mr. CRENSHAW.

H.R. 917: Mr. GOLDEN of Maine.

H.R. 949: Ms. VELÁZQUEZ and Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ.

H.R. 965: Mr. BURCHETT.

H.R. 972: Mr. BOST.

H.R. 983: Mr. MCHENRY, Mr. STEUBE, Mrs. BOEBERT, Mr. CARL, Mr. KELLY of Mississippi, Mr. LAMALFA, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. LUETKEMEYER, and Mr. TIMMONS.

H.R. 1009: Mr. NEHLS.

H.R. 1010: Mrs. RODGERS of Washington, Mr. ELLZEY, Mr. ROY, Mr. BIGGS, and Mr. GROTHMAN.

H.R. 1012: Mr. VAN DREW and Mr. CLINE.

H.R. 1024: Ms. TITUS and Mr. POSEY.

H.R. 1046: Mr. CÁRDENAS.

H.R. 1047: Mr. NEGUSE, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY, Mr. NADLER, and Mr. RASKIN.

H.R. 1048: Mr. LIEU and Mr. NEGUSE.

H.R. 1057: Mr. SMITH of New Jersey.

H.R. 1058: Mr. BUCSHON, Mr. CURTIS, and Mr. RUTHERFORD.

H.R. 1070: Mr. BUCSHON and Mr. CURTIS.

H.R. 1073: Ms. BALINT.

H.R. 1083: Mr. HORSFORD, Mr. CROW, Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania, Ms. LOFGREN, and Ms. TITUS.

H.R. 1085: Mr. CURTIS.

H.R. 1088: Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois.

H.R. 1105: Mrs. MCBATH and Mr. GAETZ.

H.R. 1110: Mr. PAPPAS.

H.R. 1111: Mr. GREEN of Texas.

H.R. 1115: Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS, Mr. DUNCAN, Mr. CURTIS, and Mr. BUCSHON.

H.R. 1121: Ms. DE LA CRUZ, Mr. WALBERG, and Mr. BUCSHON.

H.R. 1122: Ms. MACE, Mr. FITZGERALD, Mr. STEIL, Mr. BACON, and Mr. MAST.

H.R. 1124: Mr. POCAN.

H.R. 1125: Mr. GROTHMAN, Mr. GUEST, and Mr. OWENS.

H.R. 1130: Mr. CURTIS, Mr. GRIFFITH, and Mr. BUCSHON.

H.R. 1140: Mr. CURTIS and Mr. BUCSHON.

H.R. 1147: Mr. GROTHMAN.

H.R. 1150: Ms. SALAZAR, Mrs. RADEWAGEN, Mr. DESAULNIER, Mr. LYNCH, Mr. MOSKOWITZ, Ms. GARCIA of Texas, and Mr. LANDSMAN.

H.R. 1154: Mr. RESCHENTHALER.

H.R. 1155: Mr. PFLUGER, Mr. WALBERG, and Mr. BUCSHON.

H.R. 1160: Mr. CURTIS.

H.R. 1163: Mr. POSEY, Mr. SANTOS, and Ms. GREENE of Georgia.

H.R. 1167: Ms. STRICKLAND.

H.R. 1179: Ms. PLASKETT.

H.R. 1181: Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana.

H.R. 1191: Mr. JACKSON of North Carolina.

H.R. 1200: Mr. FALLON, Mr. CLYDE, Mr. BABIN, Mrs. HOUCHIN, Mr. GOOD of Virginia, Mr. ISSA, and Mr. SMUCKER.

H.R. 1201: Ms. SÁNCHEZ.

H.R. 1208: Mr. KHANNA.

H.R. 1214: Mrs. LEE of Nevada.

H.R. 1226: Mr. LAWLER and Mrs. SPARTZ.

H.R. 1228: Mr. CRAWFORD, Mr. ESTES, and Mr. FALLON.

H.R. 1229: Mr. STEIL.

H.R. 1230: Ms. SEWELL, Mr. LANDSMAN, Ms. GARCIA of Texas, and Mr. NADLER.

H.R. 1233: Mr. ESPAILLAT, Mr. CARSON, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Ms. NORTON, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mr. KHANNA, Mr. LYNCH, and Ms. BONAMICI.

H.R. 1234: Mr. MOORE of Alabama and Mr. TIMMONS.

H.R. 1235: Mr. POCAN, Ms. NORTON, Mr. GARBARINO, and Ms. TLAIB.

H.R. 1240: Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS.

H.R. 1246: Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ.

H.R. 1252: Ms. PORTER.

H.R. 1275: Ms. GREENE of Georgia.

H.R. 1282: Mr. LARSEN of Washington, Ms. JACOBS, Ms. SHERRILL, Mr. LANGWORTHY, Mrs. LEE of Nevada, Mr. PANETTA, Ms. BUDZINSKI, Mr. VAN ORDEN, Mr. EZELL, Mr. JOYCE of Ohio, Mr. SABLAN, Mr. CARL, Mr. HORSFORD, and Ms. TENNEY.

H.R. 1288: Mr. GUEST and Mr. LAMALFA.

H.R. 1293: Ms. BROWNLEY, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Ms. SCANLON, Mr. SHERMAN, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mr. CARTWRIGHT, Ms. DELBENE, Mr. STANTON, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Ms. TITUS, and Ms. KUSTER.

H.R. 1297: Mr. MOORE of Alabama, Mr. GREEN of Tennessee, Mr. CRANE, and Mr. BARR.

H.R. 1310: Mr. CLINE and Mrs. KIGGANS of Virginia.

H.R. 1313: Mr. STEUBE.

H.R. 1317: Mr. VASQUEZ.

H.R. 1318: Ms. LEE of California, Mr. LAWLER, Ms. DEGETTE, Mr. LANDSMAN, and Mr. GOTTHEIMER.

H.R. 1325: Mr. GOLDMAN of New York and Mr. BLUMENAUER.

H.R. 1328: Mr. DESAULNIER, Mr. PAPPAS, Mrs. DINGELL, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. TONKO, Ms. BALINT, and Ms. CASTOR of Florida.

H.R. 1331: Mr. DONALDS.

H.R. 1339: Mr. BALDERSON.

H.R. 1346: Mr. RESCHENTHALER.

H.R. 1354: Ms. SPANBERGER.

H.R. 1355: Mr. GARBARINO.

H.R. 1357: Mr. STEUBE.

H.R. 1359: Mr. HIGGINS of New York.

H.R. 1362: Mrs. CHAVEZ-DEREMER.

H.R. 1368: Mr. LANDSMAN, Mr. LIEU, and Mr. DOGGETT.

H.J. Res. 13: Mr. MRVAN.

H.J. Res. 31: Mr. BARR.

H.J. Res. 33: Mr. NEWHOUSE, Mr. FULCHER, Mr. BACON, Mr. ROSENDALE, Ms. MACE, and Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia.

H.J. Res. 38: Ms. VAN DUYN.

H. Con. Res. 10: Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio, Mr. SANTOS, and Mr. ELLZEY.

H. Con. Res. 13: Mr. OBERNOLTE, Mr. MILLER of Ohio, Mr. SORESENSEN, Mr. GOSAR, Mr. BERGMAN, Mr. JOYCE of Ohio, Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, Mr. WEBSTER of Florida, Mr. ROGERS of Alabama, Mr. DUNN of Florida, and Mr. LUETKEMEYER.

H. Con. Res. 14: Mr. CURTIS and Mr. BUCSHON.

H. Con. Res. 21: Mr. GOSAR, Ms. GREENE of Georgia, and Mr. ROSENDALE.

H. Res. 39: Ms. LEE of Florida.

H. Res. 77: Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Ms. TOKUDA, and Mr. CASAR.

H. Res. 100: Mr. CISCOMANI, Mr. LATURNER, Mr. DONALDS, Ms. STEFANIK, Mr. PALMER, and Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota.

H. Res. 106: Mr. EVANS, Mr. RASKIN, Mr. HUFFMAN, Mr. CROW, and Mr. CLEAVER.

H. Res. 108: Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania and Mr. CARBAJAL.

H. Res. 111: Mr. HILL and Mr. EDWARDS.

H. Res. 122: Ms. GARCIA of Texas.

H. Res. 128: Mr. CARBAJAL, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, and Mr. CARTER of Louisiana.

H. Res. 133: Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia and Ms. PRESSLEY.

H. Res. 144: Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana.

H. Res. 147: Mr. BOST.

H. Res. 182: Ms. LEE of California.

H. Res. 195: Ms. SCANLON, Ms. DEGETTE, Mr. LEVIN, Ms. STANSBURY, and Mr. POCAN.



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No. 43

Senate

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

PRAYER

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

Let us pray.

Eternal Spirit, source of all wisdom, as Senators strive to make critical decisions, guide their hearts and minds. Give them such courage of conviction that they will ignore the siren calls to deviate from integrity. Help them to walk along ethical paths even when they are misunderstood by insiders and outsiders. Lord, deliver them from those who question their motives and misrepresent their intentions. Remind them that You are the one constituent who ultimately matters and that pleasing You must be their first priority. May they trust You to open doors that no one can shut and to shut doors that no one can open.

We pray in Your sovereign 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 (Mrs. MURRAY).

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, March 7, 2023.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby

appoint the Honorable RAPHAEL G. WARNOCK, a Senator from the State of Georgia, to perform the duties of the Chair.

PATTY MURRAY,
President pro tempore.

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

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

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

CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Morning business is closed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Robert Stewart Ballou, of Virginia, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Virginia.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

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

FOX NEWS

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, last night, millions of Americans tuned into one of the most shameful hours we have ever seen on cable television. With contempt for the facts, disregard of the risks, and knowing full well he was lying—lying—to his audience, FOX News host Tucker Carlson ran a lengthy segment last night arguing the January 6 Capitol attack was not a violent insurrection.

By diving deep into the waters of conspiracy and cherry-picking from thousands of hours of security footage, Mr. Carlson told the bald-faced lie that the Capitol attack—which we all saw with our own eyes—was somehow not an attack at all. He tried to argue it was nothing more than a peaceful sightseeing tour—can you imagine—a nonviolent demonstration, a perfectly fine and appropriate instance of people expressing their opinion.

I and so many others who were here in the Capitol and millions and millions of Americans are just furious with Tucker Carlson and KEVIN MCCARTHY today.

Many of my staff were here at the Capitol on January 6. Their lives were put in danger, as were the lives of many of my colleagues, as well as police, maintenance staff, reporters, countless others.

At one point, I was within 30 feet of the rioters. One of them, I was told, shouted out “let’s get him” before my detail pulled me away and we ran in the other direction.

To say January 6 was not violent is a lie—a lie, pure and simple. I don’t think I have ever seen a prime time cable news anchor manipulate his viewers the way Mr. Carlson did last night. I don’t think I have ever seen an anchor treat the American people and American democracy with such disdain.

And he is going to come back tonight with another segment. FOX News should tell him not to.

FOX News, Rupert Murdoch, tell Carlson not to run a second segment of lies. You know it is a lie. He has admitted it is a lie.

And Speaker MCCARTHY is every bit as culpable as Mr. Carlson. Speaker MCCARTHY’s decision to share security footage with FOX looked like a mistake from the very beginning. But after last night, it looks like a disaster. Speaker MCCARTHY has played a treacherous game by catering to the

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



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hard right. He has enabled the Big Lie and has further eroded away at our precious democracy. When people don't believe elections are on the level, that is the beginning of the end of this bold experiment in democracy that has gone on for more than 200 years.

It is all the more shameful because Speaker MCCARTHY knows precisely what kind of customer Mr. Carlson is. He is not surprised by this outcome. What a low point for Speaker MCCARTHY. What a low point for FOX News.

As reporting on the Dominion lawsuit shows, Mr. Carlson had no problem admitting behind the scenes that the Big Lie is pure garbage. When Sydney Powell went on the air to push the stolen election narrative, Mr. Carlson told fellow anchor Laura Ingraham that "Sydney Powell is lying"—his words by the deposition. Mr. Carlson's own producer texted him that "I don't think there is evidence of voter fraud that swung the election."

They know. They know full well they have been lying, and they are doing it anyway. We all, Americans of all types and stripes and corners of this country—Democrats, Republicans, Independents—need to take a stand and call out Mr. Carlson's conduct for what it is: a dangerous, unforgivable attempt to destabilize our democracy and rewrite the history of the worst attack on our Constitution since the Civil War.

It is an insult to every police officer who was on the scene that terrible, fearful day. It is an insult to the memory of every single person who perished in connection with the attack, especially to the memory of Brian Sicknick.

Nonviolent? Ask the Sicknick family. It makes me sick just thinking about what his family must be going through this morning.

And it is an insult to everyone who cares about our democracy and wishes to preserve the dream of our Founders in our day, in our age. I hope every Member of this Chamber will call out FOX and Mr. Carlson for defending the insurrectionists.

And, again, I am disappointed and angered in Speaker MCCARTHY's decision to share sensitive security footage with Mr. Carlson. Speaker MCCARTHY was here that day. He knows what actually happened. His staff and members suffered like everyone else, but he chose cheap political expediency over truth and preservation of democracy.

I condemn Mr. Carlson for siding with the enemies of democracy. I strongly condemn Speaker MCCARTHY's actions and fiercely oppose his decision to share this footage with Carlson. I urge FOX News to order Carlson to cease propagating the Big Lie on his network and to level with their viewers about the truth—the truth—behind the efforts to mislead the public. Conduct like theirs is just asking for another January 6 to happen.

RAIL SAFETY

Mr. President, on another subject, as East Palestine continues grappling

with the aftermath of last month's derailment and after a second derailment in Ohio last weekend, Norfolk Southern announced yesterday a new six-point plan they claim will "immediately enhance the safety of its operations."

But here is the question all of us should be asking: Why weren't these protocols already in place?

When Norfolk Southern CEO Alan Shaw comes before the Senate on Thursday, this is just one of the important questions he must answer. Here are a few others: What steps is Norfolk Southern taking to prevent future disasters like the one in East Palestine? Why did Norfolk Southern spend years lobbying against safety regulations intended to prevent accidents like the one last month? How will Norfolk Southern ensure communities along train routes with hazardous materials get the resources they need to respond to accidents—the resources and the information they need? Why did Norfolk Southern launch a \$10 billion stock buyback program last year when that money could have gone to upgrading safety equipment, hiring more workers, or paying their workers better wages?

We need answers to these questions. We need an honest, candid discussion how we can prevent accidents like this in the future. Part of that discussion must acknowledge the plain truth: Republicans have spent years listening to the rail lobby and opposing safety rules in the name of boosting rail company profits. I am talking about the Trump administration loosening brake maintenance and inspection regulations, attempting to deregulate freight train crew size, and nullifying a rule that implemented safety programs. I am talking about Republicans in this Chamber pushing for the "self-regulation" of railroads and leaving safety up to the whims of the free market, to allow for the transportation of more hazardous materials without proper oversight, and to encourage the automation of track inspection at the expense of safety. All of these create dangers.

We don't know yet all the details of what exactly happened in East Palestine, but we know these deregulatory actions make things less safe.

I hope that we can work together, Democrats and Republicans, to put a much-needed, long-overdue check on big rail and make sure another East Palestine never happens. And I commend the bipartisan legislation led by the Senators from Ohio—Senator BROWN, a Democrat and Senator VANCE, a Republican—to move things forward.

GOVERNMENT FUNDING

Mr. President, the budget. For the last 2 months, Democrats have highlighted the contrast between our vision and the Republican vision for our country. Republicans, meanwhile, have spent all this time trying to prove us right.

In a few days, President Biden will release his budget for the 2024 fiscal

year. Americans can expect the President to present a bold, optimistic, and responsible path for the Nation. The President's plan is going to show how we can lower the deficit in a responsible manner. His plan will strengthen Social Security and keep Medicare solvent for another 2 decades. And the President's plan will preserve his promise not to raise taxes on anyone making less than \$400,000 a year.

This isn't just talk because Democrats have already shown we can do these things. We already lowered the deficit by hundreds of billions of dollars. We already lowered the cost of prescription drugs, like insulin, and we hope to build on that promise in the near future. And the President explained this morning in an op-ed in the New York Times that he plans to build on the progress we made last year in the Inflation Reduction Act by making Medicare solvent through the year 2050. Isn't that great news for the American people, even younger people who will need it before 2050?

He will expand the list of drugs Medicare can renegotiate. He will take profits that used to go to Big Pharma and put it toward deficit reduction. Many Americans think it would be just a great idea to take the money that normally goes to Big Pharma and put it towards deficit reduction and towards keeping Medicare solvent longer. This commonsense step will help millions of ordinary Americans.

Republicans, to their credit, are being very helpful about erasing any doubt about which party is fighting for the working people and the middle class. While Democrats are for keeping taxes low for most Americans, Republicans tried to push a national sales tax that would have sent taxes surging by 30 percent for millions. While Democrats want to make the wealthy pay their fair share, House Republicans passed their first bill, a proposal to carve out the IRS and make it easier for wealthy tax cheats to avoid detection.

While Democrats will protect Social Security, Republicans, like the senior Senator from Wisconsin, decided to go on the radio the day after the State of the Union and call Social Security a "Ponzi scheme." Can you imagine?

If my Republican colleagues have a problem with what I am saying, there is an easy solution. Speaker MCCARTHY needs to stop dodging and show us the Republican plan. It is now March 7. Two months have passed already in this year. The debt ceiling X date is approaching. Republicans have said they will release a plan. They say they want spending cuts in return for just paying our debts which we already incurred. Where is their plan? What is the hold-up?

The President will release his budget very soon, and the onus is on Speaker MCCARTHY to respond with a serious plan of his own that is a budget plan

that deals with deficit reduction, because we think that should occur without hostage-taking, without any brinkmanship, as it has been done three times in the past few years.

So, Speaker MCCARTHY, respond with a plan, one that can unite the fractured and chaotic factions of the Republican Congress.

NOMINATION OF ARUN SUBRAMANIAN

Mr. President, I will have more to say on this later, but I am just very proud the Senate will vote to confirm a highly qualified judicial nominee whom I recommended, Arun Subramanian.

If confirmed, he will be the first South Asian judge in the Southern District of New York, which has one of the largest—if not the largest—South Asian population in the country. He is a great judge. I am looking forward to him serving well on the bench. I will have more to say about him before his vote this afternoon.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The Republican leader is recognized.

CRIME

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, 1 month ago, the Biden administration published an official statement opposing Republicans' bill to block a disastrous new soft-on-crime law right here in our Nation's Capital. The administration was on the record against it.

Then the overwhelming majority of House Democrats voted against our commonsense resolution when it passed the House. The proposition behind our bill is simple. It goes like this: The answer to skyrocketing violent crime in the District of Columbia is not—not—to reduce criminal penalties even further. On what planet should this even need to be said in the first place?

The murder rate in Washington is 34 percent higher today than it was at this time last year. Auto thefts are up 110 percent right here in the Nation's Capital. Longtime DC residents are locking their car doors at every red light. Tourists visiting their own capital are worried about walking the streets.

Just yesterday, the chief of the Metropolitan Police lamented that the average homicide suspect that his department encounters has already been arrested—listen to this—11 times before, 11 times.

Here is what the police chief said:

What we've got to do—if we really want to see homicides go down—is keep bad guys with guns in jail. Because when they're in

jail, they can't be in communities shooting people.

That is the police chief here in the Nation's Capital.

But the radical politicians who run the city tried to do exactly the opposite. The liberal city council cooked up a soft-on-crime overhaul of the Criminal Code that would have made it even easier for repeat offenders to get back out on the streets. It would have brought the mandatory minimum sentences for crimes like robbery and carjacking down even lower than they already are. And it would have gummed up an already backlogged and dysfunctional criminal justice system by massively expanding jury trials—listen to this—for misdemeanors. It is like these local Democrats have never met a single criminal they actually want locked up behind bars. It is truly remarkable.

This is exactly why our laws give Congress the final say—the final say—over how our Nation's Capital is governed because we can't have the craziness and dysfunction of a few local politicians jeopardizing the basic public safety in the Federal district that houses our national government. So Republicans wrote a resolution to overturn this nonsense.

But bear in mind, this limited resolution would not even toughen criminal penalties. At this point, we are talking about keeping things where they are and stopping even further—even further—backsliding.

The first step is to use this legal tool to stop the unhinged local politicians from making the totally unacceptable status quo even worse. But even so, this is a bridge too far for the vast majority of Washington Democrats.

Just a month ago, the White House issued an official statement opposing House Republicans' commonsense resolution saying:

Congress should respect the District of Columbia's [authority] to govern its own local affairs.

And listen to this: 82 percent of House Democrats fell in line behind the Biden administration and voted no. But then something amazing happened.

I think somebody at the White House may have shown the President his latest poll numbers on this issue—fewer than one in three Americans approve of the way he is handling crime—because Washington Democrats started panicking and reversed themselves on a dime. The President came here last week, pulled a 180, and told our Democratic colleagues he won't veto the resolution after all.

Now there appears to be a different kind of jailbreak brewing right here in the Senate, and a number of Democrats may jump ship at the eleventh hour, trying to act like they have been tough on crime all along. But our colleagues will not be getting off the hook that easily.

It is not an act of heroic political courage for Democrats to help Congress do our basic minimum job and

stop the DC Council from making an unacceptable status quo even worse, and none of our colleagues get to erase their entire records with this one vote.

Remember, just last summer, every single Senate Democrat went on record against a proposal to redirect a portion of their massive taxing-and-spending spree to fight surging crime.

Let the record reflect what actually gets Washington Democrats' attention and what does not. It did not get their attention when rates of violent crime in America's major cities were accelerating this time last year. It did not get their attention that compared to prepandemic levels, homicide nationwide are up 34 percent. It hadn't gotten Democrats' attention when the streets of our own Federal district are where repeated offenders are driving spikes in carjackings and murder.

But now that even the mainstream media are beginning to hold them to account for their negligence, now Washington Democrats are finally trying to change their tune. Innocent citizens getting shot in our streets didn't do it, but when Democrats take political shots in the press, that finally gets their attention.

So, look, we will welcome any of our Democratic colleagues who can recognize basic sanity and want to be on the winning side for our Republican resolution later this week, but local, State, and national Democratic Party officials will not be getting off the hot seat as quickly or as easily as they have got convicted felons getting back on the streets.

Washington, DC is only 0.2 percent of our Nation's population. What about New York, Chicago, San Francisco, Portland, Philadelphia, even Louisville? Don't these citizens deserve some sanity as well? Don't the families and children and elderly people and young women of these communities deserve to walk their streets with safety and security too?

We cannot only have public safety in this country in exceptional cases when a Republican House and a narrowly divided Senate can force Democrats to do the right thing against their will.

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. DURBIN. 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.

MAGNITSKY SANCTIONS

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, last week, the Biden administration announced it was imposing Magnitsky law-related sanctions on several Putin thugs involved in the jailing of Vladimir Kara-Murza. This is the move that I, along with Senators SHAHEEN, RUBIO, TILLIS, MENENDEZ, and RISCH, had urged.

Kara-Murza is an incredible Russian patriot who, despite being poisoned

twice by the Kremlin, returned to Russia last year to continue the peaceful struggle for a more democratic nation and an end to the disastrous war in Ukraine. I will never forget that he came to talk to me just before he returned to Russia and reflected on his determination and optimism for a better future for Russia. Tragically, he was arrested shortly after arriving in Moscow on the laughable charge of criticizing Mr. Putin's war.

Kara-Murza, Alexei Navalny, and so many other Russians who are courageously pursuing a better future for their country deserve our support, and they deserve to be released from Putin's disgraceful gulags.

I would also like to take a moment to mention another brave person. This gentleman, Oswaldo Paya, a brave Cuban, died under suspicious circumstances 11 years ago. Oswaldo Paya had spent years advocating for peaceful, democratic change in Cuba, including submitting thousands of signatures calling for greater political freedoms using a process allowed by the Cuban Constitution itself. Not only did the Castro regime cowardly ignore these modest requests, but it then changed the constitutional provision that allowed for this kind of political input.

After years of harassment and threats, in July 2012, Oswaldo Paya's car was run off the road by a government vehicle, leading to his death. The Cuban Government has never provided a credible accounting of the incident or charged anyone with his death. So, this week, Senators RUBIO, KAINE, CASSIDY, MENENDEZ, CRUZ, CARDIN, WARNER, and I are again calling on the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights to complete this investigation. I hope the Commission finally acts to bring light to Paya's case and to help deter acts of aggression like this in the future.

RAIL SAFETY

Mr. President, the residents of East Palestine, OH, were still desperate for answers about the toxic derailment of the Norfolk Southern train in their town a month ago when a second Norfolk Southern train derailed in Springfield, OH, this past weekend. This morning, we learned of even another accident involving Norfolk Southern. A railroad employee was killed early this morning when a Norfolk Southern train collided with a dump truck in Cleveland, OH.

These three rail accidents in just 1 month—one of them a catastrophic derailment—have sent a grave and blaring signal that we need to do more to protect American communities from hazardous freight rail shipments. The need for greater rail safety is urgent, especially in my State of Illinois. Chicago, IL, is the busiest rail hub in the United States. About a quarter of all freight rail traffic in our Nation passes through the Chicago area every year.

If we ignore the warnings from East Palestine and Springfield, OH, it is only a matter of time until the next deadly derailment. In East Palestine,

the government has responded quickly. Federal Agencies were on the ground within hours and are still there today. President Biden has instructed workers from Federal Agencies to even go door to door, checking on the residents in the area to see who may need medical attention as a result of exposure to toxic chemicals.

These are the right steps to take, but we also need to do more to prevent train derailments and accidents in the first place so that more communities don't find themselves facing the same dangers and uncertainty as East Palestine.

Freight rail traffic has increased in recent decades, and it continues to grow. At the same time, freight companies have moved to larger and longer trains to increase profits. But Federal regulations have not kept pace with the changing rail industry. That is the problem.

Listen to these figures, which tell the story. In 2001, the profit margin of the leading freight carriers was 15 percent. Today, the profit margin of those same rail carriers is 41 percent—from 15 to 41 percent. While derailments are down overall since the 1970s, the number of train accidents per mile has actually increased. In addition, over the last 7 years, the damage from derailments has grown, particularly from trains carrying hazardous chemicals.

Instead of investing adequately in safety and their workers, freight rail companies have cut staff dramatically and fought to dismantle safety regulations. Those efforts paid off under the previous President, when rail industry regulators dramatically loosened a number of safety rules. The result is greater danger, more congestion, and blocked rail crossings in communities across America.

The disaster in East Palestine appears finally to have produced a bipartisan consensus that change is needed—and it is. My colleagues from Ohio, Senators BROWN and VANCE, have introduced a bipartisan bill that will make several important, commonsense changes and force freight railroads to improve the safety of their operations. I support these efforts and hope the Senate will pass the bill soon.

While the exact causes of the recent Ohio derailments have not yet been determined, inspectors for the national Surface Transportation Board found that a wheel bearing on the derailed Norfolk Southern train in East Palestine heated to more than 250 degrees above average—250 degrees—causing the plastic pellets it was carrying to catch fire.

The bipartisan bill from Senators BROWN and VANCE will increase how frequently the temperature of wheel bearings must be checked. It also would require additional safety procedures for trains carrying these deadly and dangerous materials. This includes rules for the length of trains and their weight, increased inspections, and a requirement that trains hauling haz-

ardous materials have two trained crew members on board instead of just one. Finally, the Brown-Vance bill would provide funding for hazmat training for first responders, and it would invest in both rail research and the development of new tank car safety features. These are important safety steps that will protect rail workers and the communities through which these trains pass.

This past December, Congress approved a labor agreement that gives rail workers the largest wage increase in 50 years, but most of the railroads balked at providing their workers with even 1 day of paid sick leave per year so that they can take care of themselves and their families.

For too long, railroads have short-changed their workers and possibly endangered American communities, maximizing their corporate profits. It is time for change.

Working for railroads is a tradition in my family. I grew up in East St. Louis, IL. Both of my parents worked for the New York Central Railroad. My two brothers and I also worked for the same railroad. I know from personal experience that many railroad jobs are physically demanding and can be dangerous. Lucky for me, the only scar I have from working on the railroad is a minor one, but others have been injured in more grievous ways.

We can't take all the risks out of rail transport, but we must reduce unnecessary risk. The bipartisan Brown-Vance bill strikes the right balance. We should pass it without delay.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. PADILLA). The Republican whip.

IMMIGRATION

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, at the end of last week, I joined several of my Republican colleagues to travel down to our southern border. It was my second visit to the border during the Biden administration—my third overall. My first during the Biden administration was almost exactly 2 years ago, after border numbers started to soar in the wake of the President taking office.

I would have to say unfortunately little has changed since my last visit. Thanks to the fact that President Biden spent the first 2 years of his Presidency refusing to even acknowledge this crisis, much less actually address it, we are still facing a disastrous situation at our southern border.

I talked to Border Patrol agents who have spent 2 years dealing with record-breaking numbers of illegal immigrants and are still looking for support from the Biden administration that never seems to come. Again and again, Border Patrol agents told me that not only do they not feel supported by the Biden administration, but they feel like the Biden administration has actually impeded their ability to do their jobs. "Just let us enforce the law," one agent told me. It is something that was echoed by other law enforcement officers that we spoke to. To give you just

one example, we heard from the individual in charge of the border for the State of Texas, who told us that they have a number of panels for the congressionally mandated border wall that are ready to go into the ground. The State of Texas and law enforcement personnel would like to install these panels to help them stem the flood of illegal immigration—at their own expense, an expense of the State of Texas. But the Biden administration has, so far, refused to grant the permissions needed to do that. I can only imagine how much harder the jobs will get when the Biden administration ends title 42 border policies, coming up on May 11.

I was also stunned to learn that President Biden's supposed border czar, Vice President HARRIS, has never spoken to the border czar for the State of Texas or to the leadership of the Border Patrol down there. That is right. The person who is supposedly in charge of addressing the chaos at our southern border has never spoken to the individual in charge of border issues for the State that makes up the greatest portion of our southern border or to the Border Patrol leadership in the State.

Mr. President, from his campaign on, President Biden was fixated on distancing himself from the immigration policies of his predecessor and satisfying the open borders caucus that makes up a huge part of today's Democratic Party, so much so that, in his first week in office or so, he repealed somewhere on the order of 94—94—executive policies of the previous administration with respect to the border. The moment he took office, he set about dismantling those policies of the previous administration without apparently taking even a minute to think about what effect his actions would have.

Well, we know now what effect they had. President Biden's actions declared to the world that the United States' borders were effectively open, and we have seen 2 years of recordbreaking illegal immigration as a result.

In January, President Biden finally—and I say “finally”—began to take some steps to address the crisis at our southern border, including reestablishing versions of some of the border security policies he did away with on taking office. Predictably, even the mild steps he has taken have garnered criticism from open borders Democrats who, apparently, think that border security and border enforcement are somehow uncompassionate.

Well, Mr. President, do you know what is uncompassionate? The kind of lax border policies we have had over the past 2 years that have encouraged individuals to attempt to illegally cross our border; that have encouraged individuals to pay huge sums to dangerous individuals, to cartels, and smugglers for illegal passage; that have exposed unaccompanied children to the hazards of extreme weather and criminal activity or exploitation by sponsors once they arrive in this country.

At least 853 people died attempting to cross our southern border illegally in fiscal year 2022—the highest number ever recorded. That is a lot of lives lost. There is nothing compassionate about the policies that encourage them to attempt the crossing.

I think many people think of those attempting to illegally cross our border as economically disadvantaged individuals from Mexico or Central America. But the truth is that U.S. Customs and Border Protection apprehends individuals at our southern border from all over the world, some from hostile countries. One law enforcement official I spoke with said that the number of Chinese nationals attempting to cross illegally in the Rio Grand Valley Sector has increased by 488 percent year over year—488 percent. Now, I have no doubt that some of those were individuals merely hoping to relocate from communist China to a land of freedom. But it is equally possible that some were hostile agents of the Chinese Government, and that is a serious security concern.

In fiscal year 2022, Customs and Border Protection apprehended 98 individuals on the terrorist watch list attempting to cross our southern border. That is an average of one approximately every 3 or 4 days. And that is just the individuals Customs and Border Protection managed to apprehend. There have been at least 1.2 million known “got-aways,” which are individuals the Border Patrol saw but was unable to apprehend, since President Biden took over. Now, that is in addition to the almost 4.7 million—4.7 million—people whom they actually did apprehend trying to come across our southern border since President Biden took office.

It is more than possible that terrorists or agents of hostile powers have been able to make their way into our country undetected while our Border Patrol agents have been struggling to deal with the recordbreaking number of individuals coming across the border illegally. The chaos that we have been experiencing at our southern border is an invitation to dangerous individuals, from terrorists to drug cartels.

Our Nation is currently in the midst of a fentanyl crisis, which is largely being fueled by fentanyl trafficked across our southern border. And I would be very surprised if the flow of fentanyl into this country isn't being facilitated by the chaos at our border.

Our current fentanyl crisis is also a good reminder that illegal activity at our southern border affects every State in our country. I have talked to sheriffs in South Dakota—about as far from our southern border as you can get—who are dealing with fentanyl that has been trafficked across the border from Mexico. Last year, Minnehaha County Sheriff Mike Milstead estimated that 90 percent—90 percent—of fentanyl and methamphetamine in our State—the State of South Dakota—comes through Mexico and across our southern border—90 percent.

Every State is a border State, and recordbreaking floods of illegal immigration at our southern border aren't just a problem for actual border States, like Texas and Arizona. They are a problem for every State in our country.

For 2 years, the Biden administration has been missing in action at our southern border. While I am glad that President Biden is finally, at least halfheartedly, acknowledging that we are facing a border crisis, I want to see him follow through on actually enforcing our laws and doing what the Border Patrol agents are simply asking: Enforce our laws.

He has all the authority he needs to secure our border, and he owes the American people nothing less.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

VOTE ON BALLOU NOMINATION

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

Mr. CARDIN. 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 California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN), the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. FETTERMAN), and the Senator from Arizona (Mr. KELLY) are necessarily absent.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senator is necessarily absent: the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. BARRASSO).

The result was announced—yeas 59, nays 37, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 41 Ex.]

YEAS—59

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

NAYS—37

Blackburn	Cassidy	Daines
Boozman	Cotton	Ernst
Braun	Cramer	Fischer
Britt	Crapo	Hagerty
Budd	Cruz	Hawley

Hoeven	Mullin	Sullivan
Hyde-Smith	Paul	Thune
Johnson	Ricketts	Tuberville
Lankford	Risch	Vance
Lee	Rubio	Wicker
Lummis	Schmitt	Young
Marshall	Scott (FL)	
Moran	Scott (SC)	

NOT VOTING—4

Barrasso	Fetterman
Feinstein	Kelly

Manchin	Peters	Smith
Markey	Reed	Stabenow
McConnell	Romney	Tester
Menendez	Rosen	Van Hollen
Merkley	Rounds	Warner
Murkowski	Sanders	Warnock
Murphy	Schatz	Warren
Murray	Schumer	Welch
Ossoff	Shaheen	Whitehouse
Padilla	Sinema	Wyden

NAYS—39

Blackburn	Hagerty	Ricketts
Boozman	Hawley	Risch
Braun	Hoeven	Rubio
Britt	Hyde-Smith	Schmitt
Budd	Johnson	Scott (FL)
Cassidy	Kennedy	Scott (SC)
Cotton	Lankford	Sullivan
Cramer	Lee	Thune
Crapo	Lummis	Tillis
Cruz	Marshall	Tuberville
Daines	Moran	Vance
Ernst	Mullin	Wicker
Fischer	Paul	Young

NOT VOTING—4

Barrasso	Fetterman
Feinstein	Kelly

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. LUJÁN). On this vote, the yeas are 57, the nays are 39.

The motion is agreed to.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Andrew G. Schopler, of California, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of California.

RECESS

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

Thereupon, the Senate, at 1:16 p.m., recessed until 2:15 p.m. and reassembled when called to order by the Presiding Officer (Mr. LUJÁN).

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR—Continued

NOMINATION OF ANDREW G. SCHOPLER

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, today, the Senate will vote to confirm Judge Andrew Schopler, who has been nominated to the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of California.

Since 2016, Judge Schopler has served as a magistrate judge for the Southern District of California. To date, he has presided over five misdemeanor trials. Prior to his Federal judicial appointment, he served as a judge pro tem for 5 years on the San Diego Superior Court's Small Claims Court, where he presided over dozens of civil bench trials. Before joining the bench, Judge Schopler served the Southern District of California as an Assistant U.S. Attorney for 12 years, spending 4 years in the general crimes section, four in the criminal enterprise/narcotics enforcement section, and four in the major frauds and special prosecutions section, where he served as deputy chief. Judge Schopler began his legal career in North Carolina as an assistant public defender at the Orange and Chatham

County Public Defender's Office and in private practice. He tried approximately 55 cases to verdict or judgment and was sole counsel in 39. Since 2014, Judge Schopler has also served this country as a major in the U.S. Army, California Army National Guard. In 2018, he deployed to Afghanistan for 8 months.

Born in Chapel Hill, NC, Judge Schopler earned his J.D. cum laude from Harvard Law School in 1997 and his B.A. summa cum laude from Dartmouth College in 1994. Senators Feinstein and Padilla strongly support Judge Schopler's nomination. The American Bar Association has also unanimously rated him "well qualified" to serve on the Southern District of California.

I urge all of my colleagues to join me in supporting this highly qualified nominee.

VOTE ON SCHOPLER NOMINATION

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

Mr. PETERS. 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 California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN), the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. FETTERMAN), the Senator from Arizona (Mr. KELLY), and the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) are necessarily absent.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senator is necessarily absent: the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. BARRASSO).

The result was announced—yeas 56, nays 39, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 43 Ex.]

YEAS—56

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

NAYS—39

Blackburn	Hagerty	Ricketts
Boozman	Hawley	Risch
Braun	Hoeven	Rubio
Britt	Hyde-Smith	Schmitt
Budd	Johnson	Scott (FL)
Cassidy	Kennedy	Scott (SC)
Cotton	Lankford	Sullivan
Cramer	Lee	Thune
Crapo	Lummis	Tillis
Cruz	Marshall	Tuberville
Daines	Moran	Vance
Ernst	Mullin	Wicker
Fischer	Paul	Young

[Rollcall Vote No. 42 Ex.]

YEAS—57

Baldwin	Casey	Grassley
Bennet	Collins	Hassan
Blumenthal	Coons	Heinrich
Booker	Cornyn	Hickenlooper
Brown	Cortez Masto	Hirono
Cantwell	Duckworth	Kaine
Capito	Durbin	King
Cardin	Gillibrand	Klobuchar
Carper	Graham	Lujan

NOT VOTING—5

Barrasso Fetterman Sanders
Feinstein Kelly

The nomination was confirmed.

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

CLOTURE MOTION

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 43, Arun Subramanian, of New York, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of New York.

Charles E. Schumer, Richard J. Durbin, Jeff Merkley, Jeanne Shaheen, Elizabeth Warren, Sheldon Whitehouse, Richard Blumenthal, Christopher A. Coons, Jack Reed, Alex Padilla, Gary C. Peters, Angus S. King, Jr., Mazie Hirono, Tim Kaine, Brian Schatz, Cory A. Booker, Margaret Wood Hassan.

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

The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that debate on the nomination of Arun Subramanian, of New York, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of New York, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN), the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. FETTERMAN), the Senator from Arizona (Mr. KELLY), and the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) are necessarily absent.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senator is necessarily absent: the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. BARRASSO).

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 58, nays 37, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 44 Ex.]

YEAS—58

Baldwin	Grassley	Murray
Bennet	Hassan	Ossoff
Blumenthal	Heinrich	Padilla
Booker	Hickenlooper	Peters
Brown	Hirono	Reed
Cantwell	Kaine	Romney
Capito	Kennedy	Rosen
Cardin	King	Rounds
Carper	Klobuchar	Schatz
Casey	Lee	Schumer
Collins	Lujan	Shaheen
Coons	Manchin	Sinema
Cornyn	Markey	Smith
Cortez Masto	McConnell	Stabenow
Duckworth	Menendez	Tester
Durbin	Merkley	Van Hollen
Gillibrand	Murkowski	
Graham	Murphy	

Warner
Warnock

Warren
Welch

Whitehouse
Wyden

NAYS—37

Blackburn
Boozman
Braun
Britt
Budd
Cassidy
Cotton
Cramer
Crapo
Cruz
Daines
Ernst
Fischer

Hagerty
Hawley
Hoeven
Hyde-Smith
Johnson
Lankford
Lummis
Marshall
Moran
Mullin
Paul
Ricketts
Risch

Rubio
Schmitt
Scott (FL)
Scott (SC)
Sullivan
Thune
Tillis
Tuberville
Vance
Wicker
Young

NOT VOTING—5

Barrasso Fetterman Sanders
Feinstein Kelly

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. WELCH). On this vote, the yeas are 58, the nays are 37.

The motion is agreed to.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The legislative clerk read the nomination of Arun Subramanian, of New York, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of New York.

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

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

CRIME

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, communities across the country have paid the price of Democrats' soft-on-crime policies. The Democratic Party has backed woke prosecutors who refuse to enforce broad swaths of the Criminal Code. It has endorsed "defund the police" policies and candidates, and it has consistently shown more sympathy for the criminals who commit crimes than for the victims who were hurt by them.

It is no surprise that these decisions carry very dangerous consequences, which are being felt across America. Businesses are fleeing Portland, OR, due to surging crime. The mayor of Chicago was just defeated in her primary because she failed to address rampant crime in that city.

One city that is not immune to these consequences is our Nation's Capital, Washington, DC. So far this year, the District of Columbia has seen more than three dozen homicides—a nearly 40 percent increase compared to last year. Forty percent. Sex crimes have more than doubled compared to last year, and there have been more than 1,200 motor vehicle thefts, including carjackings, which is more than double the number at this point last year. In total, the Nation's Capital, where we are located, reported a 25-percent increase in crime compared to last year.

With crime on the rise, you would expect that the elected leaders of the DC City Council would take steps to improve public safety, but that is not what they did. In fact, council members took the exact opposite approach. Forget deterring criminal conduct; the

DC City Council responded to this crime wave by reducing penalties for violent crimes. It actually passed legislation that decreases punishment for many of the same crimes that have been on the rise over the last year—lower penalties for carjackings, home invasions, and robberies and lower penalties for convicted felons who illegally carry firearms and for felons who use guns to commit other crimes. There are no mandatory minimum sentences for any crime other than first-degree murder.

It is a slap in the face of every law-abiding resident and visitor to this city; every person who worries about getting carjacked on their way home from work, like the people who work for us here in the Nation's Capital; or being robbed on the Metro, like the visitors from our States who come to the Nation's Capital who don't expect to be assaulted and robbed; or individuals who have their residence targeted by a serial burglar.

This is not the kind of legislation that is meant to keep people safe; it is just the latest iteration of failed soft-on-crime policies. It is no surprise that DC's Criminal Code rewrite was met with severe backlash.

Even the Washington Post published an editorial entitled "DC's crime bill could make the city more dangerous." Well, I give them credit for stating the obvious.

The U.S. attorney for the District of Columbia warned that this measure prevents courts from imposing penalties that appropriately reflect the seriousness of the offense and the defendant's criminal history.

One local elected official used especially harsh words to describe a portion of the bill that would allow someone convicted of sexual assault to petition for early release after 20 years. She said:

I don't think the DC Council should be helping rapists get out of prison early. That's crazy.

Crazy indeed—so crazy, in fact, that the city's liberal Mayor, Muriel Bowser, even vetoed this measure when it reached her desk, saying it "does not make us safer."

I don't find myself agreeing with the Washington Post editorial board or the Mayor of the District of Columbia often, but they are both right here.

DC Council members should have viewed her veto and the public outrage as a sign that they should go back to the drawing board, but unfortunately they doubled down. DC City Council overrode the Mayor's veto. They ignored the deep concerns of citizens of this city and the dire warnings from public safety advocates and plowed ahead.

Fortunately, that is not the end of the road for this dangerous and deeply misguided bill. The Constitution of the United States gives Congress exclusive legislative jurisdiction over the District of Columbia. It is a Federal district. We must take action to prevent

this criminal-friendly measure from going into effect.

As we have seen, this effort has broad bipartisan support, starting at the White House. Last month, the House of Representatives passed a resolution of disapproval by a vote of 250 to 173, with more than 30 Democrats crossing the aisle to support it. Thanks to the Senator from Tennessee, Senator HAGERTY's leadership, that resolution will receive a vote on the Senate floor this week. I expect it will pass with strong bipartisan support, as it should, and put a final nail in the coffin of this dangerous and deeply misguided legislation.

Soft-on-crime policies have had a devastating impact on cities across America, and we can't let our Nation's very Capital become a consequence-free playground for lawbreakers. So I appreciate Senator HAGERTY's leadership on this resolution and his work to ensure that it receives a vote in the Democrat-led Senate.

FEDERAL JUDICIARY

Mr. President, on another but somewhat related matter, over the last several years, Washington Democrats have waged war on our independent Federal judiciary.

Three years ago, the majority leader of the Senate, the Senator from New York, joined an abortion rally outside the Supreme Court, where he made deeply disturbing comments about two sitting Associate Justices on the Supreme Court of the United States. He said:

I want to tell you, Gorsuch; I want to tell you, Kavanaugh: 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 a quote.

Well, the majority leader certainly did not mince words. The top Democrat in the U.S. Senate threatened two sitting Supreme Court Justices by name based on a case they were considering.

In the year since, the radical left has picked up the sword and carried on the fight. Last summer, as the Supreme Court considered a case on abortion rights, a radical organization released the home addresses of several Supreme Court Justices, and they encouraged protesters to show up at the Justices' private homes to harass and intimidate. It was a disgusting invasion of privacy and a massive security risk, which sadly was met with nothing more than a shrug by many of our Democratic colleagues.

Attorney General Garland himself had an opportunity to address this abhorrent conduct in the Judiciary Committee last week, and he confirmed that, to date, no prosecutions have been brought under a Federal statute making what these protesters did a crime—seeking to intimidate sitting Justices and cause them to change their opinion on legal matters that they were charged with. No prosecutions.

With no real repercussions for such gross behavior, the far left has now ex-

panded its attack to include other Federal judges.

Last month, the liberal news site Vox published a story railing against what it described as "Trump's worst judges," all of whom serve on the Federal courts in my State of Texas. The author of that piece tweeted the article that featured a photo of one of those judges, Matthew Kacsmaryk. The author added that Judge Kacsmaryk is "the single worst villain in the United States of America that most people have never heard of, and I am determined to make him a household name."

This blatant attack on this sitting Federal judge and on the independent judiciary wasn't just limited to a liberal news site; larger mainstream news sources joined in too. The Washington Post recently published an opinion piece that argued that the only way to "rein in Republican judges" is to shame them. These are Federal judges who were given life tenure following Senate confirmation for the very purpose of making them insulated from politics so that they can remain laser-focused on judging the law and interpreting the Constitution and applying it to the case before them.

The Washington Post opinion piece I am referring to says:

Democratic politicians, left-leaning activist groups, newspaper editorial boards, and other influential people and institutions need to start relentlessly blasting Republican-appointed judges.

A former aide to Senator SCHUMER, majority leader of the U.S. Senate, who now serves as the executive director of a dark money group called Demand Justice, shared that article on Twitter and endorsed the idea of referring to judges by "their party affiliation." Again, these are Senate-confirmed judges who serve for life who have basically forsworn politics. But this former aide to the Senate majority leader says: No, you need to refer to them by their party affiliation—presumably the party affiliation of the President who nominated them to the office.

As our country struggles to deal with hate speak online and threats of violence against our leaders and politicians, it is hard to imagine anything getting more dangerous than the rhetoric targeting Federal judges and the independent Federal judiciary.

Last summer, U.S. marshals arrested a man outside of Justice Kavanaugh's home who had traveled all the way from California with the intention of assassinating Justice Kavanaugh. When the man was arrested, he had in his possession a Glock 17 pistol, along with ammunition, a knife, a hammer, a crowbar, and zip ties. He told authorities that it was his plan to break into the house and kill Justice Kavanaugh and then take his own life. Thank God he was caught before anyone was harmed. But we may not be so lucky next time when this reprehensible, irresponsible rhetoric strikes unstable individuals and prompts them to do things that none of us, I hope, would want or endorse.

Blatant attacks against judges and our independent judiciary must come to an end.

Sadly, one of our Senate colleagues has joined the ranks of the angry mob. Last month, the senior Senator from Oregon delivered an incredibly dangerous speech here on the Senate floor advocating for the Biden administration to ignore a potential court order from Judge Kacsmaryk's court. To be clear, this is a U.S. Senator who said that the executive branch should disregard the lawful order of a Federal district judge. He wants the Constitution to be effectively ripped into shreds and thrown out the window if the judge happens to decide a case in a way that he doesn't approve of.

The left's attack on our independent judiciary keeps getting more and more dangerous. It doesn't matter what case is in a Federal court or what ruling is ultimately handed down—Senators must respect the Constitution itself, and with that comes three coequal branches of government.

Judicial independence is the thing that distinguishes our democracy and our Constitution from all other countries on the planet—judicial independence; judges who aren't afraid to call balls and strikes and interpret the Constitution, hopefully, as written and apply the laws that Congress passes. That judicial independence should never be threatened. If a U.S. Senator doesn't realize that, then we have some really, really big problems.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Arkansas.

(The remarks of Mr. COTTON pertaining to the introduction of S. 691 are printed in today's RECORD under "Statements on Introduced Bills and Joint Resolutions.")

Mr. COTTON. I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Minnesota.

NOMINATION OF PATRICE H. KUNESH

Ms. SMITH. Mr. President, I rise today in support of the nomination of Patrice Kunesh to be the Commissioner of the Administration for Native Americans at the Department of Health and Human Services.

Ms. Kunesh is a descendant of the Standing Rock Lakota and a distinguished lawyer, advocate, and thought leader. She currently works at the Native American Rights Fund, but her career spans from being counsel for the Mashantucket Pequot Tribe to being the director of the Center for Indian Country Development at the Minneapolis Federal Reserve—all in the service of Native communities. Ms. Kunesh also served as the Deputy Solicitor at the Department of the Interior and as Deputy Under Secretary for Rural Development at the USDA.

The Administration for Native Americans at HHS helps Native communities, including Indian Tribes, Native Hawaiians, and Alaska Natives, with financial support and technical assistance for Native language preservation,

economic development, and self-sufficiency.

I know that Patrice is up to the task. She is knowledgeable, experienced, and deeply connected to Tribal leaders and Native communities. She knows how the Federal Government works and how we can best fulfill our trust and treaty responsibilities in Indian Country.

Patrice's nomination is supported by the National Congress of American Indians and numerous Tribal nations. Most importantly, filling this role at HHS is essential to meeting our responsibilities to Tribal nations and Native communities.

I urge my colleagues to vote yes on Patrice Kunesh's nomination.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant 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.

NOMINATION OF ARUN SUBRAMANIAN

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, today, the Senate will vote to confirm Arun Subramanian to the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York.

Mr. Subramanian attended Case Western Reserve University and Columbia Law School. After graduating, he went on to clerk at all levels of the Federal judiciary—first for Judge Dennis Jacobs on the Second Circuit Court of Appeals, then for Judge Gerard E. Lynch on the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York, and finally for Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg on the U.S. Supreme Court.

Mr. Subramanian then entered private practice in Manhattan, where he has focused on complex civil litigation. His work has covered a wide variety of issue areas, including State and Federal false claims, commercial and employment contract disputes, tort actions, securities, antitrust, fraud, and patent litigation. Mr. Subramanian has also dedicated hundreds of hours to his pro bono work, and he also coordinates his law firm's pro bono activities.

He was unanimously rated "well qualified" by the ABA and received a bipartisan vote in committee. In addition, he has the strong support of his home State Senators—Mr. SCHUMER and Mrs. GILLIBRAND—and his Supreme Court co-clerks. His fellow clerks emphasized that they had witnessed Mr. Subramanian's "collegial, candid, and fair-minded temperament."

Given his significant litigation experience and strong ties to the Southern District of New York, Mr. Subramanian will make an excellent addition to the District Court bench. I strongly support his nomination and urge my colleagues to do the same.

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, today, the Senate confirms a first-rate legal

mind, someone I was proud to champion to the President for a lifetime appointment to the Federal bench, Arun Subramanian of New York.

Mr. Subramanian is the epitome of the American dream and a historymaker: The child of hard-working immigrants from India, he will become the first South Asian to preside in the Southern District, which has one of the largest South Asian populations in the country.

Mr. Subramanian's resume tells a very clear story. He is excellent. He is accomplished. He has dedicated his entire career fighting for average Americans. He served as a law clerk to Judge Dennis Jacobs on the Second Circuit, Judge Gerard Lynch in the Southern District of New York, and the late, great Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg.

He is an expert in consumer protection, with years of experience defending those injured by unfair, illegal practices. He also defended victims of child trafficking and pornography.

Our courts need more people like Arun Subramanian. I am proud to support his confirmation. I thank my colleagues on both sides of the aisle for supporting him today.

Once we confirm Mr. Subramanian, this U.S. Senate majority will have confirmed 114 judges to the bench: 30 circuit court judges, 83 district court judges, and 1 incredible Supreme Court Justice in Ketanji Brown Jackson. Of those 114 nominations, 82 are women, 78 are people of color, and, again, Mr. Subramanian is the first South Asian judge confirmed to the Southern District of New York.

Because of the work done by this majority, our Federal judiciary is far more balanced, far more diverse, far more experienced than the one we just had 2 years ago. It is something every American can be proud of.

I yield the floor.

VOTE ON SUBRAMANIAN NOMINATION

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

Mr. SCHUMER. 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 California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN), the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. FETTERMAN), and the Senator from Arizona (Mr. KELLY) are necessarily absent.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senator is necessarily absent: the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. BARRASSO).

The result was announced—yeas 59, nays 37, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 45 Ex.]

YEAS—59

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

NAYS—37

Blackburn	Hagerty	Rubio
Boozman	Hawley	Schmitt
Braun	Hoeben	Scott (FL)
Britt	Hyde-Smith	Scott (SC)
Budd	Johnson	Sullivan
Cassidy	Lankford	Thune
Cotton	Lummis	Tillis
Cramer	Marshall	Tuberville
Crapo	Moran	Vance
Cruz	Mullin	Wicker
Daines	Paul	Young
Ernst	Ricketts	
Fischer	Risch	

NOT VOTING—4

Barrasso	Fetterman
Feinstein	Kelly

The nomination was confirmed.

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

CLOTURE MOTION

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 45, Patrice H. Kunesh, of Minnesota, to be Commissioner of the Administration for Native Americans, Department of Health and Human Services.

Charles E. Schumer, Bernard Sanders, Alex Padilla, Richard J. Durbin, Tim Kaine, Margaret Wood Hassan, Ben Ray Lujan, Raphael G. Warnock, Tammy Duckworth, Jack Reed, John W. Hickenlooper, Catherine Cortez Masto, Tammy Baldwin, Brian Schatz, Christopher Murphy, Tina Smith, Debbie Stabenow.

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

The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that debate on the nomination of Patrice H. Kunesh, of Minnesota, to be Commissioner of the Administration for Native Americans, Department of Health and Human Services, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN), the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. FETTERMAN), and the Senator from Arizona (Mr. KELLY) are necessarily absent.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senator is necessarily absent: the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. BARRASSO).

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 62, nays 34, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 46 Ex.]

YEAS—62

Baldwin	Hirono	Rounds
Bennet	Hoeben	Sanders
Blumenthal	Kaine	Schatz
Booker	Kennedy	Schumer
Brown	King	Shaheen
Cantwell	Klobuchar	Sinema
Capito	Lujan	Smith
Cardin	Manchin	Stabenow
Carper	Markey	Sullivan
Casey	McConnell	Tester
Collins	Menendez	Thune
Coons	Merkley	Tillis
Cortez Masto	Moran	Van Hollen
Cramer	Murkowski	Warner
Daines	Murphy	Warnock
Duckworth	Murray	Warren
Durbin	Ossoff	Welch
Gillibrand	Padilla	Whitehouse
Hassan	Peters	Wyden
Heinrich	Reed	Young
Hickenlooper	Rosen	

NAYS—34

Blackburn	Graham	Ricketts
Boozman	Grassley	Risch
Braun	Hagerty	Romney
Britt	Hawley	Rubio
Budd	Hyde-Smith	Schmitt
Cassidy	Johnson	Scott (FL)
Cornyn	Lankford	Scott (SC)
Cotton	Lee	Tuberville
Crapo	Lummis	Vance
Cruz	Marshall	Warren
Ernst	Mullin	Wicker
Fischer	Paul	

NOT VOTING—4

Barrasso	Fetterman
Feinstein	Kelly

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. On this vote, the yeas are 62, the nays are 34.

The motion is agreed to.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report the nomination.

The bill clerk read the nomination of Patrice H. Kunes, of Minnesota, to be Commissioner of the Administration for Native Americans, Department of Health and Human Services.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate consider the following nominations en bloc: Calendar Nos. 58 and 59; that the Senate vote on the nominations en bloc without intervening action or debate, the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table, and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

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

The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the en bloc nominations of Kate E. Brubacher, of Kansas, to be United States Attorney for the District of Kansas for the term of four years and Ismail J. Ramsey, of California, to be United States Attorney for the Northern District of California for the term of four years?

The nominations were confirmed en bloc.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to legislative session and be in a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

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

CONFIRMATION OF ROBERT STEWART BALLOU

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, today, the Senate voted to confirm Judge Robert Ballou to the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Virginia.

Born in Roanoke, VA, Judge Ballou received both his bachelor's degree and J.D. from the University of Virginia. After clerking for Judge Peter H. Beer on the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Louisiana, Judge Ballou began his legal career at Christian, Barton, Epps, Brent & Chappell as an associate, where he worked on a variety of matters, including insurance defense, products liability, and traffic and misdemeanor offenses. He then went on to work for Johnson, Ayers & Matthews, PLC as an associate, where he tried more than 50 cases to verdict before a jury, including matters involving personal injury, products liability, and construction defects. In 2011, Judge Ballou was appointed to serve as a U.S. magistrate judge for the same district to which he is now nominated. As a magistrate, he has presided over approximately 300 cases.

The American Bar Association rated Judge Ballou unanimously "well qualified," and he has the strong support of Senators WARNER and Kaine. Judge Ballou's deep ties to the Virginia legal community, combined with his significant courtroom experience, will make him an excellent addition to the Federal district court bench.

I was pleased to support his nomination.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. TESTER, from the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 30. A bill to authorize major medical facility projects for the Department of Vet-

erans Affairs for fiscal year 2023, and for other purposes.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Ms. HASSAN (for herself and Mr. BRAUN):

S. 666. A bill to amend title 31, United States Code, to require the Chief Operating Officer of each agency to compile a list of unnecessary programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. CARDIN (for himself and Mr. VAN HOLLEN):

S. 667. A bill to provide for a Federal partnership to ensure educational equity and quality; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. BOOZMAN (for himself and Mr. COTTON):

S. 668. A bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins to honor and memorialize the tragedy of the Sultana steamboat explosion of 1865; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. BROWN (for himself, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. HEINRICH, and Mr. MULLIN):

S. 669. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to expand access to psychological and behavioral services; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. PETERS (for himself, Mr. LANKFORD, and Mr. CORNYN):

S. 670. A bill to improve services for trafficking victims by establishing, in Homeland Security Investigations, the Investigators Maintain Purposeful Awareness to Combat Trafficking Trauma Program and the Victim Assistance Program; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. RISCH (for himself, Mr. KING, Mr. CRAPO, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, and Mr. CORNYN):

S. 671. A bill to exempt certain 16- and 17-year-old individuals employed in logging operations from child labor laws; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Ms. CORTEZ MASTO (for herself, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BOOKER, Ms. WARNER, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. MURPHY, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. LUJAN, Mr. HICKENLOOPER, Mr. WELCH, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. WARNER, Mrs. MURRAY, Ms. SMITH, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. BENNET, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. KELLY, Mr. BROWN, and Mr. WARNOCK):

S. 672. A bill to enable the payment of certain officers and employees of the United States whose employment is authorized pursuant to a grant of deferred action, deferred enforced departure, or temporary protected status; to the Committee on Appropriations.

By Ms. ROSEN (for herself, Ms. ERNST, Ms. DUCKWORTH, and Mr. RUBIO):

S. 673. A bill to allow nonprofit child care providers to participate in certain loan programs of the Small Business Administration, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

By Mr. SULLIVAN (for himself and Mr. DAINES):

S. 674. A bill to require each agency to repeal or amend 2 or more rules before issuing or amending a rule; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. SULLIVAN (for himself and Mr. LANKFORD):

S. 675. A bill to amend title 5, United States Code, to postpone the effective date of high-impact rules pending judicial review; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. SULLIVAN (for himself, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. DAINES, Mr. BRAUN, and Mr. LANKFORD):

S. 676. A bill to amend sections 801 and 804 of title 5, United States Code, to include guidance issued guidance issued by non-agencies, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. CASSIDY (for himself and Ms. DUCKWORTH):

S. 677. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for the deductibility of charitable contributions to certain organizations for members of the Armed Forces; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. LEE, and Mr. DURBIN):

S. 678. A bill to amend the Sherman Act to make oil-producing and exporting cartels illegal; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. SCOTT of Florida (for himself and Mr. PETERS):

S. 679. A bill to amend chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, to require Federal agencies to submit to the Comptroller General of the United States a report on rules that are revoked, suspended, replaced, amended, or otherwise made ineffective; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. WYDEN:

S. 680. A bill to provide rental vouchers for the homeless, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. MARKEY (for himself, Mr. MERKLEY, Ms. WARREN, Mr. SANDERS, and Mr. WYDEN):

S. 681. A bill to prohibit biometric surveillance by the Federal Government without explicit statutory authorization and to withhold certain Federal public safety grants from State and local governments that engage in biometric surveillance; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Mr. RISCH, Ms. DUCKWORTH, and Mr. ROMNEY):

S. 682. A bill to provide for the treatment of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) as an international organization for purposes of the International Organizations Immunities Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. PADILLA (for himself and Mrs. FEINSTEIN):

S. 683. A bill to modify the boundary of the Berryessa Snow Mountain National Monument to include certain Federal land in Lake County, California, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. HAWLEY:

S. 684. A bill to prohibit the acquisition and ownership of agricultural land by certain foreign entities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. LEE (for himself, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. TUBERVILLE, Mr. DAINES, Mrs. BRITT, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. COTTON, Mr. MORAN, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. BRAUN, and Ms. ERNST):

S. 685. A bill to close loopholes in the immigration laws that serve as incentives to aliens to attempt to enter the United States unlawfully, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. WARNER (for himself, Mr. THUNE, Ms. BALDWIN, Mrs. FISCHER,

Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. MORAN, Mr. BENNET, Mr. SULLIVAN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. ROMNEY, and Mrs. CAPITO):

S. 686. A bill to authorize the Secretary of Commerce to review and prohibit certain transactions between persons in the United States and foreign adversaries, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. SCOTT of Florida:

S. 687. A bill to require the Federal Trade Commission to conduct a study regarding social media use by teenagers; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. SCOTT of Florida:

S. 688. A bill to impose notice and consent requirements on internet platforms that use algorithms to manipulate the availability of content on the platform; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. BOOKER (for himself and Mr. PAUL):

S. 689. A bill to amend the Controlled Substances Act to define currently accepted medical use with severe restrictions, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. HICKENLOOPER (for himself, Mr. MORAN, Mr. TESTER, and Mrs. CAPITO):

S. 690. A bill 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, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. COTTON (for himself, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. BRAUN, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. DAINES, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. HAGERTY, Mr. HOEVEN, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Mr. THUNE, Mr. WICKER, and Mr. YOUNG):

S. 691. A bill to deter foreign financial institutions from providing banking services for the benefit of foreign terrorist organizations and from facilitating or promoting payments for acts of terrorism; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. CASSIDY (for himself, Mr. COONS, Ms. COLLINS, and Mr. KAINE):

S. 692. A bill to require the Social Security Administration to make changes to the social security terminology used in the rules, regulation, guidance, or other materials of the Administration; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. HAWLEY:

S. 693. A bill to amend chapter 131 of title 5, United States Code, to prohibit certain executive branch officials from holding individual stocks, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. BROWN (for himself, Ms. WARREN, and Mr. MARKEY):

S. Res. 95. A resolution honoring the life of Dr. Paul Farmer by recognizing the duty of the Federal Government to adopt a 21st century global health solidarity strategy and take actions to address past and ongoing harms that undermine the health and well-being of people around the world; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 105

At the request of Mr. LEE, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. JOHNSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 105, a bill to have education funds follow the student.

S. 168

At the request of Mr. ROUNDS, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. KENNEDY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 168, a bill to amend the Defense Production Act of 1950 to include the Secretary of Agriculture on the Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States and require review of certain agricultural transactions, and for other purposes.

S. 316

At the request of Mr. KAINE, the names of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN), the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. SCHATZ) and the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) were added as cosponsors of S. 316, a bill to repeal the authorizations for use of military force against Iraq.

S. 344

At the request of Mr. TESTER, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 344, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to provide for concurrent receipt of veterans' disability compensation and retired pay for disability retirees with fewer than 20 years of service and a combat-related disability, and for other purposes.

S. 391

At the request of Mr. BOOZMAN, the names of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO), the Senator from Nebraska (Mrs. FISCHER), the Senator from Iowa (Mr. GRASSLEY), the Senator from Ohio (Mr. VANCE), the Senator from Wyoming (Ms. LUMMIS), the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CRAMER) and the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. KENNEDY) were added as cosponsors of S. 391, a bill to amend the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to prohibit the Securities and Exchange Commission from requiring an issuer to disclose information relating to certain greenhouse gas emissions, and for other purposes.

S. 401

At the request of Mr. CRAPO, the name of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. MULLIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 401, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to remove silencers from the definition of firearms, and for other purposes.

S. 443

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the name of the Senator from Alabama (Mrs. BRITT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 443, a bill to treat certain liquidations of new motor vehicle inventory as qualified liquidations of LIFO inventory for purposes of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

S. 505

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. KENNEDY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 505, a bill to amend section

212(d)(5) of the Immigration and Nationality Act to reform immigration parole, and for other purposes.

S. 549

At the request of Ms. BALDWIN, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 549, a bill to require enforcement against misbranded milk alternatives.

S. 573

At the request of Mr. BOOKER, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 573, a bill to remove all statues of individuals who voluntarily served the Confederate States of America from display in the United States Capitol.

S. 582

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the name of the Senator from Alabama (Mrs. BRITT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 582, a bill to make daylight saving time permanent, and for other purposes.

S. 597

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the name of the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 597, a bill to amend title II of the Social Security Act to repeal the Government pension offset and windfall elimination provisions.

S. 613

At the request of Mr. TUBERVILLE, the names of the Senator from West Virginia (Mrs. CAPITO) and the Senator from Ohio (Mr. VANCE) were added as cosponsors of S. 613, a bill to provide that for purposes of determining compliance with title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 in athletics, sex shall be recognized based solely on a person's reproductive biology and genetics at birth.

S. 632

At the request of Mr. RISCH, the names of the Senator from Texas (Mr. CORNYN), the Senator from Mississippi (Mrs. HYDE-SMITH) and the Senator from Texas (Mr. CRUZ) were added as cosponsors of S. 632, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to require the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives to establish an administrative relief process for individuals whose applications for transfer and registration of a firearm were denied, and for other purposes.

S. 646

At the request of Mr. COONS, the name of the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. GRAHAM) was added as a cosponsor of S. 646, a bill to amend the Energy Policy Act of 2005 to establish a Hydrogen Technologies for Heavy Industry Demonstration Program, and for other purposes.

S. 647

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the name of the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. GRAHAM) was added as a cosponsor of S. 647, a bill to require the Secretary of Transportation to establish a grant program to support the use

of hydrogen- or ammonia-fueled equipment at ports and to require the Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating to conduct a study, together with the Secretary of Energy and the Secretary of Transportation, regarding the feasibility and safety of using hydrogen and ammonia as fuels in maritime applications.

S. 648

At the request of Mr. COONS, the name of the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. GRAHAM) was added as a cosponsor of S. 648, a bill to require the Secretary of Transportation, in consultation with the Secretary of Energy, to establish a grant program to demonstrate the performance and reliability of heavy-duty fuel cell vehicles that use hydrogen as a fuel source, and for other purposes.

S. 649

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the name of the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. GRAHAM) was added as a cosponsor of S. 649, a bill to require the Secretary of Energy to establish a hydrogen infrastructure finance and innovation pilot program, and for other purposes.

S. 665

At the request of Ms. KLOBUCHAR, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 665, a bill to provide incentives to physicians to practice in rural and medically underserved communities, and for other purposes.

S.J. RES. 10

At the request of Mr. TUBERVILLE, the name of the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. GRAHAM) was added as a cosponsor of S.J. Res. 10, a joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Department of Veterans Affairs relating to "Reproductive Health Services".

S.J. RES. 11

At the request of Mrs. FISCHER, the name of the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. RICKETTS) was added as a cosponsor of S.J. Res. 11, a joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Environmental Protection Agency relating to "Control of Air Pollution From New Motor Vehicles: Heavy-Duty Engine and Vehicle Standards".

S. RES. 72

At the request of Mr. RISCH, the name of the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 72, a resolution recognizing Russian actions in Ukraine as a genocide.

S. RES. 81

At the request of Mr. RISCH, the name of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. HOEVEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 81, a resolution relating to the establishment of a means for the Senate to provide advice and consent regarding the form of an international agreement relating to pan-

demic prevention, preparedness, and response.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. PADILLA (for himself and Mrs. FEINSTEIN):

S. 683. A bill to modify the boundary of the Berryessa Snow Mountain National Monument to include certain Federal land in Lake County, California, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

Mr. PADILLA. Madam President, I rise to introduce the Berryessa Snow Mountain National Monument Expansion Act.

This legislation would expand the Berryessa Snow Mountain National Monument to include approximately 3,925 acres of adjacent public land managed by the Bureau of Land Management.

In 2015, President Obama established the Berryessa Snow Mountain National Monument, proclaiming that "once covered by ocean waters, it is a landscape shaped by geologic forces of staggering power overlain with bountiful but fragile biodiversity. Anchored in the north by Snow Mountain's remote forests and in the south by scenic Berryessa Mountain, this area stretches through unbroken wildlands and important wildlife corridors, a mosaic of native grasslands, picturesque oak woodlands, rare wetlands, and wild chaparral . . . This dramatic and diverse landscape is a biological hotspot providing refuge for rare plant and animal species and showcasing the human history of north-central California."

The Berryessa Snow Mountain National Monument is managed jointly by the Bureau of Land Management, BLM, and the U.S. Forest Service, USFS, and provides for unparalleled outdoor recreational opportunities, is home to rich biodiversity, and contains lands that are culturally significant to over two dozen federally recognized Tribes. This legislation would add over 3,900 acres of adjacent, BLM-administered land to the existing national monument.

This expansion would include portions of the land known previously as Walker Ridge in Lake County, CA. Importantly, the legislation renames "Walker Ridge" to "Condor Ridge", which is translated from Molok Luyuk in the indigenous Patwin language. For thousands of years, these sacred lands have been central to Tribal origin stories, and Condor Ridge is an area that retains deep cultural significance to the Patwin people and over two dozen Native American Tribes. The legislation also directs the BLM and USFS to complete the management plan for the national monument and to consult with federally recognized Tribes to do so.

I am proud that this legislation would better enable federally recognized Tribes to be involved in the day-

to-day management of the national monument. This essential, landmark component of the legislation would enable Tribal communities to share their rich history and ecological knowledge to better conserve and care for these lands.

With the protections provided by this legislation, the abundant natural resources and the rich history on Molok Luyuk will be preserved for our children and future generations. By requiring the Federal Agencies to finally develop a management plan and by allowing for Tribal governments to be involved in the management of the monument, the bill would improve the health of these lands to benefit both people and biodiversity.

I thank Senator FEINSTEIN for introducing this legislation with me, and I thank Congressmen GARAMENDI and THOMPSON for spearheading this effort in the House of Representatives. I would also like to thank Chairman MANCHIN and Ranking Member BARRASSO for working with me on this legislation and the entire Energy and Natural Resources Committee for unanimously supporting this legislation through committee last Congress. I am hopeful that we will see similar bipartisan support in the 118th Congress.

I would also like to thank the Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation for their leadership and desire to cooperatively manage Molok Luyuk to ensure that all Californians and Americans have the opportunity to benefit from these sacred lands.

I look forward to working with my colleagues to enact the Berryessa Snow Mountain National Monument Expansion Act as quickly as possible.

By Mr. COTTON (for himself, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. BRAUN, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. DAINES, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. HAGERTY, Mr. HOEVEN, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Mr. THUNE, Mr. WICKER, and Mr. YOUNG):

S. 691. A bill to deter foreign financial institutions from providing banking services for the benefit of foreign terrorist organizations and from facilitating or promoting payments for acts of terrorism; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

Mr. COTTON. Madam President, there is one foreign leader for whom the Democratic Party seems to reserve special scorn. Leading Democrats have called him a reactionary, a racist, an ethnonationalist. They have accused him of committing war crimes and of leading an apartheid state. President Biden has called him extreme and has said they don't agree on a damn thing. Strong words.

Who is this monster, you may ask. Were the Democrats talking about Vladimir Putin or Xi Jinping or, perhaps, Ayatollah Khamenei? No. They were referring to Benjamin Netanyahu,

Israel's longest serving Prime Minister and one of America's best friends.

Once again, these Democrats have proven their party's tendency to coddle our enemies and condemn our friends. But the Democrats don't stop at mere words. They are working right now to undermine Bibi and his government.

Yesterday, the Washington Free Beacon reported that the State Department is funneling your tax dollars to Netanyahu's domestic opponents. Since 2020, the State has sent more than \$38,000 to something known as the Movement for Quality Government, for so-called democracy education.

So what is the Movement for Quality Government, and how good is this democracy education?

This movement is an activist group that is fomenting unrest against the Israeli Government and demanding Netanyahu's resignation. In recent days, leftwing demonstrators associated with this group have protested the government's proposed judicial reforms. Last week, hundreds of protesters harassed Netanyahu's wife, forcing police to intervene and escort her to safety.

Far from staying neutral in Israel's domestic affairs, Secretary of State Tony Blinken lectured Netanyahu about the judicial reforms to his face, tacitly siding with the demonstrators. Some Democratic Senators have also condemned the reform proposals, which is awfully rich coming from Democrats who have voted to shred this Senate's ancient rules to pack our Supreme Court and to rewrite our founding documents. I guess, when American liberals want to change the courts, it is the only way to save democracy; but when Israeli conservatives want to, it is a threat to democracy. Go figure.

The State Department doesn't even deny it is funneling money to these leftwing activities, by the way, which is troubling because it is a clear violation of the usual State Department policy against funding foreign partisan organizations.

Not only is this U.S.-funded organization subverting a foreign government, it is subverting the government of one of our closest allies. Secretary Blinken should immediately apologize to the Prime Minister of Israel, demand your money back, and open an investigation into how this happened. But then again, I suspect we already know how this happened. After all, the Democratic Party has been meddling in Israeli democracy to undermine Benjamin Netanyahu for more than a quarter century.

By his own admission, President Bill Clinton intervened in the 1996 Israeli election to support Netanyahu's opponent, Shimon Peres. Clinton met with Peres; dispatched his own campaign advisers; dangled policy shifts to Israel—all to get Peres across the finish line. Netanyahu prevailed nevertheless.

Team Clinton intervened, yet again, in 1999. The Clinton White House reportedly urged Democratic donors to

give money to Netanyahu's next opponent, Ehud Barak.

And it didn't stop there. Clinton's political advisers again campaigned against Bibi while the Clinton State Department allegedly spread falsehoods about the Israeli Government and Netanyahu himself.

Netanyahu lost this time around; though, he was more of a victim of his own success against Palestinian terrorism than Barak and Clinton's campaign against him. But Bibi returned to the Knesset just 3 years later and became Prime Minister again in 2009.

The Obama State Department was, if anything, worse than Clinton's in its funneling of hundreds of thousands of your tax dollars to a group called the OneVoice Movement. Not coincidentally, OneVoice partnered with an organization running anti-Netanyahu ads that was advised by—you guessed it—a top Obama campaign operative.

Of course, the Democrats will insist they are innocent of these charges and aren't meddling in Israel's democracy, but Israelis know the truth. Obama's meddling was so pervasive that an astounding 62 percent of Israelis thought he was interfering. Indeed, one Foreign Policy magazine headline read "Obama is Pursuing Regime Change in Israel"—not in Iran—our mortal enemy—but in Israel, mind you.

Now Joe Biden is simply following in Obama's footsteps by trying to sabotage Netanyahu. In 2021, the Biden administration reportedly pressured the United Arab Emirates to cancel an Abraham Accords Summit—all to deprive Netanyahu of a diplomatic victory ahead of that year's election. Then, after Netanyahu won the 2022 election, the Biden administration immediately sought to undermine his coalition government by trying to veto key Cabinet appointments.

This most recent scandal is not an aberration, therefore. It has been the de facto policy of the Democratic Party for a quarter century to beat Netanyahu, though he keeps beating the Democrats. Though, it does provide more evidence, yet again, for the old saw that while it is dangerous to be America's enemy, it can be fatal to be America's friend—at least when the Democrats are in charge.

Instead of trying to topple the democratically elected Government of Israel, I would suggest we should support it. Israelis are more than capable of managing their domestic affairs without Democratic meddling, but they need our help to stop Iran from getting a nuclear bomb; they need our help to achieve peace with their neighbors; and they need our help to defeat the terrorists who are threatening both of our nations.

They don't get that from the Biden administration either. Iran is racing toward a nuclear breakout while the President dithers. His administration can barely utter the words "Abraham Accords," and President Biden is

breaking U.S. law to subsidize the Palestinian Authority's support for terrorism.

A few years back, Congress passed the Taylor Force Act, which prohibits nonhumanitarian aid to the Palestinian Authority until it ends its so-called martyr payments—a euphemism for bounties given to Palestinian terrorists or their families for maiming and killing Jews. So the administration has, instead, funneled tens of millions of your tax dollars to nongovernmental organizations to build roads, sidewalks, parking lots, and other infrastructure projects on behalf of the Palestinian Authority. As a result, since money is fungible, the Palestinian Authority can ignore these basic responsibilities of government and, instead, keep pouring more money into its pay-for-slay program.

The contrast couldn't be starker. If the Palestinian Authority wants to bankroll terrorists and their families, the Biden administration will contort the law beyond recognition to fund the Palestinians; but if a center-right government gets elected once again in Israel, the Biden administration will work overtime to undermine it. This is exactly backward. We should demand the Palestinian Authority stop subsidizing terrorism before it gets another penny of your tax dollars.

While we are at it, we should pass the Taylor Force Martyr Payment Prevention Act, which I am reintroducing this week, to sanction foreign banks that process these so-called martyr payments for the Palestinian Authority.

Meanwhile, President Biden and his administration should quit treating Prime Minister Netanyahu like he is a rival or even an adversary and start treating him as he is—a war hero, a courageous patriot, a towering figure of modern Israel, and most importantly for us, a great friend of America.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 95—HONORING THE LIFE OF DR. PAUL FARMER BY RECOGNIZING THE DUTY OF THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TO ADOPT A 21ST CENTURY GLOBAL HEALTH SOLIDARITY STRATEGY AND TAKE ACTIONS TO ADDRESS PAST AND ONGOING HARMS THAT UNDERMINE THE HEALTH AND WELL-BEING OF PEOPLE AROUND THE WORLD

Mr. BROWN (for himself, Ms. WARREN, and Mr. MARKEY) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 95

Whereas Dr. Paul Farmer, who pioneered novel community-based strategies for the delivery of high-quality health care in impoverished settings, inspired a paradigmatic shift in global health, including inspiring robust United States leadership to address the

global HIV/AIDS epidemic in the early 2000s through the United States President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief and the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria;

Whereas, in spite of progress made in global health, weak health systems continue to cause millions of people, primarily the global poor, to die tragic and unnecessary deaths, including—

- (1) annually, approximately—
 - (A) 680,000 deaths from HIV/AIDS;
 - (B) 1,500,000 deaths from tuberculosis;
 - (C) 627,000 deaths from malaria;
 - (D) 295,000 deaths of mothers during and following pregnancy and childbirth;
 - (E) 9,560,000 deaths among children under the age of 15; and
 - (F) 560,000 deaths of children and young adults, living among the poorest billion people in the world, from non-communicable diseases and injuries; and
- (2) a SARS-CoV-2 case-fatality rate of up to 300 percent greater in low-income countries than in high-income countries during the first 2 years of the COVID-19 pandemic;

Whereas progress against unnecessary deaths in impoverished countries is being made, but progress is occurring so slowly that—

- (1) based on rates of decline from 2013 to 2022, it will take approximately a century for core mortality statistics in low-income countries to converge with those of high-income countries, including—
 - (A) 92 years for the tuberculosis death rate;
 - (B) 109 years for the maternal mortality rate; and
 - (C) 88 years for the under-15 child mortality rate; and
- (2) the death rate in low- and middle-income countries from non-communicable diseases and injuries, which make up 40 to 60 percent of the disease burden of those countries, will never converge with that of high-income countries based on rates of reduction from 2013 to 2022;

Whereas weak health systems that fail to prevent unnecessary deaths also lack the staff, health facility infrastructure, and medical technologies required for effective care delivery and disease containment, placing all countries at increased risk of pandemic disease;

Whereas essential medical technologies, such as diagnostics, treatments, and vaccines for diseases that affect the global poor, are frequently unavailable or inaccessible to health systems in developing countries, because—

- (1) investing in research and development of technologies for diseases that disproportionately affect the global poor is often unprofitable for pharmaceutical corporations;
- (2) costly intellectual property licensing fees from originator companies to generic manufacturers frequently leave the global poor unable to purchase or access medical technologies; and
- (3) originator technology companies often refuse to share or license intellectual property to generic manufacturers, which results in limited supply and high prices, as was the case with the COVID-19 vaccine;

Whereas, according to the Lancet Commission on Investing in Health, preventing most avertable deaths and conferring “essential universal health coverage” in low- and lower-middle income countries requires an increase in annual health systems resources in those countries of \$75,000,000,000 and \$293,000,000,000 (in United States dollars as of 2016), respectively;

Whereas, historically, the United States and other global North-supported global health programs have inadvertently entrenched standards of care in low-income

countries that would be unacceptable in rich countries by funding only health services narrowly defined as “sustainable”, “cost-effective”, or “appropriate” in poor settings;

Whereas the effectiveness and efficiency of current United States overseas development assistance for health is often undermined by—

- (1) misalignment with the national health plans of the host country;
- (2) bypassing delivery systems with parallel inputs, leading to—
 - (A) fragmentation of care delivery;
 - (B) poor donor coordination across partners; and
 - (C) weak health systems;
- (3) favoring technical assistance from consultants from high-income countries, especially the United States, over funding health service delivery in beneficiary countries; and
- (4) promoting privatization of health services, which weakens—
 - (A) the public health system;
 - (B) health care access;
 - (C) health equity; and
 - (D) financial risk protection;

Whereas 98 percent of the annual \$1,500,000,000,000 in health spending in aid-eligible low- and middle-income countries is mobilized domestically by the countries themselves, and only 2 percent of this spending comes from overseas development assistance for health;

Whereas many of the poorest developing countries lack the tax capacity to mobilize the necessary resources to close the universal health coverage financing gap, meaning unnecessary deaths will continue in the poorest developing countries for the foreseeable future without external donor financing or dramatic increases in domestic tax capacity;

Whereas the inability of many of the poorest developing countries to fully close the financing gap for universal health coverage and the provision of numerous other public goods and services is in part due to the intimate economic links between those countries and high-income countries, including the United States, which have been marked throughout history by acts of violence and coercion;

Whereas these harms have entrenched a global economic architecture of upward wealth redistribution that has resulted in—

- (1) depressed wages of workers and artificially low prices of natural resources in developing countries, amounting to an appropriation of tens of billions of tons of raw materials and hundreds of billions of hours of human labor through unequal exchange;
- (2) 3,500,000,000 people living under the poverty line of \$5.50 from 1993 to 2023, even as global gross domestic product has more than tripled in size during this time;
- (3) more financial resources flowing out of developing countries than into developing countries each year, estimated by Global Financial Integrity to total a net negative of \$2,000,000,000,000 annually in 2012;
- (4) developing countries bearing nearly all deaths and the vast majority of economic losses attributable to climate change, despite rich countries bearing 92 percent of the responsibility for climate change;

Whereas leadership from the United States to close the financing gaps for essential universal health coverage in low- and lower-middle income countries could precipitate increased global health financing from other donor partners, as evidenced by United States leadership that addressed the HIV/AIDS epidemic in the early 2000s, which spurred a 100 percent increase in global overseas development assistance among all donor partners from 2000 to 2006;

Whereas official United States development assistance to lower-middle income

countries is not a supplement for United States action to stop ongoing structural violence and economic injustices preventing countries from financing and delivering universal health care and other social services for their populations; and

Whereas it is the view of the Senate that creating a decent, humane world without tragic, unnecessary deaths requires both a modest but meaningful increase in global health aid funding and a meaningful effort to stop the economic abuse of low- and middle-income countries: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That it be the sense of the Senate that—

(1) the Federal Government should adopt a new, 21st century global health solidarity strategy to end medically unnecessary deaths and respond to the full burden of disease in poor countries by—

(A) supporting developing countries to meet the material needs of their health systems by localizing investments in support of national public-sector and local priorities, referred to as “accompaniment” by Dr. Paul Farmer, and delivered through what Dr. Paul Farmer called the “Five S’s”, which refers to—

(i) staff, meaning the human resources necessary for high quality service delivery, including clinical staff, transportation teams, and community health workers, especially by—

(I) supporting long-term training and education systems, including medical schools and teaching hospitals to train the health workforce and improve the quality of care across diseases; and

(II) supporting professionalized community health worker programs whereby community health workers are recruited, adequately compensated, comprehensively trained, supported for long-term retention, positioned as bridges to care, and tasked with undertaking community work with appropriate patient ratios and a manageable scope of work;

(ii) space, meaning the infrastructure needed for service delivery at primary, secondary, and tertiary levels to deliver safe and high-quality care to meet all health care needs;

(iii) stuff, meaning the tools and resources necessary for high-quality care provision, including medical supplies, technologies, and equipment;

(iv) systems, meaning the leadership and governance, health information systems, supply chain systems, logistics, laboratory capacity, and referral pathways required to meet the health needs of the population; and

(v) social support, meaning the resources needed, beyond the direct delivery of health care, to ensure effective care; and

(B) financing the discovery and development of new, urgently needed health technologies, such as diagnostics, treatments, and vaccines, particularly for neglected diseases of poverty, and ensuring their availability as global public goods;

(2) the objectives of adopting a 21st century global health solidarity strategy to end medically unnecessary deaths and responding to the full burden of disease in poor countries will require—

(A) increasing annual global health spending to \$125,000,000,000, sufficient—

(i) for the first time, to meet the United Nations development assistance target of spending the equivalent of 0.7 percent gross national income on development assistance, which 6 other countries have previously met; and

(ii) to close over 100 percent of the essential universal health coverage financing gap for low-income countries, and 30 percent of the overall financing gap for low- and lower-middle income countries;

(B) optimizing global health delivery spending by—

(i) introducing a new form of coordinated, multilateral fiscal cooperation for global public investment that—

(I) ensures increased and ongoing global public funding of common goods for health; and

(II) exhibits shared governance with global South governments and meaningful participation of civil society, which is also essential for addressing intersectional crises of social inequalities including the climate crisis; and

(ii) ensuring funding directly supports national health plans, public institutions, local priorities, and donor coordination, practices aligned with what Dr. Paul Farmer called “accompaniment”;

(C) focusing on health service delivery for vulnerable populations, such as—

(i) people living in poverty;

(ii) women; and

(iii) children; and

(D) optimizing research and development spending for neglected diseases of poverty by ensuring the knowledge and technology produced by these efforts remains accessible to all as global public goods;

(3) the Federal Government should pass and enforce laws and use its diplomatic influence to stop ongoing economic harms to developing countries that deplete impoverished countries of the resources required to provide health and social services for their populations by—

(A) supporting debt cancellation initiatives for low- and middle-income countries, particularly countries in need of debt cancellation, across bilateral, multilateral, and private creditors;

(B) democratizing institutions of global governance, such as the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank, and the World Trade Organization, to ensure fair and equal representation among member countries so that low- and middle-income countries can have greater decisionmaking power in the creation of policies that affect them;

(C) supporting a United Nations Convention on Tax and other measures to dramatically reduce tax avoidance, tax evasion, and other forms of harmful licit and illicit financial flows from developing countries through fundamental reform of international tax cooperation;

(D) supporting global labor rights and living wages, such as a global minimum wage set at local living-income thresholds; and

(E) adopting new indicators of progress that measure social and ecological health and abandon gross domestic product as a measure of progress; and

(4) it is the duty of Federal Government to issue reparations, containing multiple elements, including apology, award, and guarantees of non-repetition of harms, for—

(A) the institution of slavery, the subsequent racial and economic discrimination against African Americans that resulted from the institution of slavery, and the impact of these forces on living African Americans, following the establishment of a commission substantively similar to the commission established under the Commission to Study Reparation Proposals for African Americans Act, H.R. 40, as introduced on January 4, 2021;

(B) the harms of colonialism and subsequent forms of imperialism, which have undermined sovereignty, democracy, self-determination, social and economic rights, and human and ecological well-being in both the colonial and post-colonial eras; and

(C) the disproportionate responsibility of the Federal Government for climate breakdown, the burden of which unjustly and overwhelmingly falls on the global South.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I have six 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 ARMED SERVICES

The Committee on Armed Services is authorized to meet in open and closed session during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, March 7, 2023, at 9:30 a.m.

COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS

The Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, March 7, 2023, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

The Committee on Finance is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, March 7, 2023, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON CLEAN AIR, CLIMATE, AND NUCLEAR SAFETY

The Subcommittee on Clean Air, Climate, and Nuclear Safety of the Committee on Environment and Public Works is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, March 7, 2023, at 2:30 p.m., to conduct a hearing.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON COMPETITION POLICY, ANTITRUST, AND CONSUMER RIGHTS

The Subcommittee on Competition Policy, Antitrust, and Consumer Rights of the Committee on the Judiciary is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, March 7, 2023, at 3 p.m., to conduct a hearing.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC POLICY

The Subcommittee on Economic Policy of the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, March 7, 2023, at 2:30 p.m., to conduct a hearing.

APPOINTMENT

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Chair, on behalf of the President pro tempore, pursuant to the provisions of Public Law 99-591, as amended by Public Law 102-221, appoints the following member of the United States Senate for appointment as a Senate Trustee to the James Madison Memorial Fellowship Foundation: Honorable ROGER WICKER of Mississippi.

ORDERS FOR WEDNESDAY, MARCH 8, 2023

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it stand adjourned until 10 a.m., Wednesday, March 8; 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 following the conclusion of morning business, the Senate proceed to executive session and resume consideration of the Kunesh nomination postcloture; further, that all postcloture time be considered expired at 10:45 a.m. and the Senate vote on the confirmation of the nomination, followed by the motion to invoke cloture on the Werfel nomination; that if cloture is invoked on the Werfel nomination, the vote on confirmation be at a time to be determined by the majority leader in consultation with the Republican leader; further, that following the cloture vote on the Werfel nomination and notwithstanding rule XXII, the Senate resume legislative session and Senator HAGERTY or his designee be recognized to make a motion to discharge the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs from further consideration of H.J. Res. 26; that if the motion is made, all the time on the motion be considered yielded back and the Senate vote on the motion to discharge; that if the motion is agreed to, Senator HAGERTY or his designee be recognized to make a motion to proceed; finally, that if any nominations are confirmed during Wednesday's session, the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

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

Mr. SCHUMER. For the information of the Senate, the confirmation vote on the Werfel nomination is expected to occur immediately upon the disposition of the joint resolution. Therefore, Senators should expect two rollcall votes at 10:45 a.m. and two votes later in the day.

ORDER FOR ADJOURNMENT

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask that it stand adjourned under the previous order, following the remarks of Senators GRAHAM, BOOZMAN, and LANKFORD.

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

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from South Carolina.

DC CRIMINAL CODE

Mr. GRAHAM. Mr. President, I am going to turn this over to Senator HAGERTY and my other colleagues here in a minute, but I just, one, want to recognize Senator HAGERTY from Tennessee for doing something that needed to be done.

The Congressional Review Act allows us, as a body, to look at certain enact-

ments coming from the DC—District of Columbia—City Council for our approval. I am just going to go through the highlights here, but tomorrow, we will be voting on Senator HAGERTY's proposal to disapprove legislation that was passed regarding revising the DC criminal code.

And Senator HAGERTY has done a good service for the people of the District of Columbia and, I think, for the body and the Nation as a whole.

So what are we talking about? This is numbers for the District of Columbia, your Nation's Capital: Total DC crime has increased 25 percent from 2022 to 2023 as of March 3. Carjackings are up 111 percent, have increased for the fifth straight year. Homicides are up 40 percent, and DC has already reached 38 homicides. The average homicide suspect has been arrested 11 times before committing a homicide. Sexual assaults are up 123 percent. Property crimes are up 32 percent. There have been 393 robberies in DC during the last 2 months.

According to the Metropolitan Police Department, there are 430 fewer officers than they had in 2019. It is the lowest number of officers since the 1970s.

I don't know where to end this thing other than to say that the DC City Council, in light of all of this information, passed a law over the objection of the Mayor that would reduce the maximum sentence available for crimes such as carjacking, robbery, home invasion, burglary, firearm offenses, when all of these offenses are at a historic high. So Senator HAGERTY saw what they did and said: This is insane.

I just read to you a dramatic increase in crime across the board—personal property, sexual assault, and murder—and the DC City Council passed a law over the objection, the veto, of the Mayor to reduce maximum sentences to eliminate nonenhanced mandatory minimum sentences for all offenses, except first-degree murder; lowers maximum sentences to 45 years; expands judicial sentencing reconsideration to all criminals after 20 years of imprisonment; reduces the scope and maximum penalty for felony murder. The bottom line is, instead of increasing punishments, they decided to dramatically decrease punishments for the crimes that are out of hand.

So when Senator HAGERTY introduced this legislation that would reject this, things started changing—starting with the President of the United States, who said that he was going to veto any attempt by the Congress to stop the DC law from becoming law.

Well, something happened because he has changed his mind. In the House, Democrats and Republicans passed this Congressional Review Act overwhelmingly. The bottom line is President Biden has now indicated he will sign it, and DC City Council is trying to find a way to take it off the books. I doubt if they can.

So, Senator HAGERTY, sometimes we wonder if we make a difference here.

You have made a difference. You have brought this body together because I would anticipate, tomorrow, that we are going to have an overwhelming vote to reject the DC City Council's efforts to revise their criminal code to make it less deterrent.

All of us live up here during the week. It is our Nation's Capital. It is one of the most beautiful places I have ever visited. But crime is out of control. And we need to restore law and order to our Nation's Capital, and this effort by Senator HAGERTY is now being joined by a legion of Senate Democrats. And I want to thank each and every Democrat for stepping forward and joining Senator HAGERTY and all the Republicans for saying no to this bad idea of being soft on crime in a city that is overwhelmed by crime.

So if there was an award to be given for bad ideas, I would nominate what the DC City Council did in trying to reduce punishments for crimes against persons and property at a time when the city is on fire in terms of crime. So Senator HAGERTY and others have stepped into the breach. Tomorrow, we are going to vote and we are going to end this ill-conceived idea. And I want to thank Senator HAGERTY for his leadership, and I look forward to being his wingman tomorrow.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Tennessee.

Mr. HAGERTY. Mr. President, I would like to say that I appreciate and am very touched by the remarks of the good Senator from South Carolina, Mr. GRAHAM.

And I thank Senator GRAHAM so much for his support and his presence here tonight.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Arkansas.

Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. President, I rise today to discuss the staggering crime problem plaguing the Nation's Capital and an outrageous attempt to unleash even more of it on residents and visitors alike.

The DC City Council unanimously voted last year to substantially weaken its criminal code, including by eliminating life sentences and most mandatory minimums for any crime but first-degree murder.

It is also lowering maximum penalties for some violent offenses like carjacking and robberies. These so-called reforms weren't just opposed by Republicans; they were even a bridge too far for the District's Democratic Mayor who vetoed the legislation, only to see that overruled by the City Council by a 12 to 1 margin.

DC is experiencing a wave of the very crimes this proposal is going soft on. There have been 99 carjackings so far this year. Thirty-eight homicides have occurred in 2023, and 203 murders took place in the city last year—the second consecutive year its total surpassed 200.

This preposterous answer to DC's public safety crisis was also rejected by the Washington Post editorial board,

which said the city could become more dangerous while even further tying the hands of police and prosecutors if this effort were to succeed.

Let's be clear, only in an overwhelmingly liberal city, with years of support from liberal lawmakers at the Federal level, would something like this ill-conceived crime spree incentive be possible. It is just bad policy. It is also unbelievably insensitive and disrespectful to victims on the receiving end of heinous and violent crimes.

There is no justice in downplaying crime. There also can be no pretense of keeping the public safe and upholding the law and order when leaders refuse to demand true accountability from those who brazenly break the law.

How should these victims react to these senseless proposals that delegitimize their suffering and the consequences that they will provoke?

Unlike our Democratic colleagues, Republicans won't make excuses for criminals, and we won't sit back and allow far-left ideology to gut the criminal justice system of civility to deter and punish unlawful, violent behavior.

For too long, our friends on the other side of the aisle have used, frankly, irresponsible rhetoric about crime and policing that would inevitably lead to ideas as bad as this or worse. From "defund the police" to "reimagining justice," there has been no shortage of liberal slogans and agendas to undermine the rule of law and minimize crime's societal impacts.

Democrats in Washington, including President Biden, have only poured fuel to the fire. Many have openly embraced these absurd concepts, including the 173 House Democrats who refused to overturn the DC Council and stand up on the side of common sense.

Let's not forget the ultimate irony in all of this, which is the fact that for the last 2 years, Democrats were demanding the Senate abolish the legislative filibuster in order to ram through party-line votes on incredibly bad policies, including DC statehood.

It seems that, for Democrats, giving the District complete autonomy over its affairs is a useful political talking point, until it isn't. If that doesn't undermine just how bad faith the push to wreck the Senate was, I really don't know what will; and I am so grateful a few of our colleagues on the other side had the courage to reject it.

So, Mr. President, I am pleased to hear that my colleagues and the President—and apparently even the DC City Council—seem willing to draw the line here. Thank goodness.

The question of how long it will last or if they have really learned a time-tested lesson is still quite open. For the Nation's Capital and our entire country, I hope this outbreak of sanity and appreciation of law and order is long lasting.

I thank Senator HAGERTY for leading the charge. He has done a tremendous job, and I think it made a real difference.

I yield the floor.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Oklahoma.

Mr. LANKFORD. Mr. President, I was on the plane—Southwest Airlines to be specific—this particular Monday, flying up from Oklahoma City to Washington, DC, to be able to come here to the office, begin to do a week of work.

The plane was absolutely filled with people coming in that also work in DC in different Agencies, lots of tourist groups that are actually coming up, groups of students that are here. All kinds of folks were on the plane because they were coming to Washington, DC, because it is the Nation's Capital. It is the Nation's Capital and the spot where the entire world—every diplomat from every country—comes to Washington, DC, to be able to meet with Members of the Senate, Members of the House, the President, and the Executive team. They come to be able to interact because this is the central point of the government of the United States. They expect to come and to be able to see the White House, be able to see the Capitol, be able to tour around phenomenal Smithsonian institutions and be able to see that.

This is what they also see when they come to Washington, DC, now. That is the common view that is also around the city because, in the last few years, since the "defund the police" movement took over the city council, the city council in Washington, DC, did several things.

They took out student resource officers in schools, saying that SROs—the student resource officers in schools—they were what they called a pipeline from school to prison. So to solve the issues around schools, they just stopped enforcing in the schools. And do you know what has happened? Crime has gone up around schools, and problems have continued in schools.

Crime has gone up 25 percent just in the last year in Washington, DC—just in the last year. So far, in 2023, according to the Metropolitan Police Department—now, remember, we are in March of 2023. So far in 2023, there has already been 38 homicides in this city, 215 assaults with a dangerous weapon, 298 robberies, 164 burglaries, 1,182 motor vehicle thefts, and from last year to this year, arson is already up 300 percent in Washington, DC. And this has become the common sight around the city.

What in the world is going on? In the middle of rampant increase in crime in Washington, DC, the DC City Council's response to this in an overwhelming vote was to reduce penalties for felonies and to be able to say that if you commit a misdemeanor, then you actually have to have a jury trial as well, knowing full well that would clog up the courts, and basically misdemeanors would never be heard, and so they just wouldn't happen. No one would actually get a misdemeanor record in Washington, DC.

So their plan to end this rampant increase in crime is just not to enforce

the law, and if you were caught, you would get out faster, to get back to the street to be able to commit crimes again.

Listen, there are amazing people who live in this area, Washington, DC, remarkable residents who love this city and love this country, and they do not want to be afraid for their kids going to school.

We had a gentleman who actually worked full time to provide what they call safe passages for kids to be able to get back and forth from their homes to their schools. His whole focus was just to be able to bring down crime in Washington, DC. He was murdered not long ago on one of those same streets in DC.

This should not be so for this great capital and for this great Nation, and the response should not be, we are just not going to enforce the law. That is what the DC Council has said they are going to do.

To her credit, the Mayor of Washington, DC, vetoed that bill when it came out of the city council, and the city council overrode her veto and said: No, we are going to do it anyway.

In response, Senator BILL HAGERTY has brought up what is called a Congressional Review Act, a challenge to this, and he has taken the next step to be able to say it is not just a Congressional Review Act but to say Congress has the responsibility and the right to actually watch over what happens here.

This is not outside the bounds of Congress's responsibility. The U.S. Constitution, article I, section 8, line 17, says this. Here is the responsibility of Congress:

[Congress should] exercise exclusive legislation in all cases whatsoever over such District . . . as may, by cessation of particular states, and the acceptance of Congress, become the seat of government of the United States.

That is describing where we are right now. In our constitutional responsibility, Congress has the responsibility to oversee what is happening in Washington, DC, and to make sure this area is a safe place.

Congress, in decades past, has passed over what is called home rule to Washington, DC, to say to the city council: You have the responsibility to be able to make decisions for what is going on. But Congress still has the congressional, constitutional responsibility to be able to oversee DC. So it is entirely appropriate for Senator HAGERTY to bring this up and say it is time that Congress steps in on the city council and speaks out for our constitutional obligation and says we cannot have rampant crime in the seat of our Republic.

This vote that is coming up tomorrow is going to override the city council. It is hard to believe that the U.S. Congress has to vote to override a city council vote, but that is our constitutional responsibility, and we should take that and be able to do it.

This is important for the safety of all those folks who were on that plane with me and for all the folks who are coming next week from Oklahoma who will be on spring break. This city will be full of Oklahomans who come to visit all these museums, and it needs to be a safe place for them to be able to be in, and it needs to be a spot they want come to, not a spot that looks like this everywhere all over the streets. This should not be so.

It is time that we speak out for a simple principle: Defunding the police, decriminalizing criminal activity, taking school resource officers out of schools, and saying "We just won't enforce the law" doesn't stop crime; it accelerates crime.

For the good people of Washington, DC, they just want a safe city to live in. For folks who work and tour here, they just want to come to a safe place where they are not afraid. Let's invite them to come see the capital, not see this all over the city.

I yield the floor.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Tennessee.

Mr. HAGERTY. Mr. President, I would just like to thank my colleagues GRAHAM, BOZEMAN, and LANKFORD for being here this evening to support this effort.

We need to make certain that our Nation's Capital doesn't become a national embarrassment, and we need to make certain that we send a strong message that the American public have had it with crime in America. The crime spree that is happening in our major cities must come to an end.

We are putting a marker on the ground tomorrow. I want to thank all my colleagues, both Republican and Democrat, who are joining me in this.

I yield the floor.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 10 A.M. TOMORROW

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the

Senate stands adjourned until 10 a.m. tomorrow.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 6:35 p.m., adjourned until Wednesday, March 8, 2023, at 10 a.m.

CONFIRMATIONS

Executive nominations confirmed by the Senate March 7, 2023:

THE JUDICIARY

ROBERT STEWART BALLOU, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF VIRGINIA.

ANDREW G. SCHOPLER, OF CALIFORNIA, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA.

ARUN SUBRAMANIAN, OF NEW YORK, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

KATE E. BRUBACHER, OF KANSAS, TO BE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY FOR THE DISTRICT OF KANSAS FOR THE TERM OF FOUR YEARS.

ISMAIL J. RAMSEY, OF CALIFORNIA, TO BE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA FOR THE TERM OF FOUR YEARS.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

COMMENDING MONTANA'S
LUPPOLD/BUCKINGHAM RANCH
FOR 150 YEARS OF FAMILY OWN-
ERSHIP

HON. MATTHEW M. ROSENDALE, SR.

OF MONTANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 7, 2023

Mr. ROSENDALE. Mr. Speaker, Montana's family-owned ranches are synonymous with the strength of our economy and the vitality of our communities.

That is why I'm so pleased to hear that the Montana Historical Society is honoring the Luppold/Buckingham Ranch in Meagher County for 150 years of family ownership.

Moving to Montana after his service in the Civil War, William Luppold established a small 160-acre ranch in 1866. By the time of his death in 1916, William had transformed the plot into a highly profitable cattle ranch of nearly 2,000 acres.

William Luppold's success is a testament to the natural abundance of our great state and the perseverance of his family. Successive generations have built upon William's vision by diversifying the ranch's business and leasing land to their neighbors.

The ranch passed to William's favorite niece, Emilia McStravick, and her daughter Gertrude, who retained ownership of the property for nearly 50 years before passing it on to Gertrude's nephew Frederick Buckingham in 1985.

Frederick would continue to carry on the family legacy for nearly three decades until his passing in 2018. Today, Frederick's niece Megan Shroyer and her husband Rodger own and operate the ranch on behalf of four generations that came before them.

Although the Luppolds and Buckinghams have seen tremendous success, the family acknowledges that maintaining such a sprawling property hasn't always been easy. Like many hard-working Montanans, their fortitude and dedication have paid dividends over the past two and half centuries, making the Luppold/Buckingham Ranch an enduring sign of Montana's prosperity.

I am proud that the Montana Historical Society sees fit to bestow this honor on the Luppold/Buckingham Ranch, and it is my pleasure to acknowledge the entire family in the United States House of Representatives.

RECOGNIZING TAMPA BAY'S
LOCAL TRAILBLAZER, BISHOP
PRESTON LEONARD, IN HONOR
OF BLACK HISTORY MONTH

HON. KATHY CASTOR

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 7, 2023

Ms. CASTOR of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with immense gratitude for Bishop Pres-

ton D.H. Leonard, who inspires us all through his lifetime of public service deeply rooted in his faith. For more than 60 years, he has served as pastor at Christ Gospel Church of St. Petersburg. Bishop Leonard is the only living pastor in the church's history and has the longest tenure of any pastor in the St. Petersburg area. He serves as the Presiding Bishop of Christ Kingdom International Fellowship and the International Bishop of the Christ Gospel Churches of Jamaica Apostolic, Haiti, and Ghana, Africa.

Bishop Leonard was born in the town of Lloyd, located in North Florida to Titus and Vannie (Walker) and he is the sixth of seven children. His commitment to his faith started early—at age 10 he became a member of the Fellowship Missionary Baptist Church in Monticello, Florida.

Bishop Leonard was baptized in 1954 and ordained later that year. Also in 1954, Bishop Leonard married the love of his life, the former Virginia Mosley. Together they share their seven children, 16 grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

Bishop Leonard and his family moved to St. Petersburg in 1957 and since then, he has been fiercely committed to his service to both God and our community across Tampa Bay through a broad range of experiences. For more than 40 years, he hosted a radio ministry broadcasted by The New 1590 WRXB, a longtime voice in the St. Petersburg African American community. He is a past president of the Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance (IMA) and previously served on the Bi-Racial Advisory Committee of the Pinellas County School Board, the State Screening for Regulatory Committee, Ombudsmen Committee of the State Nursing Home, Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council, and the Area Agency of Aging. In 1997, he was recognized as Minister of the Year. Today, Bishop Leonard serves as a charter member of the St. Petersburg Community Alliance as well as on the Board of Directors of the IMA Human Services and the St. Petersburg Interfaith Alliance.

Bishop Leonard received both his bachelor's and master's degrees from International University. Before this he attended Florida A&M University, Jack Hyles Pastoral School, and Clyde Narramore Counseling School. He was also a member of the U.S. Navy CORPS in Bainbridge, Maryland.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the Tampa Bay community, I am honored to recognize Bishop Preston D.H. Leonard for his lifelong dedication to service above self as well as his contribution to Tampa Bay's own African American history. Through his commitment to and celebration of his faith and his service to the community, Bishop Leonard is a representation of the best that Florida has to offer and his living legacy serves as an example to all.

RECOGNIZING JOHN CHATBURN

HON. MICHAEL K. SIMPSON

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 7, 2023

Mr. SIMPSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor John Chatburn. John is retiring after nearly 30 years of public service in Idaho, but his love of our great state didn't start there. He grew up on a family ranch in Albion and was well known on the local rodeo circuit as a young man. He started his political career in 1995 as the Energy and Natural Resource Policy Advisor for Governor Phil Batt. John wore many hats, including Deputy Administrator for the Idaho Department of Agriculture.

A large part of his career was spent working for Governor C.L. 'Butch' Otter. He served as his Administrator for the Office of Energy and Mineral Resources. Some of his responsibilities in this capacity included being a member of the U.S. Department of Energy/State Energy Advisory Board, chairman of the Western Interstate Energy Board and co-chairman on the Committee on Regional Electric Power Cooperation. There were many other energy related boards and commissions that he served on and represented Idaho's interests.

He also worked for Governor Brad Little as Administrator of the Office of Energy and Mineral Resources and was appointed by him to serve on the Idaho Public Utilities Commission.

I have known John for a very long time, but I had the opportunity to work closely with him on the Gateway West Project. John represented the state's interests in the plan to create a much-needed power transmission line that spanned a vast section of the state. In the end, we were successful in creating a diverse collaboration between stakeholders that included the World Center for Birds of Prey, Idaho Power Company, the Bureau of Land Management and the citizens of Idaho—something we can all be proud of.

I am not sure what John is going to do next, but it better include pampering his incredible wife Linda who's put up with him for over 40 years. I thank Mr. Chatburn for his service.

HONORING BETTY SMITH

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 7, 2023

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable servant, Betty Smith.

Betty Hughes Smith, was born June 6, 1953, in Drew, MS. She is the youngest, of her siblings. Betty graduated from Drew High School, May 25, 1971. Her class was the first class to integrate the all white segregated high school. This was the one of the happiest moments of her life.

• 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.

After graduation, Betty started working for Sunflower Humphrey Counties Progress, Inc., at the Drew Head Start Center. She retired after 25 years. During that time, she received her Associate Degree from Coahoma Community College. Although she attended both Mississippi Valley State University and Delta State University, she received her Bachelor of Science Degree in Early Childhood from Lemoyne Owen College, in Memphis, TN.

Betty has worked for Southern Echo and Genesis Hospice, as a Community Outreach Coordinator and Educator. She volunteered for the Drew School District for many years.

Betty was a Sunday School Teacher for Noah Memorial Baptist Church for over 20 years until the church closed. Then, she became a member of Holly Grove Missionary Baptist Church, where she is currently a Sunday School Teacher and the Chairperson for the Mother and Mission of the Church. In her lifetime, she has served on various boards throughout Sunflower County:

- Sunflower Humphrey Counties Progress Board of Directors;
- Tallahatchie Housing;
- Sunflower County Democratic Executive Committee;
- Community Health Advisory Research Program;
- We2Gether Creating Change;
- Vice President of Drew United for Progress;
- Drew Collaborative;
- Civil Rights Committee;
- Sunflower County Economic Development Board; and
- Drew Food Pantry.

She has received many certificates, awards, and plaques for her efforts in community service. She has been a tremendous asset to her church and community. Her motivation seems to be prompted by a need to help others, and that is what serving God is all about.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Ms. Betty Smith for her dedication and tenacity to serving her community and desire to be an example for all.

RECOGNIZING TAMPA BAY'S
LOCAL TRAILBLAZER, DR.
DAVINA JONES, IN HONOR OF
BLACK HISTORY MONTH

HON. KATHY CASTOR

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 7, 2023

Ms. CASTOR of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a great educator and leader in the Tampa Bay community, Dr. Davina Arleen Jones.

Dr. Jones is one of six children, born and raised in the Tampa Bay area. Her mother worked for the county library as a book processor and her father was a city bus operator while also serving as a full-time pastor. Dr. Jones' parents instilled in her and her siblings the importance of commitment, leadership, and the spiritual faith—values she holds close to this day. At the early age of 13, a young Davina Jones gave her first public speech at a Church of God in Christ (COGIC) youth convention.

When she was a young student, Dr. Jones was enrolled in Exceptional Student Education (ESE) in Hillsborough County Public Schools

due to the many challenges in her life, but the challenges would only reveal her drive for education and excellence. Through hard work and perseverance, Dr. Jones went on to graduate from Bethune-Cookman University with a bachelor's degree in speech communication. She later went on to receive her master's degree in interpersonal communications and her doctorate in communication studies from Bowling Green State University. These significant accomplishments led Dr. Jones to author "From ESE to PHD: Discovering your hidden potential." She is also the author of "Choices: What singles ought to know and what married people wished they had learned."

Dr. Jones served as a frontline partner as Florida and our Nation prepared to receive and embrace the historic Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune statue in the Statuary Hall of the U.S. Capitol in 2022. Dr. Bethune's statue replaced the statue of a Confederate general that stood since the Jim Crow era and Dr. Jones advocated for Dr. Bethune as a far superior representative of the values and diversity of the Sunshine State. Dr. Jones continues to lift her community as a proud member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., a former president of the Mary McLeod Bethune National Alumni Association Hillsborough Chapter, a former president of the Bethune Cookman National Association Hillsborough Chapter, and Big Brothers and Big Sisters. Dr. Jones also actively collaborates with the African American Task Force for Hillsborough County Public Schools leadership.

Dr. Jones also continues to provide faith-based community leadership throughout the City of Tampa. She is the Assistant Spiritual Leader of Today's Church Tampa Bay and former lead pastor and teacher of the Greater Love Spiritual Center. In 2015, Dr. Jones moved on her desire to educate and inspire passion to our younger generation when she founded GREAT Camp, a comprehensive program for teens and preteens that offers guidance and development in a variety of topics and skills such as civics development, health & wellness, and financial literacy. Considering all her education, hard work and accomplishments, Dr. Jones stated that her greatest achievement in life was becoming aware of the power of love, the love for oneself and the love for others through God.

Throughout the years, Dr. Jones has instructed public speech communication courses across the State of Florida. Using her expertise and experience, she has provided higher education level instruction to aspiring journalists, marketers and educators within our communities. Dr. Jones served as an assistant professor teaching speech communication at her alma mater Bethune-Cookman in 2001; she became a professor at Florida State College at Jacksonville and she is currently provost and special assistant to the president for equity, diversity and inclusion at Pasco-Hernando State College in Wesley Chapel. She continues her work among Pasco-Hernando State College leadership ensuring that all students receive the education they deserve.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the Tampa Bay community, this Black History Month, I am proud to recognize the courage, leadership, and spirit of excellence of Dr. Davina Arleen Jones and her many examples of service she provides our communities.

HONORING THE FAIRFIELD FALCONS GIRLS BASKETBALL TEAM FOR WINNING THE 3A STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. RUDY YAKYM III

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 7, 2023

Mr. YAKYM. Mr. Speaker, I rise to highlight and celebrate a very special group of Hoosiers.

Recently the Fairfield Falcons Girls Basketball Team out of Goshen, Indiana captured the 3A state title for the very first time in school history.

The Falcons' 49–42 win over Corydon Central in Indianapolis on Saturday was exhilarating, and extra special as it marked Fairfield's first state trophy in any sport.

We've all heard the maxim "defense wins championships" and for the Falcons it turned out to be true.

All season long the Falcons defense was downright stingy, allowing the fewest points per game out of any team in Indiana.

But it wasn't only because of their defense that the Falcons are celebrating.

In particular, Head Coach Brodie Garber credits the 4 senior girls he is graduating for consistently providing the leadership and mentorship needed for his team to take home the title.

Congrats to Coach Garber and all the Falcons—both players and staff—on bringing home the hardware. Their names are listed below:

Varsity Team Members:

Brea Garber, Morgan Gawthrop, Kaylee Dillon, Delana Geiger, Jayslynn Hall, Savannah Cronin, Zoie Miller, Haddee Herbert, Eva Herbert, Bailey Willard, Natalie Whitaker, Macy Worthman.

Coaches:

Head Coach Brodie Garber, Amy Garber, Troy Sands, Lindsay Kauffman.

Managers:

Ava Bontrager, Kealee Dillon.

I thank them for making Hoosiers in Goshen and beyond so incredibly proud.

God Bless them and God Bless America.

COMMENDING MONTANA PHOTO-JOURNALIST LARRY MAYER FOR UNCOVERING THE CHINESE SPY BALLOON

HON. MATTHEW M. ROSENDALE, SR.

OF MONTANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 7, 2023

Mr. ROSENDALE. Mr. Speaker, when a Chinese balloon invaded Montana's airspace, the Biden Administration intended to keep the American people in the dark.

But what President Biden didn't count on was the diligent work of Billings Gazette photographer Larry Mayer.

Larry pointed his lens skyward when federal regulators shut down Billings Logan International Airport and captured one of the first public images of a strange object floating in American skies.

Larry may not have known it at the time, but by following his instincts, he uncovered a national security risk from Communist China that

Biden and his allies had not disclosed to Congress or the American people.

China remains one of the greatest foreign threats to American national security. It's inexcusable that the Administration failed to inform the public when this threat was identified and even more alarming that the President didn't take steps to prevent such a breach of American sovereignty.

The government is responsible for ensuring our safety, security, and privacy. But thankfully, when the Administration failed to take this threat seriously, Larry Mayer was there.

Larry's images of the Chinese spy balloon represent the best qualities of American journalism. By uncovering this inexcusable lapse in our Nation's security, Larry has proven that even seemingly innocuous situations can have much more serious implications.

Larry Mayer's dedication to the job is the definition of patriotism in action. His work uncovering this disappointing failure by President Biden allows me and countless other public officials to hold the administration accountable.

Americans everywhere owe Larry a debt of gratitude for documenting this dangerous violation of American airspace. I hope all will join me in commending Larry Mayer's actions, and it is my pleasure to acknowledge him in the United States House of Representatives.

RECOGNIZING TAMPA BAY'S
LOCAL TRAILBLAZER, MORDECAI
WALKER. IN HONOR OF BLACK
HISTORY MONTH

HON. KATHY CASTOR

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 7, 2023

Ms. CASTOR of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise during Black History Month to honor the life of an extraordinary leader, educator and pillar of the St. Petersburg community, Mr. Mordecai Walker.

Mr. Walker was born in Citrus Park in rural Hillsborough County on July 4, 1924, to Charlie and Pearl Walker. He attended segregated schools in Hillsborough County—Citrus Park School for colored children, Booker T. Washington Junior High and Middleton High School, where he graduated in 1943. Mr. Walker started his college education at Bethune-Cookman University where he had the distinct honor of shaking the hand of First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt and Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune. However, as the war continued in Europe and the south Pacific, Mr. Walker was drafted into the U.S. Army, where he served overseas in New Guinea.

After attaining the rank of Sergeant and completing his enlistment in 1946, Mr. Walker returned to higher education at Tennessee State University (TSU) where he completed his bachelor's degree in agriculture and then he went on to earn his master's degree in agriculture from Florida A & M University. As a student at TSU, Mr. Walker was an essay winner for writing "America's Most Popular Athlete"—writing that Joe Louis was more popular than Jackie Robinson. For winning the essay, he was given an all-expenses paid trip to New York City to see Joe Louis fight. During that trip Mr. Walker remembers going to an integrated New York City theater to see *Gone with the Wind*.

While at TSU, Mr. Walker competed on the track team with Olympian Mickey Patterson and Ed Temple, who later became an Olympic coach. In 1950, he was initiated into the Rho Psi Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. Mr. Walker would go on to become one of the original seven founders of the Eta Rho graduate chapter in St. Petersburg, FL in 1962, where he also served as the Chapter Basileus from 1991 through 1993. After more than 70 years of service, Mr. Walker remains active in the local chapter and is still committed to Omega's four cardinal principals of Manhood, Scholarship, Perseverance and Uplift.

After graduating from TSU, Mr. Walker returned to Tampa to teach at Simmons Elementary School in Plant City and later Middleton High School in Tampa, where he was a driving force in establishing the agriculture program. Mr. Walker was pivotal in creating a curriculum and funding sources to bring the program to fruition. After his short stint in Hillsborough County, he relocated to Pinellas County, where he spent more than 30 years teaching, advancing and developing agricultural programs. Mr. Walker was inducted into TSU's Agriculture Hall of Fame for his more than 30 years of service to advancing the field of agriculture in education. In 2019, he was also inducted into the City of St. Petersburg Senior Hall of Fame for his services of volunteering to help the quality of life for residents of St. Petersburg.

Mr. Walker is known for overcoming adversity. Coming of age in an era of segregation, Mr. Walker acted with dignity and grace, showing respect to everyone around him even when he was not afforded that same respect. During the Civil Rights movement, he was active in the Ambassador's Club, which was a civic club that worked to address the ongoing fight for civil rights, as well as celebrating the community's achievements during this time.

Mr. Walker is the oldest living member of the Historic Gas Plant Community, which was the second African American neighborhood formed in St. Petersburg. This historic community thrived from business, entertainment, and education. It was the place for working class African Americans. Unfortunately, many families were eventually uprooted during the expansion of Interstate-275 during the 1970's.

Mr. Speaker, today I join with the entire community of St. Petersburg in honoring Mr. Mordecai Walker for his long commitment to education, bettering the lives of all those around him and as a living legacy.

HONORING DICK'S PLACE

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 7, 2023

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a long-time business in Hinds County, MS, Dick's Place. Dick's Place has shown what can be done through consistency, dedication, and a desire to serve.

In 1949, Richard Anderson obtained a piece of land on Highway 80 near Bolton, MS. During this time, Highway 80 was a major thoroughfare for cars and buses. On the newly purchased land, he would create a juke joint named "Dick's Place." With the advent of Interstate 20, the original building had to be

demolished and the business moved to its current location, 2625 S. Frontage Road in Clinton, in 1952. Starting out in it was more country store than juke joint. Barbeque was introduced as a mainstay, leading to the juke joint growing even more.

For Dick's Place to survive and remain a safe place for African Americans during the height of the Civil Rights Movement, dues had to be paid to keep the doors open. Several times attempts were made to firebomb the establishment. Richard Anderson, Sr. recalls watching a white Mississippi State Trooper pull off the side of the road, throw a Molotov-cocktail-type bomb right at the front door, then get in his car and drive away. Gathering while black wasn't a crime by law, but it was seen as threat to White Supremacists in the area.

Dick's Place is now owned by Richard Anderson, Jr., who took over the business in 1984 when his father passed. Dick's Place is open daily from noon until whenever, and to be sure, Dick's Place is welcoming to all. Day in and day out, you will find the one-of-a-kind, Lorraine Henderson, tending bar and keeping the kitchen popping. She is the heartbeat of Dick's Place and has been for the last 28 years. Right next door is Richie's One Stop, also owned by the family.

The theme of this year's anniversary was—Being Thankful. This was the first in-person anniversary celebration since COVID, and about 100 patrons were treated to a real treat on Sunday evenings. It was a grand occasion, and the unique spirit felt that evening was the same spirit felt that kept it surviving and thriving for seventy-three years and counting.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Dick's Place for its 73 years of service in the State of Mississippi.

HONORING THE INCREDIBLE
SERVICE OF SOPHIE PABIS

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 7, 2023

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an incredible milestone reached by Sophie Graczewski Pabis of Enfield, Connecticut, who turns 100 on March 13, 2023. A lifelong resident of Enfield, Sophie has lived out what it means to be a first-generation American, purposing her time on this earth with patriotic, service- and community-oriented acts. She is a model citizen who we all ought to honor.

Born 1923, to Polish immigrants John and Helen Graczewski, Sophie learned early on the value of humble living and hard work. Growing up on a farm with two sisters and four brothers, Sophie worked on the fields to support her family throughout the Great Depression. She began her education in a one room schoolhouse and eventually moved on to Hazardville Grammar School and later Enfield High School, where she graduated in 1940.

Her first two jobs, in 1941, were at an ice cream parlor and a company that made electric switches, beginning the latter in September of that year. Her life trajectory changed, however, with the attack on Pearl Harbor and our nation's entry into the Second World War. Sophie felt an immediate calling to join the global effort. She rolled up her sleeves

and by March 1942 applied for training at Pratt and Whitney, enlisting as one of the iconic, "Rosie the Riveters."

Beginning at age 19, Sophie picked up 6 shifts a week as a drill press operator and then turret lathe through to the end of the war. Equipped with the symbolism of the all-too-known uniform—the blue overalls, head turban, and her own toolbox—Sophie was one of the Homefront heroes our nation relied upon during the war. Many of us in this chamber know that Allied Forces won the war due to the United States' ability to outproduce the Axis Powers. That is in thanks to citizens like Sophie.

The importance of Sophie's service at Pratt and Whitney cannot be overstated. That is why a part of her story is already archived in the World War II Home Front National Park Museum. However, we also ought to recognize Sophie's diligence in her profession, which instilled even further within her a value for hard work and an ability to address challenging situations. By 1946, the year following the conclusion of the war, Sophie returned to Pratt's engineering office to fill out those values. She, like many after the war, also began to settle into a new post-war life and met her would-be-husband, Mitchell L. Pabis, who also served overseas in Germany. They married in 1948. It was only when they began expecting their children that Sophie took time off from Pratt & Whitney. Together, they raised their two sons, Mitchell and Richard, and remained happily married until Mitchell Senior's unfortunate passing in 2001.

Mr. Speaker, I would also like to bring attention to Sophie's immense community presence throughout her life. For example, she has volunteered at Saint Adelbert's School library and served as a Eucharistic Minister at Saint Adelbert's Church, worked with the Little Sisters of the Poor, and has been a member of the American Legion John Maciolek Unit 154 Auxiliary for 75 years.

On March 13, 2023, Sophie will celebrate her 100th birthday. Sophie truly does belong to the Greatest Generation, and we can all take from her example. I am beyond honored to represent constituents of such quality. To that end, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating her incredible, continuing life by recognizing this milestone of hers.

RECOGNIZING TAMPA BAY'S
LOCAL TRAILBLAZER,
BRIDGETTE HELLER, IN HONOR
OF BLACK HISTORY MONTH

HON. KATHY CASTOR

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 7, 2023

Ms. CASTOR of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today during Black History Month to celebrate a change agent and one of Tampa Bay's most accomplished businesswomen, Ms. Bridgette Heller. Ms. Heller was born and raised in St. Petersburg, Fla. She attended segregated schools through elementary school, but credits success during her formative years to being raised by a village of love that had very high standards for her. She achieved a higher education at Northwestern University, earning a bachelor's degree, then master's from the Kellogg Graduate School of Management. Ms.

Heller continues to contribute to her alma mater serving on the University's Board of Trustees and mentoring the next generation of business leaders.

After graduating from Northwestern University, Ms. Heller spent more than 35 years serving in leadership positions in numerous Fortune 100 companies and private equity-owned enterprises, such as Johnson & Johnson, Merck, Danone and Kraft Foods, where she worked for more than 18 years. While serving as executive vice president of Merck and president of its consumer care division, she led an organization of approximately 2,400 employees and helped the company expand across the globe. In honor of all her many accomplishments in the business world, Ms. Heller was named one of The 50 Most Powerful Black Women in Business by Black Enterprise Magazine, a Women to Watch by Advertising Age, and Healthcare Businesswomen's Association Women of the Year. She also founded her own consulting firm and has served as a corporate director for numerous companies.

Ms. Heller is an advocate for diversity, equity and inclusion, and has traveled the world to reinforce infant and maternal health, inclusive C-suite for women, and sustainable communities. She is a co-founder and CEO of the Shirley Proctor Puller Foundation (SPPF), named in honor of her mother. Under her leadership, the SPPF established the MASTR kids program, initially focused on helping to minimize the summer learning loss students experience in between terms. The program achieved remarkable results—80 percent of the students enrolled avoided the summer slide, and three quarters experienced gains in their math and reading proficiencies.

Ms. Heller also continues to give back to her community by helping the youth of south St. Petersburg bridge the achievement and literacy gaps. Her work has allowed countless students to advance their education in STEM fields and improve both their math and reading aptitude. She has worked tirelessly to achieve her long-term goal of improving the educational experience and outcomes—raising high school and college graduation rates, which will lead to better economic opportunities, and a more prosperous St. Petersburg.

Ms. Heller serves on the board of The Foundation for a Healthy St. Petersburg, working to provide equity and prosperity to her community, treating not just the symptoms of inequality, but creating a community built to benefit all. By providing both project funding and training sessions, she gives those in her community the tools to improve their lives and fuel innovation.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the Tampa Bay community, I am honored to recognize the outstanding accomplishments, leadership and service of Ms. Bridgette Heller, who stands as a shining example of the tremendous impact of hard work, nurturing others and service to the community to encourage others to reach their highest potential.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF
LAUREN VERDICH

HON. MIKE QUIGLEY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 7, 2023

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life of LGBTQ activist, community advocate, and friend Lauren Verdich.

During the mid-1980s, Lauren became part of a group of volunteers at the AIDS Memorial Quilt Display at Navy Pier who came together to provide hot meals to homebound Chicagoans with HIV/AIDS. She helped to found Open Hand, an organization which served meals to people impacted by HIV/AIDS, and which still lives on today as part of Heartland Health Alliance.

She pursued her passion for cooking by starting Lauren's Catering in 1986, donating tens of thousands of dollars' worth of goods and services to nonprofits over the years. She was a founding member of the Chicago Area Gay and Lesbian Chamber of Commerce, founded in 1995. To honor all of her achievements, Verdich was inducted into Chicago's LGBT Hall of Fame in 2015.

I was honored to have her join my LGBT Advisory Committee and help educate me on the needs of the LGBT community in my district. She was a strong force, a fearless advocate and a friend who will be missed.

She is survived by her spouse Gail Morse; son Jordan Wolski and their son Zachery Wolski; daughter Dana Bennett; sisters Roberta Heinrich, Andrea Reich and Linda Mankoff; brother Steven Isaacson; loving nieces and nephews; countless friends and those whose lives she touched.

HONORING DR. NORA GOUGH-
DAVIS

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 7, 2023

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a tenacious and self-motivated leader, Dr. Nora Gough-Davis. Dr. Nora Gough-Davis has had a fascination for the medical field since she was young, watching her dad, the late Dr. Walter C. Gough, tirelessly serve the rural MS Delta.

Dr. Gough-Davis is a native of Mound Bayou, MS. She is also the daughter of Mrs. May Bailey Gough. She received a B.S. in Biology and Chemistry from Mississippi Valley State University (MVSU) in 1999, graduating as Valedictorian of her class. During her academic years at MVSU, Dr. Gough-Davis was a Presidential Scholar for all four academic years, a member of the Mississippi Alliance for Minority Participation (MAMP), Beta Kappa Chi Honor Society, the Women's Basketball Team, and the Eta Alpha Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

Upon graduating from MVSU, Dr. Gough-Davis began a career as a science and pre-algebra teacher, girls' basketball assistant coach and girls' softball head coach for the North Bolivar School District. In 2003, the girls' basketball team achieved their first Girls' State 2A Basketball Championship.

In 2002, Dr. Gough-Davis earned a MS in Natural Science from Delta State University (DSU) in Cleveland, MS. In 2005, Dr. Gough-Davis received a BSN and in 2009, she received a MS in Nursing from DSU. In 2012, she received a MBA with a focus in Health Care Management from the University of Phoenix. In 2014, she received a Doctor of Nursing Practice Degree from DSU.

In June 2009, Dr. Gough-Davis began her career as a Family Nurse Practitioner at North Delta Medicine Clinic in Clarksdale, MS. In August 2012, Dr. Gough-Davis opened her own family practice clinic, Shaw Family Medical, LLC in Shaw, MS. In August 2016, she re-opened her mother and late father's clinic, Gough's Family Medical Clinic in Drew, MS. She has served as a clinical preceptor for at least 26 nurse practitioner students from various universities. Several of the nurse practitioner students have progressed to opening their own clinics in the MS Delta.

In August 2020, Dr. Gough-Davis began her career as an Assistant Professor of Nursing at the Robert E. Smith School of Nursing at Delta State University. In August 2021, she was assigned an additional role as the Undergraduate Program Coordinator.

Dr. Gough-Davis's favorite quote is "If I can help somebody as I pass along, then my living shall not be in vane."

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Dr. Nora Gough-Davis for her dedication, leadership and advocacy in healthcare. Her selfless service to her community, the Rural MS Delta Region, and the State of Mississippi are commended.

RECOGNIZING TAMPA BAY'S
LOCAL TRAILBLAZER, DR. JOHN
SMITH, JR., IN HONOR OF BLACK
HISTORY MONTH

HON. KATHY CASTOR

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 7, 2023

Ms. CASTOR of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today during Black History Month with immense gratitude for the life of service of veteran and retired educator, Dr. John L. Smith, Jr. Because of Dr. Smith's long-standing commitment and dedication to education and leadership, higher learning institutions throughout the United States are advancing diversity and inclusion at the highest levels. He charted a course through music, the arts and education that serves as an inspiration for future generations.

Dr. Smith was born in Bastrop, LA. on Sept. 14, 1938. He is a veteran of the U.S. Navy and was honorably discharged after four years of service. Dr. Smith earned his bachelor's degree in music education from Lincoln University and then his master's degree in music education from Indiana University. Dr. Smith also went on to earn his doctorate from the University of Missouri-Kansas City with postgraduate study at Harvard University. Dr. Smith is married to Dr. Juel Shannon Smith and they share seven children, nine grandchildren and five great grandchildren together.

Dr. Smith's memoir titled *Mentors Matter: One Black Man's Journey to Success* highlights the role many of his mentors played in nurturing and inspiring his interest in classical

music and the sousaphone. His life's path was so outside the norm, it is inspiring to learn how each of his mentors, Black and white, kept him on track until he reached goals that few other Black men of his time had achieved.

Dr. Smith is a nationally recognized and accomplished musician. For more than 60 years, he has dedicated his time to playing the tuba. In 1962, he was named the first African American principal tubist for a professional American symphony orchestra. Dr. Smith was the first African American to receive a full-time appointment with the Oklahoma City Symphony. In 1966, Dr. Smith was appointed as Chairman of the Music Department at Langston University and modified the curriculum to be more African American centered. Also, during his tenure there, he produced a summer Black Arts Festival.

Dr. Smith's talent and commitment to students did not go unrecognized. In 1972, he was appointed as the first Tuba professor at the University of South Florida. His work to create an inclusive environment for Black students was tremendous and includes serving as founder and president of the Committee on Black Affairs, increasing Black faculty and administrators, and creating a Black student support group. Dr. Smith's leadership in these roles led to the establishment of the Institute on Black Life and the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. campus plaza.

In 1988, Dr. Smith advanced to the position of Dean of USF's College of Fine Arts, becoming USF's first Black academic dean. From 1988 through 1998, Dr. Smith raised \$120 million for three endowed Chairs, including an African Art Chair; increased student and faculty diversity; held weekly lunch and counseling sessions for minority students; and endowed scholarships and programs for students. Also, while serving as Dean, Dr. Smith was the first African American to be elected president of the international Council of Fine Arts Deans and he served as chairman of the Florida Higher Education Arts Network.

In 1999, he became the 12th president of Fisk University in Nashville, Tenn., a top-tier historically Black liberal arts institution. During his tenure as president, Fisk University advanced from 11th to eighth rank in the U.S. News and World Report and the Princeton Review, garnering the university greater national visibility. While in Nashville, Dr. Smith was appointed by the Mayor to the Task Force on Affordable Housing and Community Access Television Committee while also serving in the NAACP.

Dr. Smith is the recipient of many honorable civic, social, and educational honors such as the Tampa/Hillsborough County Human Rights Award and Outstanding Young Men of America. Dr. Smith's other accomplishments include expansion of international exchange and study abroad programs at USF as well as arts outreach programs to the University Area Community, Boys and Girls Clubs and West Tampa Elementary. Dr. Smith is also a member of Sigma Pi Phi Fraternity and Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the Tampa Bay community, I am proud to recognize Dr. John L. Smith, Jr., for his lifetime commitment to servant leadership, creative spirit, diversity and inclusion in education, and uplifting our entire community.

HONORING THE RETIREMENT OF
MR. JOHN DUFFY FROM THE
ELGIN COMMUNITY COLLEGE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

HON. RAJA KRISHNAMOORTHY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 7, 2023

Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY. Mr. Speaker, today I wish to honor Mr. John Duffy upon his retirement from the Elgin Community College Board of Trustees. Mr. Duffy's distinguished service of over 48 years with the Board makes him the longest serving trustee in the history of Community College District 509.

In 1965, Mr. Duffy began his career as an English and Latin teacher at Larkin High School in Elgin, Illinois. It was only ten years into his role as an educator that his work extended into elected office and his position on the Elgin Community College Board of Trustees began. Throughout his time on the board, he was elected to chair the group seven times—a powerful testament to his colleagues' belief that Mr. Duffy embodies the values that the college seeks to instill in its students. Mr. Duffy has also used his voice to serve community colleges nationally, including by serving on the Boards of Directors for the Association of Community College Trustees and the American Association of Community Colleges.

Mr. Duffy's outstanding leadership earned him honors including the Central Region Trustee Leadership Award and the Illinois Community College Trustee Association's Trustee of the Year Award. Across the academic community and beyond, Mr. Duffy is highly regarded for his dedicated advocacy for all students.

Mr. Speaker, I commend Mr. Duffy's five decades of public service on behalf of students in Elgin and across the Nation, and I congratulate him on his well-deserved retirement.

HONORING FORMER CONGRESS-
MAN EDWARD FORD WEBER

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 7, 2023

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD the following obituary honoring the former Congressman, Edward Ford Weber of Ohio.

EDWARD WEBER OBITUARY

Edward F. Weber, a Toledo area attorney for nearly 50 years and a one-term Republican congressman, who in 1980 swept a long-time incumbent out of office, died Monday in Hospice of Northwest of Ohio, Perrysburg Township. He was 91.

He had congestive heart failure, his son, Ford Weber, said.

Home most recently was southwest Toledo. Mr. Weber and his wife, Alice, formerly lived in the Westmoreland neighborhood of central Toledo.

He returned to practice law in 1983 after his term in Congress, rejoining Marshall & Melhorn as a senior partner. He headed its probate and trust section before his election and led the corporate-commercial section on his return.

In 1990, he formed the law firm of Weber & Sterling with Robert V. Sterling, specializing in wills, trusts, planning, and administration. He retired about 18 years ago.

Mr. Weber on Nov. 4, 1980, achieved what a dozen Republican candidates before him could not: He defeated Thomas Ludlow Ashley, ending the Democrat's 26-year congressional career. In the presidential race, Ronald Reagan defeated Jimmy Carter. Lucas County results showed Mr. Weber had over 10,000 more votes than his party's standard bearer.

"He was proud of the fact that he did not ride on Reagan's coattails," the younger Mr. Weber said.

Two years later, Marcy Kaptur defeated Mr. Weber by a margin nearly identical to that by which he was elected. Ms. Kaptur has been re-elected every two years since.

He took issue, in a *Blade Readers' Forum* letter, with a report that he had admitted he could have done more to hold the 9th District seat.

"For two years while I served in Congress. I worked as hard as humanly possible to retain my seat short of compromising my principles and voting differently on the issues," Mr. Weber wrote to *The Blade*. "That loss remains the greatest personal disappointment of my life. However, I do not believe that anything I could have done differently in the 1982 campaign would have changed the outcome of that election.

Mr. Weber's startling defeat of the seemingly invincible Mr. Ashley was the product of a precision campaign plan effectively executed. He began planning more than two years earlier, before Mr. Ashley's November, 1978 victory. He first got the notion to run while working in his yard. He was then a volunteer for Mr. Ashley's Republican opponent.

"I felt that the country very badly needed a big change in its direction—away from overregulation, away from overtaxation, away from unemployment, and away from the inflationary trends," Mr. Weber told *The Blade* after his 1980 victory.

The younger Mr. Weber said: "His parents instilled in him a sense of community and civic duty."

The years since, he "developed a lot of respect for Marcy Kaptur," the younger Mr. Weber said. The former congressman and his wife contributed to Ms. Kaptur's campaigns on several occasions.

"He served with honor," Ms. Kaptur said Wednesday. "Ed and Alice Weber had a beautiful marriage and were committed to family, to faith, to community, and country. It was a lifetime of achievement, not just for themselves, but for our community. He was a gentleman."

As Mr. Weber returned to the practice of law, he retained his interest in the public good. He was co-chairman of a successful capital improvement levy campaign for the Toledo Zoo. He served as co-chairman of a campaign to find private funding for a museum ship on the Maumee River, what is now the S.S. Col. James M. Schoonmaker.

He tutored children in reading at a central Toledo school. He wrote the occasional letter to *The Blade Readers' Forum*. By the early 2010s, he no longer considered himself a Republican, having voted for Barack Obama twice, but also said he was not a Democrat.

He and his wife joined community members in arguing for Maumee River views and green space as they publicly spoke out against ProMedica's six-story parking garage in Promenade Park. In 2015, Mr. Weber endorsed the mayoral candidacy of another vocal opponent to the garage, Mike Ferrler, a former member of Toledo City Council who was defeated in a close contest for mayor in 1993.

Edward Ford Weber was born July 26, 1931, to Elenore and Ford R. Weber and grew up on Scottwood Avenue in the Old West End. He was a 1949 graduate of Scott High School,

where he played football. He received a bachelor's degree from Denison University, where he majored in mathematics and music.

He was a 1956 graduate of Harvard law school and afterward served in the Army at Fort Belvoir, Va., assigned to the judge advocate as an attorney in the legal assistance office. He began his legal career at the firm then known as Marshall, Melhorn, Bloch & Belt.

When Craig Frederickson was hired by the firm in 1975, Mr. Weber became his mentor and managing partner.

"I was so lucky," Mr. Frederickson said. "I have to say he was probably one of the most remarkable individuals I've ever known—his integrity, his ethics, his brilliance, and his ability to handle and teach a young attorney with patience. It was so impressive. His dealing with clients—he was honest and truthful. He actually cared."

George Glasser, a retired judge of the Ohio 6th District Court of Appeals, said: "He was an individual who had the courage of his convictions and stood for integrity and everything good."

From 1967–79, Mr. Weber taught trusts and estates at the University of Toledo law school.

He was a life member of what is now Ashland Church, from its historic home in central Toledo through its relocation more than 15 years ago to Oregon. He had been a trustee of the YMCA of Greater Toledo; the Toledo Museum of Art; the Red Cross in Toledo; the Clement O. Miniger Memorial Foundation; the Landman-Goldman Foundation, and the University of Chicago Divinity School.

He was a former district Boy Scouts chairman and was a scoutmaster for 13 years of a central Toledo troop.

Music was a favorite avocation. When he entered Denison, he took the advice of his mother—who oversaw many entertainment programs at their church—and enrolled in a course in harmony, along with prelaw studies.

After law school, he sang in the church choir and composed prayer responses and organ music. Mr. Weber in 1977, directed a performance of a musical he composed, "One Solitary Life," based on the life of Jesus. He dedicated the work to his mother. He also composed the processional march for his daughter Mary's wedding.

He played clarinet in the Maumee Community Band and played piano and trombone.

He also enjoyed hiking and backpacking out west and sailing the Great Lakes.

Surviving are his wife, the former Alice Hammerstrom, whom he married March 30, 1957; daughters Elenore Weber and Mary Due; son, Ford Weber; six grandchildren, and a great-granddaughter.

Family and friends will be greeted from noon–7 p.m. March 24 at Walker Funeral Home, Sylvania Township. Services will be private.

The family suggests tributes to the Toledo Museum of Art or the Toledo Public Schools Foundation.

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RECOGNIZING TAMPA BAY'S LOCAL TRAILBLAZER, CELESTE GIBBONS-PEOPLES, IN HONOR OF BLACK HISTORY MONTH

HON. KATHY CASTOR

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 7, 2023

Ms. CASTOR of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Ms. Celeste Gibbons-Peoples

for her nearly four decades of public service to the Tampa Bay community. Her influence in our community follows a tradition of excellence pioneered by her late father. Walter Lee "Dirk" Gibbons, who was a well-known Negro League Baseball player locally and nationally. She has committed her life to telling the stories of Black pioneers and celebrating the rich Black history of the Tampa area.

Born in the basement of a clinic in Ybor City and raised in East Tampa, Ms. Gibbons-Peoples attended Hillsborough High School and Hillsborough Community College where she started to foster her appreciation for Black history and its importance in life-long education. Her passion for this cause led her to become an active member of the City of Tampa's Black History Committee, Inc. for more than 30 years and served as its president 2014 through 2022. The Committee has awarded more than \$250,000 to high school seniors to further their education through college, university or vocational school.

Ms. Gibbons-Peoples came to City of Tampa government in 1985 and is currently its certified senior procurement analyst. Her hard work has not gone unnoticed by her colleagues and peers—in 2017, she was named Buyer of the Year by the National Institute of Government Purchasing for Tampa Bay.

Ms. Gibbons-Peoples continues to be a role model in our community. In 2010, she obtained her Certified Professional Public Buyer's (CPPB) certification and is also a Florida Certified Contract Manager (FCCM). Her love for her profession drives her position as president of the National Institute of Governmental Purchasing. Through this organization, she helps provide educational opportunities for current and striving Purchasing Procurement professionals.

Volunteer work also plays an integral part in Ms. Gibbons-Peoples's impact on the Tampa Bay community. Her contributions include United Way Suncoast, Great American Teach-In, Hillsborough County and the City of Tampa Martin Luther King, Jr. Committee, Inc., Ladies Auxiliary for the Woods and Wanton Tampa Chapter for Buffalo Soldiers, and the Community Charter Schools of Excellence. As a coach for the Boys and Girls Club and Police Athletic League, Ms. Gibbons-Peoples has helped children realize their true potential. In addition, she serves as president of the Usher Ministry No. 2 at Springhill Missionary Baptist Church.

Mr. Speaker. I rise today in admiration and respect for Ms. Celeste Gibbons-Peoples who is the embodiment of altruism and forms an integral part of Tampa's own Black history.

HONORING ERICA BRADLEY

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 7, 2023

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a hardworking and impactful leader, Ms. Erica Bradley. Ms. Bradley has shown what can be done through hard work, dedication, and a desire to achieve success.

Ms. Erica Bradley has been named Jefferson County School District's 2022–2023 Teacher of the Year. She is a second-year

English Language Arts teacher. She plans, develops, and compiles comprehensive language-based skills for all students while delivering quality instruction to impact their overall developmental success. She is also a member of the School Leadership Team, the School Improvement Committee, the PBIS Committee, the Chair of the ELA Department, and the Upper Elementary Reading Club.

Ms. Bradley is a native of Jefferson County and graduated from Jefferson County High School with the class of 2009. She is the mother of a son, Omarian, who is currently an 8th grade student.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Ms. Erica Bradley for her passion and dedication to education in the Jefferson County School District.

INTRODUCTION OF A BILL TO MODIFY THE REQUIREMENT TO REMAIN OUTSIDE OF THE UNITED STATES FOR COMMONWEALTH ONLY TRANSITIONAL WORKERS

HON. GREGORIO KILILI CAMACHO SABLAN

OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 7, 2023

Mr. SABLAN. Mr. Speaker, three years of pandemic have taken a toll on businesses nationwide and, especially, in isolated, one-industry economies like that of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Policies that made sense before a pandemic shut down the tourism industry in the islands I represent are now actually making recovery more difficult.

So, today, I am introducing legislation to ease the return to normalcy by recognizing the impact of the pandemic.

My bill will delay for three years the effective date of a provision of the Northern Mariana Islands U.S. Workforce Act, Public Law 115–218, that is making it more expensive and more difficult for businesses in my district to recover.

This is the so-called “touchback” provision of that law that requires employers to send certain foreign workers back to their home country at least every three years. Doing so has, of course, proven problematic during the pandemic, when flights were interrupted and increasingly costly. In some cases, home country ingress provisions made it difficult for workers to return.

In the meantime, the purpose of the touchback requirement has been fulfilled. It was intended to reduce reliance on foreign workers and encourage investment in U.S. workers. And that is precisely what has occurred, even without implementation of touchback.

During the pandemic the number of U.S. workers employed in the Marianas has held steady near 13,000, according to the most recent report from the Governor required by the U.S. Workforce Act. The number of foreign workers, according to the Governor, has fallen from about 8,000 to 6,000.

Even without the requirement that certain foreign workers return home at least every three years, Marianas businesses appear to have shifted to a relatively greater reliance on U.S. workers. This is precisely the intent of Public Law 115–218.

Rather than striking the requirement from the law altogether, however—as considering this shift touchback may now seem unnecessary—my bill takes a more conservative approach to delay the effective date for three years, matching the duration of the pandemic.

The bill also makes clear the intent of the law’s authors—Chair Rob Bishop and Ranking Member RAÚL GRIJALVA of the House Natural Resources Committee, Chair LISA MURKOWSKI of the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee, and me—with respect to the timing of touchback, as explained in our letter of July 22, 2020, to Samantha Deshommes, Chief of the Regulatory Coordination Division of the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services.

Ultimately, I respect the bipartisan agreement on a reasonable immigration policy unique to the Marianas that is embodied in the Northern Mariana Islands U.S. Workforce Act. Circumstances now warrant fine-tuning the touchback provision. Ultimately, however, I want to see that bipartisan policy through to its conclusion in 2030.

HONORING A.W. HOLT

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 7, 2023

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable individual, A.W. Holt.

A graduate from Brinkly High School in Jackson, MS, where he participated in basketball, baseball, and track. A.W., who was also known as the “Awesome Wonder”, attended Jackson State University (JSU) and graduated with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Education.

Holt played for the JSU Basketball Tigers and enjoyed a winning season each year while he was there. During his freshman year, his team won the Southwestern Athletic Conference (SWAC) Tournament. The following season the Tigers won the Georgia Invitational Tournament, and he was selected as one of the tournament’s Most Valuable Players. That year the team also won the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) Championship. In 1968, Holt was selected to the ALL-SWAC 1st Team.

During his junior and senior years, Holt served as Captain of the JSU basketball team, and was pitcher for the JSU baseball team in 1968. The team won a SWAC Championship. In 1969, he received All-American Honorable Mention and appeared in the 1969 edition of Outstanding College Athletes of America.

His success did not stop at the collegiate level. In May 1969, the Dallas Chaparrals drafted Holt in the 3rd round of the American Basketball Association (ABA). He also played for the Chicago Bulls in the National Basketball Association (NBA). During his career, he played for the Scranton Minors, the Northwest Travelers, and the New Orleans Jazz.

Upon his return to Jackson, MS, Holt was employed at JSU as Assistance Director and then Director of the New Men’s Dormitory. He participated in the Jackson City Basketball and Baseball Leagues as a player and an umpire.

In 2004, he retired from the Hinds County Sheriff’s Department after 30 years of service.

While there, he was named one of the three 1st Black sergeants and later 1st Black lieutenant at the Hinds County Sheriff’s Department.

Holt and his wife Margaret have 2 sons, Christopher and Alvin. Alvin is deceased.

A.W. Holt was inducted in the Jackson State University Sports Hall of Fame in 2004.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing A.W. Holt for his dedication and tenacity to serving his community and desire to be an example for all.

RECOGNIZING TAMPA BAY’S LOCAL TRAILBLAZER, FRED HEARNS, IN HONOR OF BLACK HISTORY MONTH

HON. KATHY CASTOR

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 7, 2023

Ms. CASTOR of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a true Tampa Bay historian who has served this community with great distinction for many decades. Mr. Charles “Fred” Hearn is one of the foremost historians of Tampa Bay and Florida history. And, since 2021, he has served as the first Curator of Black History for the Tampa Bay History Center (TBHC).

Mr. Hearn was born in the Bronx, NY and grew up in East Tampa, Florida, graduating in 1966 from Middleton High School, the first high school for African Americans in Hillsborough County. He later went on to further his education at the University of South Florida earning a bachelor’s degree in English/journalism and a master’s degree in African studies. Mr. Hearn also holds a master’s degree in human services from Springfield College (Distinguished Graduate Award). He is the father of four adult children, sons Charles F. (Ricky) Hearn Jr. and Marcel Charles Fred Hearn, and daughters Cassanda Franklin and Charaneka Johnson. He also has five grandchildren.

He began his career as a journalist working for the Florida Sentinel Bulletin, St. Petersburg Times, Tampa Tribune, Ft. Lauderdale Sun Sentinel and then in the Office of Public Contacts for Southern University in Baton Rouge, La. In 1975, Mr. Hearn began a 32-year career with the City of Tampa and became its human rights director in 1992. He retired as director of the Department of Community Affairs in 2007.

During his tenure with the City of Tampa, Mr. Hearn worked on several major projects including leading the charge as president of the Middleton High School Alumni Association to reestablish his alma mater where a Pavilion now stands in his honor. He also worked as a consultant for the revitalization of the Perry Harvey, Sr. Park project and was a founding member of several civic organizations in the city such as the 78th Street Improvement Association, the Ada T. Payne Friends of the Urban Libraries and the Robert W. Saunders Library Foundation, Inc. Mr. Hearn also worked as a consultant for the ENCORE housing project in Tampa. He served on the Friends of the Riverwalk and on the Florida Advisory Committee of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights. In 2014, he was awarded the Robert Saunders Award for Community Service.

Mr. Hearn continues to lift the Tampa Bay community through his church, Allen Temple AME, and his fraternity, the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. where he was initiated into the Pi Iota Chapter in 1977. Mr. Hearn served in numerous roles for the fraternity including as chair of the Just Gents program, which mentors young African American male students from Ernest Everett Just Elementary School.

Mr. Hearn has a deep love for this community and is constantly fighting to ensure everyone understands that Black History is everyone's history. Sparked by his mentorship with Robert Saunders and the publication of Mr. Saunders' book, *Bridging the Gap*, Mr. Hearn started to have a deep interest in local history. In 2005, he started his own tourism business, Fred Hearn Tours, LLC, which included both bus and walking tours of Tampa's African American history. The next year, he wrote an autobiographical book titled, *Getting it Done: Rebuilding Black America Brick By Brick*. Mr. Hearn is the president emeritus of the Tampa Bay Chapter of the Association for the Study of African American Life and History (ASALH).

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of a grateful Tampa Bay community, during this Black History Month, we salute and honor Mr. Charles "Fred" Hearn for ensuring that history is written truthfully, fully and with a persistent shining a light on the struggles, contributions and success stories of our local unsung Black neighbors.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF SHONDA RENNAE MAGNESS

HON. PAT FALLON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 7, 2023

Mr. FALLON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life of Shonda Rennae Magness of Telephone, Texas. Mrs. Magness was born on January 18, 1965. She graduated from Crane High School in 1983 and was a star basketball player at Odessa College. While at Odessa, she met her first husband, Tommy Stahl, and was married for 25 years. Together, they raised two beautiful daughters, Lauren Bennett and Lindsey Stahl.

For over 27 years, Mrs. Magness worked at law firm specializing in local government, where she made loyal friends all over the state and brought smiles to all who knew her. She became the County Purchasing Agent for Fannin County and was highly successful in government procurement. Mrs. Magness remarried, and wed the next great love of her life, Jerry Magness, on June 10, 2017. Since then, they have lived on their ranch in Telephone, Texas.

She was proud of being a "rancher's wife" and even learned how to work cattle herself. In her free time, she loved to coach and play volleyball. She was also an active member of the Kiwanis Club of Bonham, Texas. Mrs. Magness was a woman of faith whose cheer would bring joy to the lives of everyone she interacted with. She was affectionately referred to as "Nana" by her grandchildren.

I have requested the United States flag be flown over our Nation's Capitol to recognize Mrs. Magness' amazing life and work. She will be dearly missed by her friends, family, and all who knew her.

COST ESTIMATE FOR H.J. RES. 27—
PROVIDING FOR CONGRESSIONAL
DISAPPROVAL UNDER CHAPTER
8 OF TITLE 5, UNITED STATES
CODE, OF THE RULE SUBMITTED
BY THE DEPARTMENT OF THE
ARMY, CORPS OF ENGINEERS,
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE AND
THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
AGENCY RELATING TO
"REVISED DEFINITION OF
'WATERS OF THE UNITED
STATES'"

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 7, 2023

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD the cost estimate prepared by the Congressional Budget Office for H.J. Res. 27—Providing for Congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Department of the Army, Corps of Engineers, Department of Defense and the Environmental Protection Agency relating to "Revised Definition of 'Waters of the United States.'" The cost estimate was not available at the time of the Committee Report filing.

H.J. RES. 27, PROVIDING FOR CONGRESSIONAL DISAPPROVAL UNDER CHAPTER 8 OF TITLE 5, UNITED STATES CODE, OF THE RULE SUBMITTED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY, CORPS OF ENGINEERS, DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE AND THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY RELATING TO "REVISED DEFINITION OF 'WATERS OF THE UNITED STATES'" AS REPORTED BY THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE ON MARCH 3, 2023

	By fiscal year, millions of dollars—		
	2023	2023–2028	2023–2033
Direct Spending (Outlays) ..	*	*	*
Revenues	0	0	0
Increase or Decrease (–) in the Deficit	*	*	*
Spending Subject to Appropria- tion (Outlays)	*	*	*

* = between –\$500,000 and \$500,000.

Increases net direct spending in any of the four consecutive 10-year periods beginning in 2034? \$2.5 billion.

Increases on-budget deficits in any of the four consecutive 10-year periods beginning in 2034? \$5 billion.

Statutory pay-as-you-go procedures apply? Yes.

Mandate Effects:

Contains intergovernmental mandate? Yes, Under Threshold.

Contains private-sector mandate? Yes, Under Threshold.

H.J. Res. 27 would prevent the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Army Corps of Engineers from implementing or enforcing certain regulations related to the nation's waters and wetlands under the Clean Water Act (CWA).

The CWA directs EPA and the Corps to serve as co-regulators, along with the states, of the nation's waters. H.J. Res. 27 would prevent those agencies from implementing a final rule, "Revised Definition of 'Waters of the United States.'" as published in the Federal Register on January 18, 2023. The rule, which will take effect on March 20, 2023, defines the scope of waters protected by the CWA.

Under current law, the Corps collects fees to issue permits under the CWA in amounts that, on average, total less than \$50,000 annually. Those fees are recorded in the budget as offsets to direct spending.

CBO expects that implementing the joint resolution could affect permitting requirements for some projects and thus the number of permit applications, but we do not have enough information to determine whether the number of applications would increase or decrease. CBO estimates that any increase or decrease in direct spending under the joint resolution would be insignificant because the fees the Corps collects are nominal.

If the 2023 rule were reversed, the regulations that were previously in place would once again become effective. The administrative burden on EPA and the Corps to reverse the regulations would be minimal, so CBO estimates that administrative costs would be insignificant; any spending would be subject to the availability of appropriated funds.

Implementing H.J. Res. 27 would impose mandates on intergovernmental and private-sector entities as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act (UMRA) because some property owners would encounter regulatory requirements that they would not otherwise face when the final rule is in effect. Some property owners would face fewer regulatory requirements under the resolution. The cost of the mandate would be any fees and expenses incurred to comply with the regulatory requirements under the CWA.

The number of property owners affected would depend on how EPA and the Corps implement the joint resolution. Even if the total number of applications, on net, decrease or remain unchanged, CBO expects that implementing the joint resolution would require a limited number of property owners to apply for additional permits. Using information from the Corps, CBO estimates the cost of the mandates would not exceed the thresholds established in UMRA for intergovernmental and private-sector mandates (\$99 million and \$198 million in 2023, respectively, adjusted annually for inflation).

The CBO staff contacts for this estimate are Aurora Swanson (for federal costs) and Brandon Lever (for mandates). The estimate was reviewed by H. Samuel Papenfuss, Deputy Director of Budget Analysis.

HONORING WENDY KNIGHT

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 7, 2023

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a tenacious and self-motivated leader, Wendy Knight. Wendy Knight has shown what can be done through hard work, dedication, and a desire to achieve success.

Originally from Chicago, IL, Ms. Knight began her career as a teller coordinator with Bank of America. Throughout her 8 years there, she held a variety of roles with increasing responsibility, including personal banker, client service specialist, lead operations representative and teller supervisor.

Since moving to the Vicksburg area in 2013, Ms. Knight has been a financial relationship senior consultant with Regions Bank—focusing on proactively meeting the banking and financial service needs of her clients. In January 2023, Wendy was named Branch Manager of Mutual Credit Union at the Clay Street location.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Wendy Knight for her passion and dedication to provide good customer service to the Warren County community.

RECOGNIZING MR. MINORU
HAMADA'S 100TH BIRTHDAY

HON. BLAKE D. MOORE

OF UTAH

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 7, 2023

Mr. MOORE of Utah. Mr. Speaker, I am grateful for the opportunity to honor the abundant and exceptional life of Mr. Minoru Hamada as he celebrates his 100th birthday. Born in Ogden to Japanese immigrants, Mr. Hamada embodies the best our country has to offer and has made Utah proud.

When much of the nation turned a suspicious eye toward their Japanese American neighbors following the Japanese Empire's attack on Pearl Harbor, Mr. Hamada saw an opportunity to demonstrate his allegiance to the United States. He volunteered for the military, joining with other Japanese Americans to serve as members of the 442nd Regimental Combat Team. Many of his fellow soldiers in the 442nd were incarcerated in internment camps created to house Japanese Americans in accordance with President Roosevelt's executive order.

Mr. Hamada and his fellow Japanese American soldiers saw the war as a chance to fight totalitarianism abroad and racial prejudice at home. The 442nd remains the most-decorated unit in U.S. military history for its size and length of service. As a member of the American forces fighting German and Italian fascists for control of the Italian peninsula, Mr. Hamada was wounded in battle. He served in uniform for another two years.

After the war, he married his sweetheart, Martha. They were married for 61 years until she passed in 2007. They delighted in raising two kids and now have two grandchildren and four great grandchildren. Mr. Hamada continued his service to Utah's defense community, making dental prosthetics at Hill Air Force Base and for a local dentist in Layton.

It is through the service and sacrifice of individuals like Mr. Hamada that allow all Americans to live in freedom. His life is a model of courage, selfless-service and altruism that we can all learn from.

I thank Mr. Hamada on behalf of his fellow Utahns and a grateful nation for his service and wish him a very happy 100th birthday.

REINTRODUCTION OF THE
BERRYESSA SNOW MOUNTAIN
NATIONAL MONUMENT EXPAN-
SION ACT

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 7, 2023

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, today I reintroduce the "Berryessa Snow Mountain National Monument Expansion Act" with U.S. Senator ALEX PADILLA (D-CA). I thank Congressman MIKE THOMPSON (D-CA04) and U.S. Senator DIANNE FEINSTEIN (D-CA) for their support as original cosponsors.

Our bicameral legislation would expand the National Monument to include 3,925 acres of adjacent federal land in Lake County, California known as the "Walker Ridge" tract. Second, it would provide new opportunities for federally recognized tribes to enter into co-management agreements for the National Monument with the federal Bureau of Land Management (BLM). Third, it would rename Walker Ridge to "Molok Luyuk," meaning Condor Ridge in the Patwin language of the Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation and other Native American peoples indigenous to the area. Lastly, it would direct the BLM and the U.S. Forest Service to complete the management plan for the National Monument, which has remained unfinished since 2015.

President Obama issued Presidential Proclamation 9298 in July 2015, establishing the Berryessa Snow Mountain National Monument. This set the boundary as encompassing federal land surrounding the Lake Berryessa reservoir but omitted the Walker Ridge tract. My legislation (H.R.761/S.393) in the 114th Congress with then-U.S. Senator Barbara Boxer (D-CA) and Congressman THOMPSON to establish the National Monument would have included the Walker Ridge tract within the boundary.

On October 17, 2022, I and other members of California's Congressional delegation called on President Biden to use his authority under the Antiquities Act of 1906 to expand the Berryessa Snow Mountain National Monument. We also called on Secretary of the Interior Deb Haaland to order the U.S. Board on Geographic Names to officially rename Walker Ridge. I hope that the Biden Administration will act on our request, which is supported by the Lake County Board of Supervisors and Tribal Council for the Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation.

Conserving California's special places has been a lifelong passion throughout my tenure in the state legislature, as Deputy Secretary of the Interior during the Clinton Administration, and now as a Member of Congress. Walker Ridge, soon to be known as Molok Luyuk, is one of those special places. It was an honor to represent Lake County as the U.S. Representative for California's Third Congressional District from 2013 to 2023. I look forward to finishing the job for my former constituents in Lake County by expanding the Berryessa Snow Mountain National Monument for future generations to enjoy.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage all Members of the California delegation to join me in cosponsoring the "Berryessa Snow Mountain National Monument Expansion Act." We must conserve this unique landscape and honor the Native American peoples who walked this land long before our country was founded.

HONORING ADRIAN MILES
FORREST

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 7, 2023

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable servant, Adrian Miles Forrest.

Adrian Miles Forrest was born on July 17, 1992, to parents George Sr. and Stephanie

Forrest and reared in Grenada, Mississippi. Mr. Forrest attended and graduated from Grenada High School and furthered his studies at Holmes Community College in Goodman, MS. Mr. Forrest then furthered his career by attending Mississippi Valley State majoring in Music Education, where he accumulated more knowledge in arranging and recording.

With a God given gift and talent, throughout his years being exposed to Gospel Quartet background, Mr. Forrest is known for his collaborations with many others with his bass guitar and guitar riffs in hip hop, gospel, southern soul, rhythm and blues, and traditional blues. Mr. Forrest is also known in the blues society as the bassist for the late McKinley Morganfield, better known as "Muddy Waters", great nephew Keith Johnson, which is also known as the Keith Johnson and The Big Muddy Band.

On February 5, 2023, Mr. Forrest made black history. He is the first black male in Grenada, MS, to receive his first Grammys Award. He and his team won the Best Roots Gospel Album, which is called The Urban Hymnal featured by Tymble and the Aristocrat of Bands, better known as Tennessee State Marching Band.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mr. Adrian Miles Forrest for his dedication and tenacity to serving his community and desire to be an example for all.

RECOGNIZING MARY JANE
MURPHY'S 100TH BIRTHDAY

HON. BRIAN K. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 7, 2023

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an outstanding constituent from my district, Mary Jane Murphy. Mary Jane was born on March 20, 1923. As we celebrate her 100 years of life, we think of all the memories and stories that she has and continues to share as a citizen of this great county. Mary Jane was born and raised in Somerton, Pennsylvania and has spent her life in the Philadelphia, Pennsylvania area. Mary Jane obtained her bachelor's degree in education from Temple University in 1944. She spent many years as an educator first as a teacher in Northeast Philadelphia and then as a fourth-grade teacher for 25 years in the Neshaminy School District. She is a mother and was the devoted wife of 67 years to her husband, Harry Evans Murphy, Owner of the W&HF Evans Greenhouse which was family operated for 110 years. Mary Jane raised 5 children and is the grandmother to 9 grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren. We are incredibly grateful for the positive impact Mary Jane has had throughout her life, and we wish Mary Jane countless blessings.

RECOGNIZING PLANTER'S HARD-
WARE AND BUILDING INC. FOR
OVER A CENTURY IN BUSINESS

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 7, 2023

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Runyan family,

who has been operating Planter's Hardware & Building Inc. for over a century.

A member of the Runyan family has been operating Planter's Hardware & Building Inc. on the square in downtown Ashland, Alabama since approximately 1916. The business got its name from its original clientele, and originally catered to the needs of local farmers. Planter's Hardware has altered its inventory to reflect changing times in favor of supplies for timber, poultry, and cabinet making. Planter's Hardware offers customers cost-effective solutions and personalized service 6 days a week.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in recognizing the hard work of the Runyan family for their work in operating Planter's Hardware for over a century.

HONORING APRIL F. CHRISTON

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 7, 2023

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a hardworking and dedicated public service worker, April F. Christon.

April Christon was born April Spencer on April 1, 1985, in Marks, MS, to Joyce Tennin Spencer and the late James Jones. She grew up on a home with her mother and 2 of her siblings in Lambert, MS. April attended school in the Quitman County School District and graduated with honors from Madison S. Palmer High School in 2003. While in high school, April gave birth to 2 daughters. Despite being a young, teenage mother, April had hopes and dreams of a better life and was determined to continue her education. With the support and assistance from her mother, extended family members, and friends, April went on to pursue postsecondary education at Mississippi State University in Starkville, MS. In 2008, April graduated from MSU with a Bachelor of Science degree in Educational Psychology with an emphasis in Art. In 2009, April married her husband, Marcus Christon. They share 3 children together and settled in Batesville, MS.

April went on to start her career in the public service field by counseling individuals with severe mental health, behavior, family, and alcohol and drug issues. While gaining work experience and becoming more knowledgeable in her field, April decided to go back to school and pursue more education. She received her Master of Science in Continuing Education in Counseling and Psychology from the University of West Alabama in 2012. She also received a post graduate certificate in Rehabilitation Counseling from the University of North Texas in 2018. April currently works for the Mississippi Department of Rehabilitation Services (MDRS) in the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation, heading the Supported Employment division. April serves the state of MS by assisting Mississippians with most significant disabilities with services to obtain and maintain competitive integrated employment. She is a member of the National Rehabilitation Association (NRA) and the Rehabilitation Association of MS (RAM). She also assists with the Project SEARCH program within MDRS, which recently was awarded the 100% Outcome Award for her work with Merit Health River Region Hospital in Vicksburg, MS, and the Ex-

cellent Outcome Award for her work with MS Baptist Medical Center in Jackson, MS.

Not only does April serve her community and state in public service through her professional work, but she also serves her community through volunteering her time in various organizations and programs in Panola County. April, along with two others, founded a non-profit organization, Pure Justice, Inc., that is focused on the positive development of youth and their artistic talents. This organization was developed to provide social and educational activities for children and youth in Batesville, MS, Panola County, and surrounding areas. Within the organization, Pure Justice dance team was formed and has been a productive part of the community, promoting physical fitness and wellness, and traveling and participating in dance recitals and competitions. April is an active member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. and diligently serves in her local chapter by helping implement programs to benefit the local community. She also serves on the administrative team of Connor Disaster Relief organization, which is a disaster relief organization that helps people in Panola County and the surrounding counties with disaster relief aid. April loves the act of service—for God, her family, her community, and for the people that seek assistance.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing April F. Christon for her dedication to serving this great State and country.

RECOGNIZING CORYDON CENTRAL
PANTHERS GIRLS' BASKETBALL
TEAM

HON. ERIN HOUCHIN

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 7, 2023

Mrs. HOUCHIN. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to recognize the Corydon Central Panthers Girls' basketball team and congratulate them on a great 2022–2023 season.

Making the Indiana High School Athletic Association's State Championship game is no easy task. Every member of the Panthers team should be proud of the season they put together. The team had a tremendous performance throughout their season and into the playoffs, especially senior Ava Weber who is the program's all-time leading scorer. Corydon Centrals' program is well positioned to continue to compete for future championships. I congratulate them. They have made their hometown proud.

RECOGNIZING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE NEW YORK CITY
POLICE DEPARTMENT (NYPD)
19TH PRECINCT COMMUNITY
COUNCIL

HON. JERROLD NADLER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 7, 2023

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 50th anniversary of the NYPD 19th Precinct Community Council. Precinct Community Councils have existed in various forms in New York since the 1940's and pro-

vide the community with a direct line of communication to their local NYPD precinct. Council members regularly meet with the precinct Commanding Officer and Community Affairs Officers to discuss public safety issues, provide feedback and input regarding local policing services, and organize events like street fairs and beautification programs for the neighborhood.

Since 1973, the NYPD 19th Precinct Community Council has brought together residents who volunteer their time and resources to ensure that the Upper East Side is a safe and thriving neighborhood. In addition to hosting an annual street fair that raises funds to assist with the needs of the precinct and sponsoring a National Night Out Against Crime event every summer, the Council constantly seeks to provide new opportunities for the public to interface with their local police officers and promote crime prevention awareness. The Council has also sponsored and recruited volunteers for NYPD initiatives including the Court Monitoring and Block Watchers programs.

I applaud the NYPD 19th Precinct Community Council and its volunteers for their commitment to public safety and the quality of life of their neighbors. I am proud to honor the Council's contributions to the Upper East Side over the past fifty years and recognize it as a successful model for police-community partnerships across the city. The legacy of the Council's work will be felt for generations and I wish for its continued success in the years to come.

HONORING THE LIFE OF DR.
ROBERT COPE

HON. MICHAEL K. SIMPSON

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 7, 2023

Mr. SIMPSON. Mr. Speaker, we shall never forget Cope. Idaho recently lost a great man with the passing of Dr. Robert Cope. Cope, as he was known, was a cattle veterinarian in Salmon, Idaho, for 44 years. In addition to his work as a vet, Cope was a public servant, serving on the Lemhi County Commission and many advisory committees and task forces focusing on natural resource issues throughout Idaho and the western United States.

Cope helped so many in the Salmon area, and the community loved him. He was genuine and good natured. What you saw was who he was, and you could expect the facts without sugar coating. Cope spent his days researching bovine diseases, educating ranchers on how to keep their herds healthy, and of course doing the hands-on work. On cold nights he could be found in a neighbor's barn helping with a new calf. He was there for everyone who needed him whether they were a rancher with a large operation or a kid in the 4-H program.

Cope was an expert on subjects such as wolf depredation and grazing, with a noted ability to find common ground between different groups. It should be known he had a great impact here in Washington on federal lands policy. My staff and I had numerous meetings with Cope when he travelled to D.C., where he made an indelible mark on all of us. His rural common sense was a breath of fresh

air on Capitol Hill and when he spoke, people listened.

Cope will be greatly missed and never forgotten. My thoughts are with his wife Terrie as well as the people of Lemhi County.

HONORING BROWNSVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

HON. VICENTE GONZALEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 7, 2023

Mr. VICENTE GONZALEZ of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor four courageous police officers, who risked their lives providing aid to two people who escaped a burning car and rescuing another two people from the car on January 28, 2023, in Brownsville, Texas.

Brownsville, Texas is home to over 187,000 residents who are served by the Brownsville Police Department. Their unwavering commitment to the protection of our communities was put on nationwide display when Brownsville was named the 16th safest city in the United States. Their work was more recently recognized due to the lifesaving cooperation between the Brownsville PD and other emergency services personnel on January 28.

At the 2:00 a.m. hour of January 28, first responders were called to the scene of a single-vehicle crash. When the officers arrived, they discovered the vehicle had been flipped over. While 2 men had managed to escape with noticeable injuries, there was a time-sensitive emergency still happening in the vehicle. The officers were notified of 2 others still trapped in the burning vehicle and they quickly reacted to save their lives. Body cam footage showed the dramatic situation as police officers pulled these 2 men to safety, who were actively being burned inside the vehicle, which was still engulfed in flames.

With amazing assistance from the Brownsville Fire Department, Patrol Officer Erik Balboa, Officer Erick Amaro, Officer Federico Jaramillo, and Officer Gilberto Hernandez were able to breach the burning vehicle's doors and save the people in the car.

Our first responders are often unsung heroes, but today we get the amazing opportunity to praise and thank the Brownsville Police Department for their heroic work and for their constant commitment to the safety and security of South Texas.

Mr. Speaker, Officers Balboa, Amaro, Jaramillo, and Hernandez, the Brownsville Police Department, and all first responders who dedicate their lives to our amazing communities, and thank them. I have no doubt that these heroes will continue to go above and beyond to provide lifesaving support to those in need, and I am forever thankful for their service to our community.

HONORING THE LIFE AND CAREER OF WILLIAM LOUSHINE

HON. PETE STAUBER

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 7, 2023

Mr. STAUBER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of William "Bill" Loushine, who

died February 26 in Chisholm at the age of 102. Bill graduated from Chisholm High School in 1939 and received his BS degree in 1943 from the University of Wisconsin, LaCrosse. During WWII, Bill served as a first lieutenant in the United States Marine Corps in the South Pacific and as company commander of the Chisholm Army National Guard Unit, where he was recalled to active duty during the Korean War with the 47th Infantry Division of the Minnesota Army National Guard. Upon his return from Korea in 1953, he continued to serve in the National Guard for 25 years, retiring with the rank of lieutenant colonel.

Bill was a teacher and a coach in Chisholm for 36 years. He coached swimming, baseball, and curling. He was the coach of Chisholm's 1948 state championship winning baseball team, and the 1963 state championship curling team. Bill started a junior bonspiel in Chisholm in 1963 and continued to run it for 20 years until 1983. While in his 80s, Bill wrote a 32-page history of the Chisholm Curling Club from 1960 to 2010. This book has allowed Chisholm's flourished curling history to live on. Bill continued to curl well into his 90s.

Bill was devout in his faith. He served on the liturgy and pastoral councils in the St. Joseph's Parish, and as a commentator, lector, and Eucharistic minister, as well. Bill served for many years in the Charter and Planning Commission and as Citizens Committee Director in the Department of Military Affairs. All these accolades serve as a testament to Bill's commitment to community engagement and the Iron Range. I had the pleasure of meeting Bill when I presented him with a flag that was flown over the Capitol in honor of his 100th birthday 2 years ago. His service to his country and his community made our Nation and our State a better place to live. I thank Bill. The Iron Range has truly lost a giant. Rest in peace.

INTRODUCTION OF THE FEDERAL RETIREMENT THRIFT INVESTMENT BOARD INSPECTOR GENERAL ACT OF 2023

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 7, 2023

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today, I introduce the Federal Retirement Thrift Investment Board Inspector General Act of 2023, which would create an independent Inspector General (IG) for the Federal Retirement Thrift Investment Board (FRTIB). The FRTIB administers the Thrift Savings Plan (TSP), the retirement savings and investment plan for federal employees.

On June 1, 2022, the FRTIB launched a new system with the goal of modernizing TSP's recordkeeping, improving customer service and bolstering cybersecurity. There have been widespread problems with the new system, including account access, account balances, missing or incomplete information in accounts and hours-long wait times to reach customer service. While many problems have been fixed, problems remain.

As of December 2022, TSP had approximately 6.8 million participants and \$765,154,000,000 in assets, making it the world's largest defined contribution plan. Fed-

eral employees dedicate their careers to serving our country, and they deserve a retirement savings and investment plan that provides top-tier customer support and security.

While the Employee Benefits Security Administration has oversight responsibility for TSP, as it does for private sector 401(k) plans, there is currently no IG for the FRTIB. The problems with the new TSP system are evidence enough that the FRTIB needs an independent IG.

I urge my colleagues to support this important bill.

RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE AND LIFE ACHIEVEMENTS OF PHILIP INNES ESCHBACH, JR., "THE COLONEL"

HON. BILL POSEY

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 7, 2023

Mr. POSEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize a true southern gentleman and patriot of great distinction, Mr. Philip Innes Eschbach, Jr., affectionately known as "The Colonel".

During World War II, Mr. Eschbach was stationed in Dijon, France, where, despite the odds of survival, he piloted a B-26 Martin Marauder on 56 bomber flights against the Axis in Italy and France.

During the war he received the French Croix de Guerre. More recently, on May 4, 2013, he was further personally honored by the French government for his heroic deeds in the liberation of their country when they made him an honorary commandant. His daughter, Mary, coordinated his itinerary, and his son, Phil, accompanied him on his trip back to France for the festivities.

After the war, Mr. Eschbach earned his bachelor's and master's degrees at the University of Florida. He became active in community affairs and began teaching school. Katie, I, and many others were fortunate enough to have him as an English teacher before he went on to teach in high school and college.

He never shared any of his war experiences with his students, and they were unknown to me, until he wrote his memoirs in 2004 in a book titled, THE KICKING MULES.

I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing this hero, dedicated teacher, friend, and role model to so many, congratulations for completing another mission—his upcoming 100th orbit around the Sun.

Happy Birthday to the Colonel.

TRIBUTE IN HONOR OF SEN. MITCH MCCONNELL

HON. HAROLD ROGERS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 7, 2023

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate my Kentucky colleague in the Senate Chamber, Republican Leader MITCH MCCONNELL who recently became the longest-serving party leader in American history. On January 3, 2023, Senator MCCONNELL surpassed the record held by

Democratic Sen. Mike Mansfield of Montana. Since 2006, Senator McCONNELL has won the respect and trust of his colleagues who have rightly given him their vote of confidence nine consecutive times to lead the Republican conference.

Senator McCONNELL started breaking records early in his career. When he was first elected to the U.S. Senate in 1984, it was the first time that a Republican had won a statewide race in sixteen years. In fact, his election gave Republicans a newfound confidence Kentucky politics, and he remains the longest-serving senator in Kentucky history. His historic service is marked by courageous legislation, a stronger national defense, and a transformation of the federal judiciary. During his service as Majority Leader, he led Senate confirmation of three justices and 30 percent of circuit court judges nationwide.

Senator McCONNELL and I share a mutual mentor from southern Kentucky, the late Senator John Sherman Cooper. Senator McCONNELL's success in public service reflects the many values that Senator Cooper shared with us, including unwavering perseverance, wisdom in negotiations, visionary leadership, and astutely serving as a "consummate bridge builder," as Senator McCONNELL once described our mentor.

Together, we have partnered on countless projects for the benefit of our fellow Kentuckians, and I count it a great honor to call Senator McCONNELL a close friend and valiant ally in public service. I applaud Senator McCONNELL on achieving this significant milestone in American history and I wish him continued success on behalf of the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

CELEBRATING MARY GATTON'S SELFLESS CARE FOR PATIENTS AND FAMILIES

HON. TERESA LEGER FERNANDEZ

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 7, 2023

Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise to celebrate Mary Gatton for her selfless commitment to the care of cancer victims, the terminally ill, and their families. Ms. Gatton recently received Business First's 'Lifetime Achievement Award' as a part of the Health Care Heroes program.

At age 79, Ms. Gatton has spent much of her adult life supporting sick patients, the dying, and their families, through her work at Hospice/Hosparus Health, Inc. and Gilda's Club.

Many struggle to find words of comfort for those experiencing grief and loss, but not Ms. Gatton; she is truly 'there' for those in need, whether sitting at hospital bedsides with dying patients, in the waiting rooms with family members helping provide peace and understanding, facilitating a support group, comforting a newly diagnosed or newly bereaved person, leading a memorial service, or simply assisting at an event to support patients and caregivers.

As a single mother of four children, Ms. Gatton pursued a bachelor's degree in social work in 1977, in the hopes that hospice care would one day make its way to the U.S. The National Hospice Organization wasn't even

created until 1978, when it then began to promote the concept of hospice care. Congress passed a provision to create a Medicare hospice benefit in the 1980s, by which time Gatton had earned a master's degree in social work.

Karen Morrison, CEO of Gilda's Club explains, "The number of lives Mary has touched in her career is immeasurable. Everywhere I go in the community, people remember the impact she made for them . . ."

Ms. Gatton is a shining example of the dedication that defines end-of-life care. I offer my congratulations to Ms. Gatton for her well-deserved award and thank her from the bottom of my heart for her loving care of our families and departed loved ones. She is an Angel.

HONORING SHIRLENE ANDERSON

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 7, 2023

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable individual, Ms. Anderson.

Shirlene Anderson is the former deputy director of the Mississippi Bureau of Narcotics (MBN), where she retired after 32 years of service. Shirlene's law enforcement career began in 1976, when Doris Johnson-Holt and Shirlene Anderson made history together, becoming the first 2 Black/African American females to serve as agents of the Mississippi Bureau of Narcotics (MBN).

When Shirlene Anderson was promoted through the ranks from Agent, to Sergeant, Lieutenant, Captain, Major to Lieutenant Colonel she became the first female. During her tenure with MBN, she served as District Supervisor of a field office responsible for narcotics operations in 10 counties.

She also served as Regional Supervisor of 4 field offices in North MS (Greenwood, Oxford, Tupelo and Starkville). In October 1997, she was appointed as Chief of Enforcement/Deputy Director, (Lieutenant Colonel) where she managed enforcement operations for the entire State of Mississippi Bureau of Narcotics.

Shirlene retired in 2004 from the Mississippi Bureau of Narcotics. On July 7, 2005, Shirlene Anderson was appointed first female Chief of Police for the City of Jackson, MS Police Department (Capital City). Shirlene is a graduate of Mississippi Valley State University where she completed her bachelor's degree in education.

She is a graduate of the Mississippi Highway Patrol Class 47B, Sep 1991 (MLEOTA, Whitfield, MS). She also graduated from the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) National Academy and The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) National Academy. Shirlene volunteers with a program, "Getting Ahead while Getting Out" with the Central Mississippi Correctional Facility and a Board Member of Alcohol Services Center, Inc.

Shirlene has volunteered with the National Federation of the Blind, and Mississippi Commission for Volunteer Service/Connect 1 Summits. Shirlene is a lifetime member of National Organization of Law Enforcement Executives (NOLE), Mississippi Valley State University Alumni, and a Member of Pleasant Springs Baptist Church in Leland, MS.

Some of the State and Federal drug investigation cases Shirlene was involved in: Frederick Dotson, Greenville, MS seized firearms, crack, powder Cocaine and money during the investigation; James "J. J." McNeil, California millionaire and drug kingpin, heroin, cocaine, and marijuana; Jeff Fort, Chicago, IL and MS conspiracy, drugs, and weapons conviction; Fort Co-founder and leader of Black P. Stones and Founder of El Rukn Chicago; James Albert "Sonny" King Tallahatchie County, Hattie Ray King, Johnny Wayne King, and Jerome Lewis charged in distributing of cocaine and marijuana.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Ms. Shirlene Anderson for her dedication and tenacity to serving her community and desire to be an example for all.

RECOGNIZING MR. RON EVANS

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 7, 2023

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize a special resident of Center, Missouri.

Mr. Ron Evans has served on the school board in Ralls County, Missouri for 30 years. In 1967, Ron graduated from Mark Twain High School. His wife, Judy, their 3 children, and several grandchildren have all been students at Mark Twain High School. He was elected to the Ralls County R-II School Board in 1993 and went on to serve 9 more three-year terms, at times serving as President.

Over the course of Ron's 30 years of service to the district, many changes have occurred including the consolidation of all Ralls County communities into one education building. Ron has been involved with more than \$20 million dollars of renovations and projects.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in recognizing Ron Evans on his retirement. I ask you to join me in thanking him for his service to his community and for being an outstanding leader. I am proud to represent Mr. Evans in the United States House of Representatives.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF ALFRED HOFFMEISTER

HON. MARK DeSAULNIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 7, 2023

Mr. DESAULNIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life and service of Alfred "Al" Hoffmeister.

Al was born in New York and was named after former governor of New York, Alfred Emanuel Smith. Throughout his life, Al has exemplified his dedication to his community and his country. Al was a World War II veteran, serving in the U.S. Army Air Corps working with B-17 Flying Fortress—China/Burma/India Theater. Following his service, he studied business administration at St. John's University. He then began working as a metal trading manager with Kaiser Aluminum of Oakland, California where he met his future wife, Georgia Belle Davis.

Al and Georgia moved to Concord, California in 1962 to start their family and have lived there ever since. Al worked for Kaiser for 25 years, retiring from the organization in 1989. In his retirement, he remained active and engaged with the community. He was a strong advocate for our community's youth, serving as a leader with the YMCA, on the Concord American Little League Board, and working with the Boy and Girl Scouts of America. Al was also dedicated to his faith and was an original member of St. Bonaventure Catholic Church where he served as an usher for many years.

Sadly, Al passed away on December 9, 2022 at the age of 98. He is survived by his wife Georgia, daughter Laura, sons Stephen, Thomas, and Philip, sister Dorothy, and nine grandchildren, Tessa, Hannah, Trent, Hope, Grace, Jacqueline, Johnathan, Matthew, and Erik. He will be remembered for his humility, hard-working nature, and devotion to his family. Please join me in honoring Alfred Hoffmeister for his many contributions to our community.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. FRANK J. MRVAN

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 7, 2023

Mr. MRVAN. Mr. Speaker, on March 1, 2023, I was absent from the House floor and missed roll call vote 125.

Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 125.

CONGRATULATING DIRECTOR
DAVID BEASLEY**HON. JOE WILSON**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 7, 2023

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I am grateful for the leadership of United Nations World Food Programme Executive Director and former South Carolina Governor David Beasley. Over the past six years during his term, he has been a strong advocate,

fundraiser, and leader, and I am grateful to have worked with him personally in Guatemala in 2017 and with volunteers from Lebanon in 2020.

Congress appreciates David's work with us in achieving historic levels of American funding to confront global hunger demands. His humanitarian efforts and work in the global fight against hunger is an inspiration to all.

David's efforts were recognized when the Norwegian Nobel Committee awarded the World Food Programme the 2020 Nobel Peace Prize.

I am grateful for David's hard work during his term as Executive Director and wish him the best of luck in his future endeavors.

I look forward to working with the newly appointed Executive Director, Ambassador Cindy McCain, who currently serves as the U.S. Permanent Representative to the U.N. Agencies in Rome: the Food and Agriculture Organization, the World Food Programme, and the International Fund for Agriculture Development.

America will continue to be the world leader for humanitarian assistance for the benefit of those impacted as it promotes America material security reducing international instability.

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S659–S676

Measures Introduced: Twenty-eight bills and one resolution were introduced, as follows: S. 666–693, and S. Res. 95. **Pages S668–69**

Measures Reported:

S. 30, to authorize major medical facility projects for the Department of Veterans Affairs for fiscal year 2023, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. **Page S668**

Appointments:

James Madison Memorial Fellowship Foundation: The Chair, on behalf of the President pro tempore, pursuant to the provisions of Public Law 99–591, as amended by Public Law 102–221, appointed the following member of the United States Senate for appointment as a Senate Trustee to the James Madison Memorial Fellowship Foundation: Senator Wicker. **Page S673**

Kunesh Nomination—Agreement: Senate resumed consideration of the nomination of Patrice H. Kunesh, of Minnesota, to be Commissioner of the Administration for Native Americans, Department of Health and Human Services. **Pages S667–68**

During consideration of this nomination today, Senate also took the following action:

By 62 yeas to 34 nays (Vote No. EX. 46), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination. **Pages S667–68**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the nomination, post-cloture, at approximately 10 a.m., on Wednesday, March 8, 2023; that all post-cloture time be considered expired at 10:45 a.m., and Senate then vote on confirmation of the nomination, followed by a vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Daniel I. Werfel, of the District of Columbia, to be Commissioner of Internal Revenue; that if cloture is invoked on the nomination of Daniel I. Werfel, the vote on confirmation of the nomination be at a time to be determined by the Majority Leader, in consultation with the Republican Leader; provided further that following the vote on the motion

to invoke cloture on the nomination of Daniel I. Werfel, and notwithstanding Rule XXII, Senator Hagerty or his designee be recognized to make a motion to discharge the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs from further consideration of H.J. Res. 26, disapproving the action of the District of Columbia Council in approving the Revised Criminal Code Act of 2022; that if the motion is made, all time on the motion be considered yielded back and Senate vote on the motion to discharge; and that if the motion is agreed to, Senator Hagerty or his designee be recognized to make a motion to proceed. **Pages S673–74**

Nominations Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nominations:

By 59 yeas to 37 nays (Vote No. EX. 41), Robert Stewart Ballou, of Virginia, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Virginia. **Pages S659–64**

By 56 yeas to 39 nays (Vote No. EX. 43), Andrew G. Schopler, of California, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of California. **Pages S664–65**

During consideration of this nomination today, Senate also took the following action:

By 57 yeas to 39 nays (Vote No. EX. 42), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination. **Page S664**

By 59 yeas to 37 nays (Vote No. EX. 45), Arun Subramanian, of New York, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of New York. **Pages S665–67**

During consideration of this nomination today, Senate also took the following action:

By 58 yeas to 37 nays (Vote No. EX. 44), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination. **Page S665**

Ismail J. Ramsey, of California, to be United States Attorney for the Northern District of California for the term of four years.

Kate E. Brubacher, of Kansas, to be United States Attorney for the District of Kansas for the term of four years. **Page S668**

Additional Cosponsors:

Pages S669–70

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:

Pages S670–73

Additional Statements:

Page S668

Authorities for Committees to Meet:

Page S673

Record Votes: Six record votes were taken today. (Total—46)

Pages S663–65, S667–68

Adjournment: Senate convened at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 6:35 p.m., until 10 a.m. on Wednesday, March 8, 2023. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on pages S673–74.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

DOD HEALTH PROGRAM

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Defense received a briefing on the Department of Defense Health Program from Lester Martinez-Lopez, Assistant Secretary for Health Affairs, Lieutenant General Telita Crosland, Director of the Defense Health Agency, Lieutenant General R. Scott Dingle, Surgeon General of the Army, Lieutenant General Robert I. Miller, Surgeon General of the Air Force, and Rear Admiral Bruce L. Gillingham, Surgeon General of the Navy, all of the Department of Defense.

USSOCOM AND USCYBERCOM POSTURE

Committee on Armed Services: Committee concluded open and closed hearings to examine the posture of United States Special Operations Command and United States Cyber Command in review of the Defense Authorization Request for Fiscal Year 2024 and the Future Years Defense Program, after receiving testimony from Christopher P. Maier, Assistant Secretary for Special Operations and Low-Intensity Conflict, General Bryan P. Fenton, Commander, United States Special Operations Command, and General Paul M. Nakasone, Commander, United States Cyber Command, all of the Department of Defense.

SEMIANNUAL MONETARY POLICY REPORT TO THE CONGRESS

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the Semiannual Monetary Policy Report to the Congress, after receiving testimony from Jerome H. Powell, Chair, Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System.

FEDERAL DEBT LIMIT

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: Subcommittee on Economic Policy concluded a hearing to examine the Federal debt limit and its economic and financial consequences, after receiving testimony from Mark Zandi, Moody's Analytics, West Chester, Pennsylvania; Anat Weisenfreund, Community Action Pioneer Valley, Greenfield, Massachusetts; and Douglas Holtz-Eakin, American Action Forum, Michael R. Strain, American Enterprise Institute, and Amy K. Matsui, National Women's Law Center, all of Washington, D.C.

CRYPTO-ASSET MINING

Committee on Environment and Public Works: Subcommittee on Clean Air, Climate, and Nuclear Safety concluded a hearing to examine the air, climate, and environmental impacts of crypto-asset mining, including an original bill entitled, "The Crypto-Asset Environmental Transparency Act", after receiving testimony from New York State Assembly Member Anna Kelles, 125th District, Cortland; Robert Altenburg, Citizens For Pennsylvania's Future, Harrisburg; and Courtney A. Dentlinger, Nebraska Public Power District, Columbus.

AFFORDABLE HOUSING

Committee on Finance: Committee concluded a hearing to examine tax policy's role in increasing affordable housing supply for working families, after receiving testimony from Steve Walker, Washington State Housing Finance Commission, Seattle; Denise Scott, Local Initiatives Support Corporation, New York, New York; and Sharon Wilson Geno, National Multifamily Housing Council and National Apartment Association, Mark A. Calabria, The Cato Institute, and Garrett Watson, Tax Foundation, all of Washington, D.C.

DIGITAL PLATFORMS

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Competition Policy, Antitrust, and Consumer Rights concluded a hearing to examine reining in dominant digital platforms, focusing on restoring competition to our digital markets, after receiving testimony from Fiona Scott Morton, Yale School of Management, New Haven, Connecticut; Chris Lewis, Public Knowledge, and Amanda G. Lewis, Cuneo Gilbert and LaDuca, LLP, both of Washington, D.C.; Daniel Francis, New York University School of Law, New York, New York; and Adam Candeub, Michigan State University Center for Renewing America, East Lansing.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 56 public bills, H.R. 1378–1433; and 9 resolutions, H.J. Res. 39–40; and H. Res. 197, 198, 200–204, were introduced. **Pages H1147–50**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages H1152–53**

Report Filed: A report was filed today as follows:

H. Res. 199, providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 140) to amend title 5, United States Code, to prohibit Federal employees from advocating for censorship of viewpoints in their official capacity, and for other purposes; providing for consideration of the joint resolution (H.J. Res. 27) providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Department of the Army, Corps of Engineers, Department of Defense and the Environmental Protection Agency relating to “Revised Definition of ‘Waters of the United States’”; and providing for consideration of the bill (S. 619) to require the Director of National Intelligence to declassify information relating to the origin of COVID-19, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 118–7). **Page H1147**

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Cline to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. **Page H1117**

Recess: The House recessed at 12:40 p.m. and reconvened at 2 p.m. **Page H1121**

Electing Members to the Joint Committee of Congress on the Library and the Joint Committee on Printing: The House agreed to discharge from committee and agree to H. Res. 194, electing Members to the Joint Committee of Congress on the Library and the Joint Committee on Printing. **Page H1123**

Tom Lantos Human Rights Commission—Appointment: Read a letter from Representative Jeffries, Minority Leader, in which he appointed the following Member to the Tom Lantos Human Rights Commission to serve as the Democratic Co-chairman: Representative McGovern. **Pages H1123–24**

Recess: The House recessed at 2:19 p.m. and reconvened at 5:04 p.m. **Page H1124**

Suspensions: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures:

Amending title 38, United States Code, to ensure that the Secretary of Veterans Affairs repays members of the Armed Forces for certain contributions made by such members towards Post-9/11

Educational Assistance: H.R. 502, amended, to amend title 38, United States Code, to ensure that the Secretary of Veterans Affairs repays members of the Armed Forces for certain contributions made by such members towards Post-9/11 Educational Assistance; **Pages H1124–25**

Removing Extraneous Loopholes Insuring Every Veteran Emergency Act: H.R. 815, amended, to amend title 38, United States Code, to make certain improvements relating to the eligibility of veterans to receive reimbursement for emergency treatment furnished through the Veterans Community Care program; **Pages H1126–27**

Wounded Warrior Access Act: H.R. 1226, amended, to amend title 38, United States Code, to allow for the electronic request of certain records, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ yeas-and-nays vote of 422 yeas with none voting “nay”, Roll No. 132; and **Pages H1127–28, H1130–31**

Understanding Cybersecurity of Mobile Networks Act: H.R. 1123, amended, to direct the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information to submit to Congress a report examining the cybersecurity of mobile service networks, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ yeas-and-nays vote of 393 yeas to 22 nays, Roll No. 133. **Pages H1128–30, H1132**

Recess: The House recessed at 5:46 p.m. and reconvened at 6:30 p.m. **Page H1130**

Suspension—Proceedings Postponed: The House debated the following measure under suspension of the rules. Further proceedings were postponed.

Department of Veterans Affairs Creation of On-Site Treatment Systems Affording Veterans Improvements and Numerous General Safety Enhancements Act: H.R. 753, amended, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to use on-site regulated medical waste treatment systems at certain Department of Veterans Affairs facilities. **Pages H1125–26**

Oath of Office—Fourth Congressional District of Virginia: Representative-elect Jennifer McClellan presented herself in the well of the House and was administered the Oath of Office by the Speaker. Earlier, the Clerk of the House transmitted a copy of a letter received from Ms. Susan J. Beals, Commissioner, Commonwealth of Virginia Department of Elections, indicating that, according to the unofficial results for the Special Election held February 21, 2023, the Honorable Jennifer McClellan was elected for Representative to Congress for the Fourth Congressional District, Commonwealth of Virginia. **Pages H1131–32**

Whole Number of the House: The Speaker announced to the House that, in light of the administration of the oath to the gentlewoman from Virginia, the whole number of the House is 435.

Page H1132

Senate Referral: S. 645 was held at the desk.

Page H1122

Senate Message: Message received from the Senate today appears on page H1122.

Quorum Calls—Votes: Two yea-and-nay votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H1130–31 and H1132.

Adjournment: The House met at 12 p.m. and adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Committee Meetings

COVID–19 ORIGIN ACT OF 2023; PROVIDING FOR CONGRESSIONAL DISAPPROVAL OF THE RULE RELATING TO REVISED DEFINITION OF WATERS OF THE UNITED STATES; PROTECTING SPEECH FROM GOVERNMENT INTERFERENCE ACT

Committee on Rules: Full Committee held a hearing on S. 619, the “COVID–19 Origin Act of 2023”; H.J. Res. 27, providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Department of the Army, Corps of Engineers, Department of Defense and the Environmental Protection Agency relating to “Revised Definition of ‘Waters of the United States’”; and H.R. 140, the “Protecting Speech from Government Interference Act”. The Committee granted, by record vote of 9–3, a rule providing for consideration of H.R. 140, the “Protecting Speech from Government Interference Act”, H.J. Res. 27, Providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Department of the Army, Corps of Engineers, Department of Defense and the Environmental Protection Agency relating to “Revised Definition of ‘Waters of the United States’”, and S. 619, the “COVID–19 Origin Act of 2023”. The rule provides for consideration of H.R. 140, the “Protecting Speech from Government Interference Act”, under a structured rule. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill. The rule provides one hour of general debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Oversight and Accountability or their respective designees. The rule provides that the bill shall be considered as read. The rule waives all points of order against the amendment in the nature of a substitute to H.R. 140 made in order as original text. The rule further makes in order only

those amendments printed in the Rules Committee report. Each such amendment may be offered only in the order printed in the report, may be offered only by a Member designated in the report, shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question in the House or in the Committee of the Whole. All points of order against the amendments are waived. The rule further provides one motion to recommit. The rule provides for consideration of H.J. Res. 27, providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Department of the Army, Corps of Engineers, Department of Defense and the Environmental Protection Agency relating to “Revised Definition of ‘Waters of the United States’”, under a closed rule. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the joint resolution. The rule provides one hour of general debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure or their respective designees. The rule provides that the joint resolution shall be considered as read. The rule waives all points of order against provisions in the joint resolution. The rule provides one motion to recommit. The rule provides for consideration of S. 619, the “COVID–19 Origin Act of 2023”, under a closed rule. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill. The rule provides one hour of general debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence or their respective designees. The rule provides that the bill shall be considered as read. The rule waives all points of order against provisions in the bill. Section 4 of the rule provides that section 7 of the War Powers Resolution (50 U.S.C. 1546) shall not apply to a concurrent resolution introduced during the first session of the One Hundred Eighteenth Congress pursuant to section 5 of the War Powers Resolution (50 U.S.C. 1544) with respect to Syria. Section 5 provides that if a veto message is laid before the House on House Joint Resolution 30, then after the message is read and the objections of the President are spread at large upon the Journal, further consideration of the veto message and the joint resolution shall be postponed until the legislative day of March 23, 2023; and on that legislative day, the House shall proceed to the constitutional question of reconsideration and dispose of such question without intervening motion. Testimony was heard from Chairman Turner, and Representatives Himes, Rouzer, Larsen of Washington, Armstrong, and Raskin.

VistA: THE GOOD, THE BAD, AND THE MISUNDERSTOOD

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: Subcommittee on Technology Modernization held a hearing entitled "VistA: The Good, the Bad, and the Misunderstood". Testimony was heard from Daniel McCune, Executive Director of Software Product Management, Office of Information and Technology, Department of Veterans Affairs; and public witnesses.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence: Full Committee held a markup on H.R. 1376, the "COVID-19 Origins Act of 2023". H.R. 1376 was ordered reported, without amendment.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

**COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR WEDNESDAY,
MARCH 8, 2023**

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry: to hold an oversight hearing to examine the Commodity Futures Trading Commission, 10 a.m., SD-106.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: Subcommittee on Housing, Transportation, and Community Development, to hold hearings to examine the Federal strategic plan to prevent and end homelessness, 2:30 p.m., SD-538.

Committee on the Budget: to hold hearings to examine the economic costs of wildfires, 10 a.m., SD-608/VTC.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: to hold hearings to examine implementation of the Aircraft, Certification, Safety, and Accountability Act, 10 a.m., SR-253.

Committee on Foreign Relations: business meeting to consider S. 316, to repeal the authorizations for use of military force against Iraq, S. 509, to provide resources for United States nationals unlawfully or wrongfully detained abroad, S. 430, to provide authority to enter into a cooperative agreement to protect civilians in Iraq and the Arabian Peninsula from weaponized unmanned aerial systems, the nominations of Stephanie Sanders Sullivan, of Maryland, to be Representative to the African Union, with the rank and status of Ambassador, Michael Alan Ratney, of Massachusetts, to be Ambassador to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Geeta Rao Gupta, of Virginia, to be Ambassador at Large for Global Women's Issues, Eric M. Garcetti, of California, to be Ambassador to the Republic of India, and Richard R. Verma, of Maryland, to be Deputy Secretary for Management and Resources, all of the Department of State, L. Felice Gorordo, of Florida, to be Alternate Executive Director of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, Richard L.A.

Weiner, of the District of Columbia, to be Director of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, Leopoldo Martinez Nucete, of Virginia, to be Executive Director of the Inter-American Development Bank, and other pending calendar business, 10:30 a.m., S-116, Capitol.

Subcommittee on Near East, South Asia, Central Asia, and Counterterrorism, to hold hearings to examine geopolitical competition and energy security in Central Asia, 2 p.m., SD-419.

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: to hold hearings to examine defending the right of workers to organize unions free from illegal corporate union-busting, 10 a.m., SD-430.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: to hold hearings to examine artificial intelligence, focusing on risks and opportunities, 10 a.m., SD-562.

Full Committee, business meeting to consider S. 559, to amend the Federal Fire Prevention and Control Act of 1974 to authorize appropriations for the United States Fire Administration and firefighter assistance grant programs, and the nominations of Colleen Joy Shogan, of Pennsylvania, to be Archivist of the United States, Cathy Ann Harris, of Maryland, to be Chairman of the Merit Systems Protection Board, and Adrienne Jennings Noti, to be an Associate Judge of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia, 4 p.m., SD-562.

Committee on Indian Affairs: to hold an oversight hearing to examine Native communities' priorities for the 118th Congress, 2:30 p.m., SD-628.

Committee on Judiciary: Subcommittee on Privacy, Technology, and the Law, to hold hearings to examine platform accountability, focusing on *Gonzalez* and reform, 2 p.m., SD-226.

Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship: to hold hearings to examine the nomination of Dilawar Syed, of California, to be Deputy Administrator of the Small Business Administration, 2:30 p.m., SR-428A.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: business meeting to consider the nomination of Joshua David Jacobs, of Washington, to be Under Secretary for Benefits of the Department of Veterans Affairs, Time to be announced, Room to be announced.

Full Committee, to hold a joint hearing with the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs to examine the legislative presentation of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States and multiple veterans service organizations, 10 a.m., 390, Cannon Building.

Select Committee on Intelligence: to hold hearings to examine worldwide threats, 10 a.m., SH-216.

Full Committee, to hold closed hearings to examine worldwide threats, 12 noon, SH-219.

House

Committee on Agriculture, Subcommittee on Forestry, hearing entitled "A Review of Title VIII: Forestry Stakeholder Perspectives", 10 a.m., 1300 Longworth.

Committee on Appropriations, Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies, hearing entitled "American Indian and Alaska Native Public Witness Day 1", 9 a.m., 2008 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Legislative Branch, budget hearing on the Office of Congressional Workplace Rights, 9:30 a.m., HT-2 Capitol.

Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies, hearing entitled “Member Day”, 10 a.m., 2358-C Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Legislative Branch, budget hearing on the Congressional Budget Office”, 11 a.m., HT-2 Capitol.

Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs, hearing entitled “Member Day”, 11:30 a.m., H-140 Capitol.

Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies, hearing entitled “American Indian and Alaska Native Public Witness Day 1”, 1 p.m., 2008 Rayburn.

Committee on Armed Services, Full Committee, hearing entitled “U.S. Military Posture and National Security Challenges in North and South America”, 10 a.m., 2118 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Strategic Forces, hearing entitled “FY24 Strategic Forces Posture”, 3 p.m., 2118 Rayburn.

Committee on Education and Workforce, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 734, the “Protection of Women and Girls in Sports Act of 2023”; and H.R. 5, the “Parents Bill of Rights Act”, 10:15 a.m., 2175 Rayburn.

Committee on Energy and Commerce, Subcommittee on Communications and Technology, markup on H.R. 1338, the “Satellite and Telecommunications Streamlining Act”; H.R. 675, the “Secure Space Act of 2023”; H.R. 1339, the “Precision Agriculture Satellite Connectivity Act”; H.R. 682, the “Launch Communications Act”; H.R. 1353, the “Advanced, Local Emergency Response Telecommunications Parity Act”; H.R. 1345, the “NTIA Policy and Cybersecurity Coordination Act”; H.R. 1354, the “Information and Communication Technology Strategy Act”; H.R. 1370, the “Communications Security Advisory Act of 2023”; H.R. 1360, the “American Cybersecurity Literacy Act”; H.R. 1340, the “Open RAN Outreach Act”; H.R. 1343, the “ITS Codification Act”; H.R. 1377, the “Promoting U.S. Wireless Leadership Act”; and H.R. 1341, the “Spectrum Coordination Act”, 10 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Health, markup on H.R. 501, the “Block, Report, and Suspend Suspicious Shipments Act”; H.R. 498, the “9-8-8 Lifeline Cybersecurity Responsibility Act”; H.R. 485, the “Protecting Health Care for All Patients Act of 2023”; H.R. 467, the “Halt All Lethal Trafficking of Fentanyl Act”; and H.R. 801, the “Securing the Border for Public Health Act of 2023”, 1 p.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Committee on Financial Services, Full Committee, hearing entitled “The Federal Reserve’s Semi-Annual Monetary Policy Report”, 10 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, hearing entitled “Holding the Biden Administration Accountable

for Wasteful Spending and Regulatory Overreach”, 2 p.m., 2128 Rayburn.

Committee on Foreign Affairs, Full Committee, hearing entitled “During and After the Fall of Kabul: Examining the Administration’s Emergency Evacuation from Afghanistan”, 10 a.m., HVC-210.

Committee on House Administration, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Member Day: Committee on House Administration”, 10:30 a.m., 1310 Longworth.

Full Committee, markup on legislation on Providing for the Expenses of Certain Committees of the House of Representatives in the One Hundred Eighteenth Congress, and other Committee business, 12 p.m., 1310 Longworth.

Committee on the Judiciary, Subcommittee on Courts, Intellectual Property and the Internet, hearing entitled “Intellectual Property and Strategic Competition with China: Part I”, 10 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Committee on Natural Resources, Subcommittee on Federal Lands, hearing entitled “Promoting Conservation with a Purpose on America’s Federal Lands and Forests”, 10:15 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

Subcommittee on Water, Wildlife and Fisheries, hearing entitled “Benefits and Access: The Necessity for Multiple Use of Water Resources”, 2 p.m., 1324 Longworth.

Committee on Oversight and Accountability, Select Subcommittee on the Coronavirus Pandemic, hearing entitled “Investigating the Origins of COVID-19”, 9 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on National Security, the Border, and Foreign Affairs, hearing entitled “Force Multipliers: Examining the Need for Additional Resources to Disrupt Transnational Crime at the Border and Beyond”, 10 a.m., 2247 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Economic Growth, Energy Policy, and Regulatory Affairs, hearing entitled “Burning the Midnight Oil: Why Depleting the Strategic Petroleum Reserve is Not a Solution to America’s Energy Problem, Part I”, 2 p.m., 2247 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Cybersecurity, Information Technology, and Government Innovation, hearing entitled “Advances in AI: Are We Ready for a Tech Revolution?”, 2 p.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Innovation Through Collaboration: The Department of Energy’s Role in the U.S. Research Ecosystem”, 10 a.m., 2318 Rayburn.

Committee on Small Business, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Small Business Perspectives on the Impacts of the Biden Administration’s Waters of the United States (WOTUS) Rule”, 2 p.m., 2360 Rayburn.

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, Subcommittee on Railroads, Pipelines, and Hazardous Materials, hearing entitled “Pipeline Safety: Reviewing Implementation of the PIPES Act of 2020 and Examining Future Safety Needs”, 10 a.m., 2167 Rayburn.

Joint Meetings

Joint Hearing: Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs, to hold a joint hearing with the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs to examine the legislative presentation of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States and multiple veterans service organizations, 10 a.m., 390, Cannon Building.

Joint Committee on the Library: business meeting to consider designation of the Chair and Vice Chair, and rules of procedure for the 118th Congress, 2:30 p.m., S-115, Capitol.

Joint Committee on Printing: business meeting to consider designation of the Chair and Vice Chair, and rules of procedure for the 118th Congress, 2:35 p.m., S-115, Capitol.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

10 a.m., Wednesday, March 8

Senate Chamber

Program for Wednesday: Senate will continue consideration of the nomination of Patrice H. Kunesh, of Minnesota, to be Commissioner of the Administration for Native Americans, Department of Health and Human Services, post-cloture, and vote on confirmation thereon at 10:45 a.m., followed by a vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Daniel I. Werfel, of the District of Columbia, to be Commissioner of Internal Revenue.

Following the vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Daniel I. Werfel, Senator Hagerty or his designee be recognized to make a motion to discharge the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs from further consideration of H.J. Res. 26, disapproving the action of the District of Columbia Council in approving the Revised Criminal Code Act of 2022.

At approximately 5:15 p.m., Senators should expect roll call votes on passage of H.J. Res 26, and on confirmation of the nomination of Daniel I. Werfel.

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

10 a.m., Wednesday, March 8

House Chamber

Program for Wednesday: Consideration of H.R. 140—Protecting Speech from Government Interference Act (Subject to a Rule).

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