



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 118th CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 169

WASHINGTON, MONDAY, APRIL 17, 2023

No. 63

House of Representatives

The House met at 2 p.m. and was called to order by the Speaker.

PRAYER

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

Holy God, we approach You this afternoon because we believe. We believe that not only do You hear our prayers but You answer them. We believe that not only do You in Your grace plan allow for the possibilities for which we pray, but in You all things are possible.

Sure that You will respond to us and certain that You will fulfill the hopes we place before You, we offer our heartfelt prayers for the welfare of our country, for civility and respect among colleagues, for strength to serve both justly and mercifully, and the faith to heed Your guidance in all these things.

Lord, we believe. Help our unbelief. Even as we offer these prayers, we can't help but hold on to some doubt that what we ask for will be given, that what we seek we will find, given how hopeless things seem these days.

Remind us again that faith in You emerges from our doubt. In You we find strength in weakness. In You all we desire can be found.

So we yield ourselves to You as we offer our prayers in the power available to us in Your most holy name.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

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

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to clause 1, rule I, I demand a vote on agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The SPEAKER. The question is on the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The question was taken; and the Speaker announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The SPEAKER. Pursuant to clause 8, rule XX, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

Ms. SALINAS 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.

CELEBRATING HENRY HALDEMAN'S 100TH BIRTHDAY

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

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise to wish Henry Haldeman a happy 100th birthday and to thank him for his service to our country during World War II.

After joining the Army, Sergeant Haldeman landed at Anzio Beach in Italy, becoming one of the first Americans to begin liberating the oppressed people of Europe.

From Anzio to Germany, Henry Haldeman and the men of the 14th Army Infantry fought bravely and sacrificed much as they helped to turn around the horrors of World War II.

Receiving both a Purple Heart and a Bronze Star, Henry Haldeman rep-

resents what truly made his the Greatest Generation.

After returning home to Port Royal, Henry found joy working on his family's farm, growing corn and feeding young calves. His life has been a beacon of what it means to serve his country and his community both at home and abroad.

On behalf of everyone in Pennsylvania's 13th Congressional District, I wish Henry Haldeman a happy 100th birthday and continued blessings to come.

TRANSGENDER MENTAL HEALTH

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

Ms. SALINAS. Madam Speaker, I rise on Mental Health Monday in defense of the transgender community.

Last year, lawmakers introduced 315 anti-LGBTQI+ bills. During that same year, a national survey found that 45 percent of LGBTQI+ youths seriously considered suicide. That is 45 percent, Madam Speaker.

This year has far surpassed 2022's record with more than 400 hateful and harmful laws introduced so far, including H.R. 734.

Reputable athletic organizations like the International Olympic Committee and the National Collegiate Athletic Association have guidelines for the equitable participation of transgender athletes.

With this bill, House Republicans are creating a problem where there isn't one because they think the American people won't see this for what it is: a ploy to distract from their failures.

Madam Speaker, this is not a game. It is a mental health catastrophe in the making. The trans community deserves our support, not our scorn.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to consider healing over harm and to reconsider H.R. 734.

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.



Printed on recycled paper.

H1731

CONGRATULATING CAITLIN CLARK OF IOWA WOMEN'S BASKETBALL TEAM

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

Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Caitlin Clark of the Iowa Hawkeyes women's basketball team for winning the 2023 Naismith National Player of the Year award, the AP Player of the Year award, the Wooden Award National Player of the Year, and the Honda Sport Award for Basketball.

Caitlin is a native of West Des Moines, Iowa, and attended Dowling Catholic before taking her career to the next level with the University of Iowa Hawkeyes. Her exceptional play this season captivated audiences far beyond the Hawkeye State.

As a junior, Caitlin averaged 27.3 points and led the Nation with five triple-doubles, including a 41-point, 12-assist, 10-rebound effort in Iowa's NCAA tournament win over Louisville to advance to the Final Four.

The ESPN telecast of the Hawkeyes' win over Louisville averaged more viewers than any NBA telecast on ESPN this season as Clark became the first player in the NCAA tournament history to record a 40-point triple-double.

In a recent interview, she said: "I want my legacy to be the impact that I can have on young kids and the people in the State of Iowa, and I hope I brought them a lot of joy this season."

Madam Speaker, Caitlin is most certainly a joy and an inspiration to all Iowans and numerous Americans.

We can't wait to continue watching Caitlin on the court and wish her the best of luck in the future.

Go Hawks.

Madam Speaker, I wish a very happy birthday to my nephews, Matthew and Joseph Martina.

BIDEN BUDGET DESTROYS JOBS

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, the Biden budget would destroy jobs, slash wages, and reduce economic growth, according to a new study by the Tax Foundation.

The budget will raise taxes by \$4.7 trillion and reduce economic growth. Americans are experiencing record-high levels of inflation under Biden, and his plan will cut wages by a full percent.

The newly elected Republican majority is focused on fiscal sanity and creating jobs.

Congratulations champion Matt Fitzpatrick of Sheffield, England, on victory yesterday at the RBC Heritage presented by Boeing, at Hilton Head Island, South Carolina.

I appreciate the success of Royal Bank of Canada President Dave McKay, Boeing National Strategy Director Lindsay Leonard, Heritage Classic Foundation Chairman Simon Fraser, and Tournament Director Steve Wilmot.

The victory was special as it has been a vacation favorite for the Fitzpatrick family from the United Kingdom for many years.

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.

WATER STORAGE FOR CALIFORNIA

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

Mr. LAMALFA. Madam Speaker, California has gotten a heck of a lot of rain and snow this year. We are very grateful for that. After several dry years, Mother Nature and God have been good to us. Billions of gallons of water have flooded California in some areas, including the newly created Tulare Lake, as in previous decades.

Our snowpack is indeed at near-record levels, but so much of this water is being lost out to the ocean. California's water infrastructure hasn't been really added to in over 40 years. Now, we have a 1.5 million acre-foot project called Sites Reservoir that has been talked about for about 40 years. Endless environmental studies and other hang-ups have kept the permitting process from being completed.

All Californians—indeed all Americans—suffer because the food crops that we are growing in our State feed 90 percent of our country in certain types of crops.

In 2014, Californians voted in favor of a bond to increase our water storage if the money gets spent on tearing down dams and taking away hydroelectric power.

If Sites Reservoir was in place this year, it would be half full in just one season with 750,000 acre-feet of water. That opportunity has been lost.

Madam Speaker, we need to get these projects done.

APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO COMMISSION ON SECURITY AND COOPERATION IN EUROPE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. HOUCIN). The Chair announces the Speaker's appointment, pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 3003, and the order of the House of January 9, 2023, of the following Members on the part of the House to the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe:

Mr. COHEN, Tennessee
Mr. CLEAVER, Missouri
Mr. VEASEY, Texas

APPOINTMENT OF MEMBER TO MIGRATORY BIRD CONSERVATION COMMISSION

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair announces the Speaker's appointment, pursuant to section 2 of the Migratory Bird Conservation Act (16 U.S.C. 715a), and the order of the House of January 9, 2023, of the following Member on the part of the House to the Migratory Bird Conservation Commission:

Mr. THOMPSON, California

APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO UNITED STATES GROUP OF THE NATO PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair announces the Speaker's appointment, pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 1928a, and the order of the House of January 9, 2023, of the following Members on the part of the House to the United States Group of the NATO Parliamentary Assembly:

Mr. CONNOLLY, Virginia
Ms. SÁNCHEZ, California
Mr. LARSEN, Washington
Mr. BOYLE, Pennsylvania

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 12 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1700

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. SELF) at 5 p.m.

AUTHORIZING THE SPEAKER TO DECLARE A RECESS ON THURSDAY, APRIL 27, 2023, FOR THE PURPOSE OF RECEIVING IN JOINT MEETING HIS EXCELLENCY YOON SUK YEOL, PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA

Mr. MAST. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that it may be in order at any time on Thursday, April 27, 2023, for the Speaker to declare a recess, subject to the call of the Chair, for the purpose of receiving in joint meeting His Excellency Yoon Suk Yeol, President of the Republic of Korea.

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.

COUNTERING UNTRUSTED TELECOMMUNICATIONS ABROAD ACT

Mr. MAST. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1149) to establish certain reporting and other requirements relating to telecommunications equipment and services produced or provided by certain entities, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill. The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1149

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 “Countering Untrusted Telecommunications Abroad Act”.

SEC. 2. SENSE OF CONGRESS.

It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) the national security of the United States is affected by the telecommunications security of United States allies, partners, and other countries around the globe;

(2) the importance of mobile and internet services makes such services tempting and effective tools for malign influence and economic coercion;

(3) Huawei Technologies Company and ZTE Corporation (and any subsidiary or affiliate of either such entity) should not serve as a vendor of telecommunications equipment or services given the close ties to, and control over, such entities by the People’s Republic of China; and

(4) it is in the economic and national security interests of the United States to ensure that countries around the globe use trusted telecommunications equipment or services.

SEC. 3. REPORT ON UNTRUSTED TELECOMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT OR SERVICES IN COUNTRIES WITH COLLECTIVE DEFENSE AGREEMENT WITH UNITED STATES.

(a) REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter for two years, the Secretary of State, in consultation with the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information, shall submit to the Committees on Foreign Affairs and Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives and the Committees on Foreign Relations and Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate a report on the prevalence of untrusted telecommunications equipment or services in the networks of United States allies and partners.

(b) MATTERS.—The report under subsection (a) shall enumerate each United States ally or partner with respect to which the United States has entered into a collective defense agreement and include, for each such country, the following:

(1) A description of the presence, or lack thereof, of untrusted telecommunications equipment or services in any 5G network of the country.

(2) If any untrusted telecommunications equipment or service is present in such a network—

(A) an enumeration of any mobile carriers that are using the untrusted telecommunications equipment or service present, and any mobile carriers that are not;

(B) a determination of whether the untrusted telecommunications equipment or service present is in the core or periphery of the network; and

(C) any plans by the United States ally or partner, or the individual mobile carrier, to rip and replace the untrusted telecommunications equipment or service present with a trusted telecommunications equipment or service.

(3) A description of any plans by network operators to use untrusted communications equipment or services in the deployment of Open Radio Access Network (Open RAN) technology, or any successor to such technology, or in future 6G networks.

SEC. 4. REPORT ON COVERED TELECOMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT OR SERVICES IN UNITED STATES EMBASSIES.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

(1) The Comptroller General of the United States has reported that 23 percent of all telecommunications device manufacturers of the Department of State have at least one supplier reported to be headquartered in the People’s Republic of China or the Russian Federation.

(2) The Comptroller General has reported that four percent of all telecommunications contractors of the Department of State have at least one supplier reported to be headquartered in the People’s Republic of China.

(b) REPORT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State, in consultation with the heads of such other departments and agencies as the Secretary determines necessary, shall submit to the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate a report containing an assessment of the use of covered telecommunications equipment or services in United States embassies and by United States embassy staff and personnel.

(2) MATTERS.—The report under paragraph (1) shall include information on the following:

(A) The status of the implementation by the Secretary of State of the prohibition under subsection (a)(1) of section 889 of the John S. McCain National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2019 (Public Law 115-232; 132 Stat. 1917; 41 U.S.C. 3901 note prec.) with respect to equipment, systems, and services used at United States embassies, including—

(i) an identification of the United States embassies with respect to which the Secretary has implemented such prohibition, and an identification of those with respect to which the Secretary has not implemented such prohibition, if any;

(ii) an identification of any difficulties that have delayed the implementation of such prohibition by the Secretary with respect to United States embassies, such as visibility into supply chains, costs of equipment replacement, and plans for timely remediation;

(iii) information on any waivers that have been granted to an entity under subsection (d) of such section 889 for equipment, systems, or services used at United States embassies, including a justification of why each waiver was granted and any other information required pursuant to paragraph (1)(B) of such subsection; and

(iv) for any entity that has sought a waiver specified in clause (iii), the implementation status of the phase-out plan of the entity submitted by the entity pursuant to subsection (d) of such section 889.

(B) Information regarding the extent to which the digital devices of United States embassy staff and personnel are serviced by Huawei Technologies Company or ZTE Corporation (or any subsidiary or affiliate of either such entity), or any other entity

headquartered in the People’s Republic of China, and an assessment of the likelihood of the intelligence services of the People’s Republic of China gaining access to the contents and data of the digital devices used by United States embassy personnel as a result of any such servicing.

(C) Any other information regarding ongoing efforts to safeguard the communications security of United States embassies.

(3) FORM.—The report under paragraph (1) shall be submitted in unclassified form, but may include a classified annex.

SEC. 5. SUPPORTING TRUSTED TELECOMMUNICATIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of State, in consultation with the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information, shall select for the provision of support under this section telecommunications infrastructure projects that have the potential, as determined by the Secretary, to promote the national security of the United States and meet such other requirements as the Secretary may prescribe.

(b) DIPLOMATIC AND POLITICAL SUPPORT.—The Secretary of State shall provide to each project selected under subsection (a), as appropriate, diplomatic and political support, including by using the diplomatic and political influence and expertise of the Department of State to build the capacity of countries to resolve any impediments to the development of the project.

(c) EARLY STAGE PROJECT SUPPORT.—The Director of the United States Trade and Development Agency should provide, as appropriate, early-stage project support with respect to projects selected under subsection (a).

SEC. 6. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) COVERED TELECOMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT OR SERVICE; UNTRUSTED TELECOMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT OR SERVICE.—The terms “covered telecommunications equipment or service” and “untrusted telecommunications equipment or service” have the meaning given to the term “covered communications equipment or service” in section 9 of the Secure and Trusted Communications Network Act of 2019 (47 U.S.C. 1608).

(2) TRUSTED TELECOMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT OR SERVICE.—The term “trusted telecommunications equipment or service” means any telecommunications equipment or service that is not a covered telecommunications equipment or service.

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

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. MAST. 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 this measure.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 1149, Countering Untrusted Telecommunications Abroad Act.

The Chinese Communist Party, as we all know, weaponizes every tool at its disposal, whether it is intellectual

property, a balloon, or a social media app. That is why it is no surprise that CCP-controlled companies like Huawei pose risks to our national security and why it is important that we do not allow ourselves or our allies or partners to be duped by the seemingly low-cost, state-backed telecom companies like Huawei.

It might seem cheap, but the fact is the cost is much higher than many realize. You pay by allowing the CCP to control all of your telecommunications data, which, as history has shown, it can and will use against you. China has made no bones about that.

What does this bill do? It requires, number one, the State Department to conduct a risk assessment and report to Congress on the presence of any untrusted telecommunications equipment or vendors like Huawei in the networks of defense-allied countries.

Number two, it requires the Government Accountability Office to report on Chinese and Russian telecom suppliers serving U.S. embassies overseas.

Number three, finally, the bill tasks the State Department with identifying telecom infrastructure projects that would strengthen U.S. national security.

Three worthy goals.

The United States has to be a leader on this front. We need to help our allies and our partners end their dependence on problematic companies like Huawei that are in the pocket of our adversaries. It makes no sense whatsoever.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from Pennsylvania (Ms. WILD) for her leadership on this issue and for working together on this important bill, which deserves our unanimous support, in my opinion.

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

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON FINANCIAL SERVICES,
Washington, DC, March 14, 2023.
Hon. MICHAEL McCaul,
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Affairs,
House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN McCaul: Thank you for consulting with the Committee on Financial Services regarding H.R. 1149, the Countering Untrusted Telecommunications Abroad Act. I agree that the Committee shall be discharged from further consideration of the bill so that it may proceed expeditiously to the House Floor. The Committee takes this action with the mutual understanding that, by foregoing consideration of H.R. 1149 at this time, we do not waive any jurisdiction over the subject matter contained in this or similar legislation, and that the Committee will be appropriately consulted and involved on this or similar legislation as it moves forward. The Committee also reserves the right to see appointment of an appropriate number of conferees to any conference with the Senate involving this or similar legislation, and we request your support for any such request.

Finally, as you mentioned in your letter, I ask that a copy of our exchange of letters on this bill be included in your Committee's report to accompany the legislation, as well as

in the Congressional Record during floor consideration thereof.

Sincerely,

PATRICK McHENRY,
Chairman,
Committee on Financial Services.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS,
Washington, DC, March 14, 2023.

Hon. PATRICK McHENRY,
Chairman, Committee on Financial Services,
Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN McHENRY: Thank you for consulting with the Foreign Affairs Committee and agreeing to be discharged from further consideration of H.R. 1149, Countering Untrusted Telecommunications Abroad Act, so that the measure may proceed expeditiously to the House floor. The suspension text incorporates edits you have requested to portions of the bill within your committee's jurisdiction.

I agree that your forgoing further action on this measure does not in any way diminish or alter the jurisdiction of your committee, or prejudice its jurisdictional prerogatives on this measure or similar legislation in the future. I would support your effort to seek appointment of an appropriate number of conferees from your committee to any House-Senate conference on this legislation.

I will seek to place our letters on H.R. 1149 into the Congressional Record during floor consideration. I appreciate your cooperation regarding this legislation and look forward to continuing to work together as this measure moves through the legislative process.

Sincerely,

MICHAEL T. McCaul,
Chairman.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of the Countering Untrusted Telecommunications Abroad Act, and I thank Representative SUSAN WILD for her strong leadership on this very important piece of legislation.

Telecommunications security is a pillar of our national security. If an adversary can partially or fully shut down your mobile network, then they have tremendous leverage over your diplomatic, economic, and security matters. If an adversary can tap into your networks through back doors built into network equipment, then phone calls on national security matters can and will be surveilled.

Given these dangerous vulnerabilities, it is crucial that Congress and the executive branch fully understand the risks.

The Countering Untrusted Telecommunications Abroad Act will require additional reporting and analysis on the safety of our communications in embassies around the globe where, by necessity, communications will often need to be routed through equipment produced by PRC companies like Huawei and ZTE.

The legislation also calls for reporting on the use of unsafe telecommunications equipment by countries with whom we have mutual security pacts. We need to be able to communicate securely with our allies and partners around the world. Crucially, the legislation also authorizes the State Department to engage in telecommunications security activities.

Notably, one section of the bill, unfortunately, was removed from the version of this legislation that passed the House overwhelmingly last Congress and that passed out of the Foreign Affairs Committee earlier this year. That section would require publicly traded telecommunications operators to disclose their use of unsafe PRC telecommunications equipment.

I know, and I believe, that this is important information for investors to know, given the sanctions and export controls currently imposed on these vendors. It is also crucial national security information.

Unfortunately, the Financial Services majority asked us to remove this section due to their disposition against explicit additional securities disclosure requirements.

While I accept their jurisdictional claim, the disclosure requirements in this legislation were modeled after a Republican bill on Iran, and I believe they would provide important information for investors and bolster national security. Representative WILD is not pushing immediate, aggressive sanctions. The removed section represented a sensible, middle-ground approach.

Given the widespread bipartisan agreement on many issues pertaining to China, I look forward to working with all of my colleagues across the aisle on both committees to find a mutually agreeable solution to this issue.

Even with the financial disclosures removed, though, the Countering Untrusted Telecommunications Abroad Act is important legislation that will move the ball forward on telecommunication security matters.

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

Mr. MAST. Mr. Speaker, I continue to reserve the balance of my time.

□ 1715

Mr. MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentlewoman from Pennsylvania (Ms. WILD), the author of this bill.

Ms. WILD. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 1149, the Countering Untrusted Telecommunications Abroad Act. I first thank my colleague from the other side of the aisle, Representative RADEWAGEN, for co-leading this legislation.

This bill is proof and evidence that when it comes to national and economic security challenges, we can find common ground.

The purpose of the bill is simple: To investigate and respond to vulnerabilities caused by Chinese telecommunications companies in United States embassies overseas and among our close allies.

For far too long, the world has stood by as Chinese telecoms giants have operated as vehicles for the Chinese Communist Party to commit horrific human rights violations against the Uyghur people, to conduct mass surveillance and espionage, and to supply

technology to other repressive regimes around the world.

This bill takes critical steps to ensure that our telecommunications infrastructure requires the State Department to report on the United States collective defense allies that use untrusted telecommunication equipment or services in their 5G networks. Further, it mandates a report on telecommunication vulnerabilities in United States embassies overseas. Finally, it directs the Secretary of State to identify key telecommunications infrastructure projects designed to promote United States national security.

Securing these networks is imperative when it comes to national security and human rights, as well as for our economic security.

This legislation will help us ensure that the telecoms infrastructure of our country and our allies is secure and effective.

The Countering Untrusted Telecommunications Abroad Act enjoyed overwhelming bipartisan support in the 117th Congress and passed the House by a resounding margin last September.

I urge my colleagues to reaffirm our commitment to securing our telecommunications network by again voting “yes” on H.R. 1149.

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

Mr. MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield myself the balance of my time for the purpose of closing.

Mr. Speaker, Congresswoman WILD’s very important legislation, the Countering Untrusted Telecommunications Abroad Act, will take tangible steps to improve our telecommunications security and, thereby, our national security.

I appreciate the bipartisan nature with which we have dealt with this bill in the 117th Congress and now are dealing with it in the 118th Congress, working collectively together for our national security.

I believe that this bill should have every Member’s support, and I urge them to vote for the Countering Untrusted Telecommunications Abroad Act.

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

Mr. MAST. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Mr. Speaker, telecommunications and the secure transfer of electronic data are absolutely critical. I don’t think I have met somebody that disagrees with that in today’s world. They are critical to our national security and to our economic well-being.

We don’t want to get on a website that we think is unsecure. We don’t want to reply to a text that we think comes from an untrusted number.

We cannot afford the vulnerability that comes from giving control of this technology to the Chinese Communist Party or other malign actors.

H.R. 1149 will help us get a handle on those vulnerabilities, forcing the De-

partment of State to formulate an effective response.

Again, I thank Ms. WILD for introducing this measure. I urge unanimous support for this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Florida (Mr. MAST) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1149, 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. MAST. 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.

UPHOLDING SOVEREIGNTY OF AIRSPACE ACT

Mr. MAST. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1151) to hold the People’s Republic of China accountable for the violation of United States airspace and sovereignty with its high-altitude surveillance balloon, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1151

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 “Upholding Sovereignty of Airspace Act” or the “USA Act”.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds the following:

(1) According to the Department of State, surveillance balloons owned and operated by the People’s Republic of China (PRC) have entered United States airspace multiple times since 2017 and have violated the airspace of more than 40 countries across 5 continents.

(2) On February 10, 2023, the Department of Commerce, Bureau of Industry and Security issued a final rule (88 Fed. Reg. 9389) that added 6 PRC entities to the Entity List for supporting the PRC’s military modernization efforts related to aerospace programs, including airships and balloons and related materials and components, that are used by the People’s Liberation Army for intelligence and reconnaissance.

(3) The PRC’s response has been to use misinformation and propaganda to deflect blame for the illegal surveillance activities of these balloons.

SEC. 3. SENSE OF CONGRESS.

It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) the presence of the PRC’s high altitude surveillance balloon over United States airspace was an unacceptable violation of United States sovereignty;

(2) the United States should continue to neutralize foreign aerial surveillance assets that are in United States airspace after consideration of civilian aviation safety, safety of United States civilians and property on the ground, as well as the intelligence collection risk and opportunity posed by such intrusions;

(3) the PRC’s global balloon surveillance program blatantly undermines countries’

sovereignty and poses a threat to countries around the world;

(4) the PRC should cease efforts to spread misinformation and propaganda about its intelligence-collection efforts;

(5) the United States Government should continue to share information about the PRC’s global surveillance efforts with allies and partners and should work jointly to hold the PRC accountable for its illegal surveillance actions, including at multilateral fora;

(6) the United Nations should condemn the PRC’s violation, through its global surveillance balloon program, of the sovereignty of member states of the United Nations and call on the PRC to ensure its balloons do not violate sovereign airspace again;

(7) the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) should condemn the PRC for this violation of airspace and the PRC’s ICAO commitments; and

(8) as consistent with international law, the United States should use regulatory and enforcement tools to protect national security and sovereignty by identifying and disrupting the PRC’s use of surveillance balloons.

SEC. 4. INTERNATIONAL COORDINATION AND PRESSURE.

(a) DIPLOMATIC STRATEGY.—The Secretary of State, in consultation with the Director of National Intelligence and the United States Permanent Representative to the United Nations, shall develop a diplomatic strategy to inform allies and partners of the scope of the PRC surveillance program and build global consensus in order to address the PRC’s global surveillance balloon program, including by—

(1) using the voice of the United States at the International Civil Aviation Organization to support Taiwan’s participation in the events and meetings of that Organization;

(2) sharing intelligence, as appropriate about the PRC’s global balloon program and its past violation of the sovereign airspace of allies and partners;

(3) coordinating with United States allies and partners to identify and track future PRC surveillance balloons, counter PRC propaganda and misinformation about its global surveillance program, and publicly share any future violations of sovereignty;

(4) using the voice, vote, and influence of the United States at the United Nations and other international and regional organizations to spur greater diplomatic pressure on the PRC to halt its surveillance collection operations that violate international sovereignty;

(5) raising the challenges posed by the PRC’s global surveillance balloon program at major multilateral forums, including at the G7 and G20 summits; and

(6) coordinating with allies and partners on the imposition and implementation of substantially similar sanctions and export controls to ensure that commodities, software, or technology from the United States and its allies and partners are not supporting the PRC’s global surveillance efforts.

(b) REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State, in consultation with the Director of National Intelligence and the United States Permanent Representative to the United Nations, shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report that outlines the strategy developed pursuant to subsection (a) and describes in detail the various steps taken by the United States in line with said strategy.

(c) BRIEFING.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the relevant officials of the Department of Defense shall provide to the appropriate congressional committees a classified briefing on other Unidentified Flying Objects that

have entered United States airspace beginning on January 20, 2017, and ending on such date of enactment.

(d) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.—In this section, the term “appropriate congressional committees” means—

(1) the Committee on Foreign Affairs and the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence of the House of Representatives; and

(2) the Committee on Foreign Relations and the Select Committee on Intelligence of the Senate.

SEC. 5. IMPOSITION OF EXPORT CONTROLS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Commerce shall evaluate, for appropriate controls under the Export Administration Regulations, the export, reexport, and in-country transfer of the items and technologies subject to United States jurisdiction related to aerospace programs, including airships and balloons and related materials and components, that are used by the People’s Liberation Army for intelligence and reconnaissance, and not later than 180 days after the enactment of this Act submit a report to the appropriate congressional committees that includes—

(1) a description of the types of items and technologies that were evaluated for potential controls with respect to this section; and

(2) a list of the controls that BIS has implemented or plans to implement because of its evaluation under this section.

(b) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.—In this section, the term “appropriate congressional committees” means the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate.

SEC. 6. IMPOSITION OF SANCTIONS.

(a) IMPOSITION OF SANCTIONS.—On and after the date that is 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the President may impose the sanctions described in subsection (b) with respect to any PRC individual the President determines is directly managing and overseeing the PRC’s global surveillance balloon program.

(b) SANCTIONS DESCRIBED.—The sanctions that may be imposed with respect to a foreign person described in subsection (a) are the following:

(1) PROPERTY BLOCKING.—Notwithstanding the requirements of section 202 of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1701), the President may exercise of all powers granted to the President by that Act to the extent necessary to block and prohibit all transactions in all property and interests in property of the foreign person if such property and interests in property are in the United States, come within the United States, or are or come within the possession or control of a United States person.

(2) ALIENS INADMISSIBLE FOR VISAS, ADMISION, OR PAROLE.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—An alien described in subsection (a) is—

(i) inadmissible to the United States;

(ii) ineligible for a visa or travel to the United States; and

(iii) otherwise ineligible to be admitted or paroled into the United States or to receive any other benefit under the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101 et seq.).

(B) CURRENT VISAS REVOKED.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—The visa or other documentation issued to an alien described in subsection (a) shall be revoked, regardless of when such visa or other documentation is or was issued.

(ii) EFFECT OF REVOCATION.—A visa or other entry documentation revoked under clause (i) shall, in accordance with section 221(i) of the Immigration and Nationality

Act (8 U.S.C. 1201(i)), no longer be valid for travel to the United States.

(c) EXCEPTIONS.—

(1) EXCEPTION FOR INTELLIGENCE, LAW ENFORCEMENT, AND NATIONAL SECURITY ACTIVITIES.—Sanctions under this section shall not apply to any authorized intelligence, law enforcement, or national security activities of the United States.

(2) EXCEPTION TO COMPLY WITH UNITED NATIONS HEADQUARTERS AGREEMENT.—Sanctions under subsection (b)(3) shall not apply with respect to the admission of an alien to the United States if the admission of the alien is necessary to permit the United States to comply with the Agreement regarding the Headquarters of the United Nations, signed at Lake Success June 26, 1947, and entered into force November 21, 1947, between the United Nations and the United States, the Convention on Consular Relations, done at Vienna April 24, 1963, and entered into force March 19, 1967, or other applicable international obligations.

(d) EXCEPTION RELATING TO IMPORTATION OF GOODS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The authorities and requirements to impose sanctions authorized under this section shall not include the authority or requirement to impose sanctions on the importation of goods.

(2) GOOD DEFINED.—In this subsection, the term “good” means any article, natural or man-made substance, material, supply or manufactured product, including inspection and test equipment, and excluding technical data.

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

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. MAST. 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 this measure.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I have a feeling that while there is going to be agreement, myself and the comments of my colleague over there might be slightly different, but I rise in support of H.R. 1151, the Upholding Sovereignty of Aerospace or USA Act.

It is an important piece of legislation because of what has happened to the United States of America and to Americans.

In early February, I think everybody watched this on the news for days on end. Our Nation found itself in what we thought was an impossible situation.

Looking up into the sky, Americans saw a strange object floating overhead. Some wondered if it was a bird or a plane. Some wondered if it was a UFO from some distant planet.

It was none of those things. It was a high-tech balloon sent by the Chinese Communist Party to spy on the United States of America and all of our people.

It floated slowly across North America in the full width of the continental

United States from Alaska to the South Carolina coast.

In States across the country, Americans saw the balloon, but what was more concerning was what the balloon said.

It conducted surveillance, it conducted reconnaissance, and it came away with intelligence on the United States of America that we did not want China to have.

Now, while the Biden administration sat on its hands, this balloon, minute after minute after minute, gained valuable information on some of our most sensitive military sites.

We now know that the United States had been tracking the balloon since at least January 28, that being the day that it entered U.S. airspace, but very likely before that. The administration hasn’t disclosed exactly what date it began tracking the balloon.

Yet, the Biden administration didn’t act. They didn’t shoot it down, that is to say, until 7 days later, until it had crossed the entire breadth of the United States of America.

Mr. Speaker, China is determined to topple the United States of America. Xi Jinping will stop at nothing to achieve that goal.

We have known this for years, but in February, we saw the proof with our own eyes. This is not an abstract concern. We can literally watch it invade the American homeland.

Congress needs to step up and send a clear message to the Chinese Communist Party. It will not be allowed to violate our sovereignty, to use American technology for its own military purposes, or to spy on American citizens.

This shouldn’t be an argument anywhere in the United States of America. This bipartisan legislation is an important step in sending that message and denying the CCP those abilities.

This bill does three important things. It sanctions Chinese Communist Party officials who were involved in the spy balloon program.

It requires the Secretary of State to develop a strategy to confront the People’s Republic of China’s global surveillance activities.

It requires the Commerce Department to consider export controls for U.S. technologies that are being used by the People’s Liberation Army for intelligence and reconnaissance purposes.

Under no circumstances should Americans know that the Chinese Communist Party is spying on them across the breadth of our country and know that their government is not doing anything to respond to that.

It degrades the trust that Americans have in their government, in their safety, in their defense institutions, in their intelligence agencies. That can’t be what America knows about its government.

This has been bipartisan legislation. I thank the ranking member of the Foreign Affairs Committee, Mr. MEEKS, for introducing the bill.

Along with Chairman MICHAEL McCaul, I encourage my colleagues to join me in supporting this bill and in curbing the CCP's malign influence in the United States.

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

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES,
Washington, DC, April 17, 2023.

Hon. MICHAEL T. McCaul,
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Affairs,
Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN McCaul: It has come to our attention that H.R. 1151, the "Upholding Sovereignty of Airspace Act," was substantially modified following its consideration in your Committee to include language within the jurisdiction of the House Armed Services Committee.

In the spirit of comity and expeditious consideration of this legislation, we will not formally consider H.R. 1151. We do so with the understanding that by waiving consideration of the bill, the Committee on Armed Services does not waive any future jurisdictional claims over the subject matters contained in the bill which fall within the Armed Services Committee's Rule X jurisdiction or create any precedent for future accommodation.

Please place a copy of this letter and your response acknowledging our jurisdictional interests into the Congressional Record. Thank you for the cooperative spirit in which you have worked regarding this matter and others between our respective Committees.

Sincerely,

MIKE D. ROGERS,
Chairman, House Armed Services Committee.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS,
Washington, DC, April 17, 2023.

Hon. MIKE ROGERS,
Chairman, Committee on Armed Services,
Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN ROGERS: Thank you for agreeing to forgo pursuing a sequential referral of H.R. 1151, the "Upholding Sovereignty of Airspace Act," so that the measure may proceed expeditiously to the House floor. I understand there are concerns that certain reporting requirements in this text may be duplicative of preexisting reporting obligations that the Department of Defense is regularly fulfilling, and am not averse to those concerns being addressed as the bill moves forward in the legislative process.

I agree that your forgoing action on this measure does not in any way diminish or alter the jurisdiction of your committee, or prejudice its jurisdictional prerogatives on this measure or similar legislation in the future. I would support your effort to seek appointment of an appropriate number of conferees from your committee to any House-Senate conference on this legislation.

I will seek to place this letter into the Congressional Record during floor consideration. I appreciate your cooperation regarding this legislation and look forward to continuing to work together as this measure moves through the legislative process.

Sincerely,

MICHAEL T. McCaul,
Chairman.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY,
Washington, DC, March 24, 2023.

Hon. MICHAEL McCaul,
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Affairs,
Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN McCaul: I write regarding H.R. 1151, the "Upholding Sovereignty of Airspace Act." Provisions of this bill fall

within the Judiciary Committee's Rule X jurisdiction, and I appreciate that you consulted with us on those provisions. The Judiciary Committee agrees that it shall be discharged from further consideration of the bill so that it may proceed expeditiously to the House floor.

The Committee takes this action with the understanding that forgoing further consideration of this measure does not in any way alter the Committee's jurisdiction or waive any future jurisdictional claim over these provisions or their subject matter. We also reserve the right to seek appointment of an appropriate number of conferees in the event of a conference with the Senate involving this measure or similar legislation.

I ask that you please insert this letter in the Congressional Record during consideration of H.R. 1151 on the House floor. I appreciate the cooperative manner in which our committees have worked on this matter, and I look forward to working collaboratively in the future on matters of shared jurisdiction. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

JIM JORDAN,
Chairman.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS,
Washington, DC, March 24, 2023.

Hon. JIM JORDAN
Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary,
Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN JORDAN: Thank you for consulting with the Foreign Affairs Committee and agreeing to be discharged from further consideration of H.R. 1151, the "Upholding Sovereignty of Airspace Act," so that the measure may proceed expeditiously to the House floor.

I agree that your forgoing further action on this measure does not in any way diminish or alter the jurisdiction of your committee, or prejudice its jurisdictional prerogatives on this measure or similar legislation in the future. I would support your effort to seek appointment of an appropriate number of conferees from your committee to any House-Senate conference on this legislation.

I will seek to place our letters on this bill into the Congressional Record during floor consideration. I appreciate your cooperation regarding this legislation and look forward to continuing to work together as this measure moves through the legislative process.

Sincerely,

MICHAEL T. McCaul,
Chairman.

Mr. MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 1151, and I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I am the proud sponsor of H.R. 1151, the Upholding Sovereignty of Airspace or the USA Act.

First, I thank Chairman MICHAEL McCaul for co-leading this bill and for his partnership on the House Foreign Affairs Committee and presenting a united front on this very important issue.

On January 28 of this year, a PRC surveillance balloon intruded our airspace. The balloon then flew across our Nation, trying to gather intelligence from sensitive American military sites. This was an unacceptable violation of U.S. sovereignty.

The Biden administration closely monitored and tracked the balloon while it was over U.S. soil and took action to limit the balloon's ability to collect useful information that the PRC could not gather otherwise.

On February 4, once it no longer posed a danger to Americans on the ground, the United States military shot down the balloon off the coast of South Carolina.

President Biden safely and successfully took down the balloon in a way that allowed us to collect the debris and learn more about the PRC's surveillance program and capabilities.

Since that day, the Biden administration has smartly declassified additional information about the PRC's global program and shared it with our allies and partners.

We have learned that the United States and Canada aren't alone. PRC surveillance balloons have violated the sovereignty of over 40 nations across 5 continents.

This blatant disregard for the airspace and sovereignty of other nations is not only contrary to international rules, it is dangerous and provocative.

I have been deeply concerned by Beijing's response. Instead of apologizing, Beijing has resorted to denials and absurd misinformation and propaganda. Instead of making amends, Beijing has exacerbated tensions between our nations.

Now, I know that the United States of America will not be brought down by any balloon. We are the greatest and the strongest Nation on this planet.

That is why it was important to have this bipartisan legislation. By doing that, the House can clearly declare that such a violation of international law and U.S. sovereignty will not be tolerated and must not happen again.

H.R. 1151 calls on the administration to coordinate with our allies and partners and work within international organizations to call Beijing out for its repeated infringement of country sovereignty around the entire planet.

It also authorizes the President to hold responsible parties accountable through sanctions and calls for reporting and export controls by the Bureau of Industry and Security to disrupt the PRC's Military-Civil Fusion efforts related to its surveillance balloon program.

Mr. Speaker, the PRC must respect global norms and values. When the PRC doesn't, the United States and the international community must stay together to hold Beijing accountable.

Mr. Speaker, Russia's invasion of Ukraine made clear that the rules-based global order is under attack. Russia and China are increasingly not just bending the rules, they are breaking them. The PRC's violation of our sovereignty is just one example of this.

In the competition with China, we must be vigilant and vocal about upholding our values and upholding international rules.

To succeed in this competition, we must be smart, prioritizing the challenges and strategies to address them while working diplomatically alongside our partners and allies and friends.

The PRC's global surveillance program was a challenge not only to the

United States but to the sovereignty of nations around the world, and it deserves a policy response. That is why this bill is very important.

It is also why, again, I thank Chairman McCARTHY and Members of the House Foreign Affairs Committee for working collectively in a bipartisan way.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to support H.R. 1151, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. MAST. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 1151 is an important step in addressing very real threats posed by the Chinese Communist Party.

I again thank Ranking Member MEEKS and Chairman McCARTHY for this bill which earned bipartisan support in the Foreign Affairs Committee, and I believe it deserves our unanimous support.

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 Florida (Mr. MAST) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1151, 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. MAST. 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.

□ 1730

CONDEMNING RECENT ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE RUSSIAN MILITARY TO DOWN A UNITED STATES AIR FORCE DRONE

Mr. MAST. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 240) condemning recent actions taken by the Russian military to down a United States Air Force drone, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 240

Whereas United States European Command released footage confirming that 2 Russian Su-27 fighter jets acted unprofessionally and in a reckless manner when intercepting and downing a U.S. MQ-9 Reaper drone on March 14, 2023;

Whereas a United States Air Force drone was acting safely and responsibly in international airspace and in accordance with international law; and

Whereas the 2 fighter jets released fuel and bumped into the drone, resulting in the drone crash-landing in the Black Sea; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) condemns the reckless actions of the Russian military; and

(2) reaffirms the United States will not be deterred from operating U.S. drones in inter-

national airspace in the Black Sea region due to Russia's reckless behavior.

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

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. MAST. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on this measure.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H. Res. 240 to condemn Russia's blatantly hostile actions last month downing a United States Air Force drone, downing one of our United States military aircraft.

Think about the seriousness of that.

On March 14, while flying in international airspace over the Black Sea, a U.S. Air Force Reaper drone was attacked by two Russian fighter jets. Yes, it was attacked. The two jets flew in front of it, and at one point, even dumped fuel onto the drone. Eventually, one of the Russian jets hit the drone's propeller and sent it crashing into the Black Sea.

Let's talk about what this really was.

Was this an American aircraft?

Yes, it was.

Was this an American aircraft flying in international airspace?

Yes, it was.

Was this an American aircraft flying in international airspace that was taken down as a result of Russian pilots' purposeful actions?

Yes, it was.

There is no version of the world in which this can be deemed acceptable. Unless that's in Joe Biden's world, apparently.

Let's compare and contrast the response of the Kremlin to the response of the White House on this attack.

Vladimir Putin rewarded the two fighter pilots with medals for a job well done. Think about that.

President Biden ordered altered flight patterns to avoid future conflicts with Russia.

That is the difference between the two responses.

We are having a lot of conversations about America being violated by foreign adversaries, the last bill and now this one.

The Kremlin sent a clear message about what took place, that this type of behavior, they deemed it commendable. They have pinned medals on the chests of their fighter pilots. They rewarded them.

The White House sent a clear signal that they are going to be bullied and they are going to be backing away. They responded with weakness and

compromised our intelligence operations by moving us further from what we wanted to observe, when we were just debating a bill about China surveying us over our own territory with their balloon.

These are the differences in what is going on in the world right now.

By altering flight patterns and sending drones in the Black Sea further to the south, the Biden administration has degraded our ability to collect intelligence on Russian forces in the region. To put it simply, Putin lashed out, and very unfortunately, Biden backed down, and now America is less safe.

Vladimir Putin does not get a veto over U.S. operations of military operations in international airspace or sovereign Ukrainian airspace. Yet, President Biden seems determined to give him one.

This is just the next domino to fall, in my opinion.

How would the President respond if China took similar action against our aircraft in the South China Sea or in Taiwan?

President Biden is telegraphing to our adversaries that the U.S. will back down in the face of the slightest provocation. He is giving Vladimir Putin the validation that he needs: that he can simply threaten escalation in order to intimidate others into backing down. He draws no red lines.

This resolution condemns Russia's attack. It reaffirms that the U.S. will not be intimidated—something that we have to reaffirm in this body given what is going on—certainly not when it comes to operating drones in international airspace.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of this resolution, and I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, Putin's Russia has abandoned the international systems that help countries interact and help build good faith and greater security. As someone who believes in the power of diplomacy and dialogue as a path to peace, the state of today's Russia is tragic and testing the international community's resolve, but I am so thankful that President Biden is indeed more responsible than Mr. Putin.

It is that kind of responsibility that is truly important and that we make sure that we are utilizing diplomacy along with our allies together, not America alone, not America by itself, but America and its friends. That is restraint.

I can recall if you have a red line, it is easy to draw a line, but the person that is most reserved steps back and if someone truly crosses that line, the United States is ready.

That Russia ignores the rules and standards is really not new. It is not surprising, but it has become more consequential and detrimental. We have

seen Russia's ill-advised and criminal behavior in Ukraine. That is why the United States under President Biden's leadership has created the strong bond with our NATO and European allies and others all across the world.

Again, when I think of March 14 and the Russian pilots' decision to release jet fuel upon an American surveillance drone and clip the aircraft, it indeed was a reckless move that caused the drone to crash into the Black Sea. It was an unprofessional and dangerous maneuver, and it marked the first time since the Cold War that Russia has downed a U.S. aircraft.

This incident added to the already heightened tensions between the United States and Russia as Vladimir Putin continues his war of aggression in Ukraine. While our pilots and military work carefully to avoid such incidents—again, prudence, responsibility—I don't want to be like Vladimir Putin or the Russians. I don't want to imitate them, but Russia is about to play with fire.

Thankfully, we have a professional military that knows the power of restraint. This resolution rightfully condemns the March 14 incident and will let them know that we are watching, and we will not be silent about it, especially here in the United States Congress.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage all of my colleagues to support this resolution, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MAST. Mr. Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentleman from New York (Mr. WILLIAMS), the author of this resolution, and a submarine driver, who colleagues affectionately refer to as "bubbleheads."

Mr. WILLIAMS of New York. Mr. Speaker, I am equally honored to stand here with the gentleman and fellow veteran, Mr. MAST, as well as my New York colleague, Mr. MEEKS.

Mr. Speaker, America has always stood up to bullies. I am a veteran of the Cold War. For half a century, our Nation stood against the tyranny of the Soviet Union.

I volunteered to serve in the Navy, making six strategic deterrent patrols in the Pacific aboard a nuclear submarine.

The mission was clear: to project strength, to stand ready to defend our Nation and our allies, and to deter the aggression of our enemies.

Today, we are reminded what happens if American leaders fail in that mission. The Russian military, emboldened by their invasion of Ukraine, making veiled threats of nuclear escalation, suppressing the voices of even of their own people, they have deliberately provoked this Nation—you and me.

On March 14, 2023, one of our MQ-9 Reaper drones, flying safely in international airspace and in accordance with international law, was attacked by two Russian Su-27 fighter jets.

These lawless pilots dumped their fuel, hitting our aircraft in mid-flight,

forcing an American reconnaissance asset to ditch in international waters.

I remain shocked not only at the unprofessional and reckless nature of the Russian pilots, but also of the Russian Government's accolades and awards that it heaped upon them.

Mr. Speaker, I am reminded from my naval service that the only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is for good people to do nothing. That is exactly why I have proposed H. Res. 240, a resolution condemning the reckless actions of the Russian military resulting in a loss of a U.S. aircraft.

The resolution is simple. It recognizes the events that took place, highlighted by the declassified video from European Command. It resolves that the House of Representatives condemns the Russian military's actions and reaffirms that the United States will not be deterred from operating our drones in the Black Sea. This resolution speaks not for a single political ideology but on behalf of all Americans who desire peace.

I would take a moment to thank Representative COSTA, who has joined me in this bipartisan effort of standing up to tyranny and the direct act of aggression against our military.

At this time of escalating tensions around the world, we must speak out against brazen provocation. Today, the world can see that Americans across the political spectrum speak with one voice in condemnation of this act.

By standing together here on the floor of the House of Representatives, we project strength by standing together, we reassure our allies that we are committed to defend ourselves and our friends, and together, we will ensure the peace through deterrence in unity.

Mr. MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume for the purpose of closing.

Mr. Speaker, let me thank Congressman WILLIAMS for this resolution, along with Mr. COSTA, again working in a strong, bipartisan way.

Congressman WILLIAMS' resolution appropriately condemns Russia's irresponsible and provocative downing of a U.S. surveillance drone over the Black Sea. It lets Russia and the entire world know that the United States House of Representatives stands strongly together in condemning the actions of the pilot that downed the U.S. surveillance drone.

It says unequivocally that the United States of America will stand and stand together and work together with our friends and allies against the provocative and, I believe, criminal actions of Vladimir Putin.

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

Mr. MAST. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the remainder of my time.

In closing, I thank the gentleman from New York (Mr. WILLIAMS) for introducing this important resolution. I believe that this Chamber has to stand firmly against Russian aggression. I

believe very firmly that the United States of America has to have big, giant, brass stones. If our aggressors show us that they have bigger brass stones than what we do, then we will not be the leader of the free world.

I very much fear what is taking place right now. I will just say it like that. I very much fear what is taking place and is allowed to take place in this world.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all Members to support this resolution, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Florida (Mr. MAST) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 240, 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. MAST. 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 today.

Accordingly (at 5 o'clock and 44 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1832

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mrs. MCCLAIN) at 6 o'clock and 32 minutes p.m.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Proceedings will resume on questions previously postponed. Votes will be taken in the following order:

Motions to suspend the rules with respect to:

H.R. 1151;

H. Res. 240; and

Agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal, if ordered.

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.

UPHOLDING SOVEREIGNTY OF AIRSPACE 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. 1151) to hold the People's Republic of China accountable for the violation of United States airspace and sovereignty with its high-altitude surveillance balloon, 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 Florida (Mr. MAST) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 405, nays 6, not voting 23, as follows:

[Roll No. 183]

YEAS—405

Adams	Crawford	Hayes	McClintock	Phillips	Stauber	ished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H. Res. 240) condemning recent actions taken by the Russian military to down a United States Air Force drone, as amended, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.
Aderholt	Crenshaw	Hern	McCollum	Pingree	Steel	
Aguilar	Crockett	Higgins (LA)	McCormick	Pocan	Stefanik	
Alford	Crow	Higgins (NY)	McGarvey	Posey	Steil	
Allen	Cuellar	Hill	McGovern	Pressley	Steube	
Allred	Curtis	Himes	McHenry	Quigley	Stevens	
Amodei	D'Esposito	Hinson	Meeks	Raskin	Strickland	
Armstrong	Davids (KS)	Horsford	Menendez	Reschenthaler	Strong	
Arrington	Davis (IL)	Houchin	Meuser	Rodgers (WA)	Takano	
Auchincloss	Davis (NC)	Houlihan	Mfume	Rogers (AL)	Tenney	
Babin	De La Cruz	Hoyer	Miller (WV)	Rogers (KY)	Thanedar	
Bacon	Dean (PA)	Hoyle (OR)	Miller-Meeks	Rose	Thompson (CA)	
Baird	DeGette	Hudson	Mills	Rosendale	Thompson (MS)	
Balderson	DeLauro	Huffman	Molinaro	Rouzer	Thompson (PA)	
Balint	DelBene	Huizinga	Moolenaar	Roy	Tiffany	
Banks	Deluzio	Hunt	Mooney	Ruiz	Timmons	
Barr	DeSaulnier	Issa	Moore (AL)	Ruppersberger	Titus	
Barragán	DesJarlais	Ivey	Moore (UT)	Rutherford	Tokuda	
Bean (FL)	Diaz-Balart	Jackson (IL)	Moore (WI)	Ryan	Tonko	
Beatty	Dingell	Jackson (NC)	Moran	Salazar	Torres (CA)	
Bentz	Donalds	Jackson (TX)	Morelle	Salinas	Torres (NY)	
Bera	Duarte	Jackson Lee	Moskowitz	Sánchez	Trahan	
Bergman	Duncan	Jackson Lee	Moulton	Santos	Trone	
Beyer	Dunn (FL)	Jackson Lee	Mrvan	Sarbanes	Turner	
Bice	Edwards	Jackson Lee	Mullin	Scalise	Underwood	
Biggs	Ellzey	Jeffries	Murphy	Scanlon	Valadao	
Bilirakis	Emmer	Johnson (GA)	Nickel	Schakowsky	Van Drew	
Bishop (GA)	Escobar	Johnson (LA)	Napolitano	Schiff	Van Duynne	
Bishop (NC)	Eshoo	Johnson (OH)	Neguse	Schneider	Van Orden	
Blumenauer	Espaillat	Johnson (SD)	Nehls	Scholten	Walberg	
Blunt Rochester	Estes	Jordan	Newhouse	Schrier	Waltz	
Boebert	Ezell	Joyce (OH)	Norcross	Self	Auchincloss	
Bonamici	Fallon	Joyce (PA)	Norman	Sessions	Waterson	
Bost	Feenstra	Kammler-Dove	Obernolte	Watson	Watson Coleman	
Boyle (PA)	Ferguson	Kaptur	Ocasio-Cortez	Wild	Babin	
Brecheen	Finstad	Kean (NJ)	Pascrell	Williams (NE)	Crane	
Brown	Fischbach	Keating	Peters	Williams (GA)	Graves (LA)	
Brownley	Fitzgerald	Kelly (IL)	Petterson	Williams (WA)	Graves (MO)	
Buchanan	Fitzpatrick	Kelly (MS)	Pfluger	Wexton	Bacon	
Buck	Fleischmann	Khanna	Pizzarelli	Witman	Crawford	
Bucshon	Fletcher	Kiggans (VA)	Peters	Womack	Green (TN)	
Budzinski	Flood	Kiley	Petterson	Yakym	Hageman	
Burchett	Foster	Kilmer	Pfluger	Zinke	Harder (CA)	
Burgess	Foushee	Kim (CA)	Pizzarelli		Correa	
Burlison	Foxx	Kim (NJ)	Peters		Crookston	
Calvert	Frankel, Lois	Krishnamoorthi	Petterson		Courtney	
Cammack	Franklin, C.	Kuster	Pizzarelli		Granger	
Caraveo	Scott	Kustoff	Peters		Hochheimer	
Carbajal	Frost	LaHood	Petterson		Arrington	
Cárdenas	Fry	LaLota	Pizzarelli		Craig	
Carey	Fulcher	LaMalfa	Pizzarelli		Graves (LA)	
Carl	Gaetz	Landsman	Pizzarelli		Graves (MO)	
Carson	Gallagher	Langworthy	Pizzarelli		Balderson	
Carter (GA)	Gallego	Larsen (WA)	Pizzarelli		Crockett	
Carter (LA)	Garamendi	Larson (CT)	Pizzarelli		DeLauro	
Carter (TX)	Garcia (IL)	Latta	Pizzarelli		Hill	
Cartwright	Garcia (TX)	LaTurner	Pizzarelli		Houlihan	
Casar	Garcia, Mike	Lawler	Pizzarelli		Hoyer	
Case	Garcia, Robert	Lee (FL)	Pizzarelli		Hoyle (OR)	
Casten	Gimenez	Lee (NV)	Pizzarelli		DeSaulnier	
Castor (FL)	Golden (ME)	Lee (PA)	Pizzarelli		Hochheimer	
Castro (TX)	Goldman (NY)	Leger Fernandez	Pizzarelli		Arrington	
Chavez-DeRemer	Gomez	Lesko	Pizzarelli		Craig	
Cherifius	Gonzales, Tony	Letlow	Pizzarelli		Graves (LA)	
McCormick	Gonzalez, Tony	Levin	Pizzarelli		Graves (MO)	
Chu	Vicente	Lieu	Pizzarelli		Balderson	
Cicilline	Good (VA)	Lofgren	Pizzarelli		Crockett	
Ciscomani	Gooden (TX)	Loudermilk	Pizzarelli		DeLauro	
Clark (MA)	Gosar	Lucas	Pizzarelli		Hill	
Clarke (NY)	Gottheimer	Luetkemeyer	Pizzarelli		Houlihan	
Cleaver	Granger	Luna	Pizzarelli		Hoyer	
Cline	Graves (LA)	Luttrell	Pizzarelli		Hoyle (OR)	
Cloud	Graves (MO)	Lynch	Pizzarelli		DeSaulnier	
Clyburn	Green (TN)	Mace	Pizzarelli		Hochheimer	
Clyde	Green, Al (TX)	Magaziner	Pizzarelli		Arrington	
Cohen	Greene (GA)	Malliotakis	Pizzarelli		Craig	
Cole	Griffith	Mann	Pizzarelli		Graves (LA)	
Collins	Grothman	Manning	Pizzarelli		Graves (MO)	
Comer	Guest	Mast	Pizzarelli		Balderson	
Connolly	Guthrie	Matsui	Pizzarelli		Crockett	
Correa	Hageman	McBath	Pizzarelli		DeLauro	
Courtney	Harder (CA)	McCaul	Pizzarelli		Hill	
Craig	Harris	McClain	Pizzarelli		Houlihan	
Crane	Harshbarger	McClellan	Pizzarelli		Hoyer	

NOT VOTING—23

□ 1855

Mr. CARSON 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.

Stated for:

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Madam Speaker, due to extreme weather and the subsequent travel delays in South Florida, I missed the first vote of the series today.

Had I been present, I would have voted “yea” on rollcall No. 183.

CONDEMNING RECENT ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE RUSSIAN MILITARY TO DOWN A UNITED STATES AIR FORCE DRONE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfin-

ished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H. Res. 240) condemning recent actions taken by the Russian military to down a United States Air Force drone, 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 Florida (Mr. MAST) 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 410, nays 0, not voting 24, as follows:

[Roll No. 184]

YEAS—410

Adams	Clyburn	Gomez	
Aderholt	Clyde	Gonzales, Tony	
Aguilar	Cohen	Gonzalez	
Alford	Cole	Vicente	
Allen	Collins	Good (VA)	
Allred	Comer	Gooden (TX)	
Amodei	Connolly	Gosar	
Armstrong	Correa	Gottheimer	
Arrington	Courtney	Granger	
Auchincloss	Craig	Graves (LA)	
Babin	Craig	Graves (MO)	
Bacon	Craig	Hochheimer	
Baird	Craig	Arrington	
Balderson	Craig	Craig	
Balint	Craig	De La Cruz	
Banks	Craig	Hern	
Barr	Craig	Hern	
Barragán	Craig	Hern	
Bean (FL)	Craig	Hern	
Beatty	Craig	Hern	
Bentz	Craig	Hern	
Bera	Craig	Hern	
Bergman	Craig	Hern	
Beyer	Craig	Hern	
Bice	Craig	Hern	
Biggs	Craig	Hern	
Bilirakis	Craig	Hern	
Bishop (GA)	Craig	Hern	
Bishop (NC)	Craig	Hern	
Blumenauer	Craig	Hern	
Blunt Rochester	Craig	Hern	
Boebert	Craig	Hern	
Bonamici	Craig	Hern	
Bost	Craig	Hern	
Boyle (PA)	Craig	Hern	
Brecheen	Craig	Hern	
Brown	Craig	Hern	
Brownley	Craig	Hern	
Buchanan	Craig	Hern	
Buck	Craig	Hern	
Buck	Craig	Hern	
Bucshon	Craig	Hern	
Budzinski	Craig	Hern	
Burchett	Craig	Hern	
Burgess	Craig	Hern	
Burlison	Craig	Hern	
Calvert	Craig	Hern	
Cammack	Craig	Hern	
Caraveo	Craig	Hern	
Carbajal	Craig	Hern	
Cárdenas	Craig	Hern	
Carey	Craig	Hern	
Carl	Craig	Hern	
Carson	Craig	Hern	
Carter (GA)	Craig	Hern	
Carter (LA)	Craig	Hern	
Carter (TX)	Craig	Hern	
Cartwright	Craig	Hern	
Casar	Craig	Hern	
Case	Craig	Hern	
Casten	Craig	Hern	
Castor (FL)	Craig	Hern	
Castro (TX)	Craig	Hern	
Chavez-DeRemer	Craig	Hern	
Cherifius	Craig	Hern	
McCormick	Craig	Hern	
Chu	Craig	Hern	
Cicilline	Craig	Hern	
Ciscomani	Craig	Hern	
Clark (MA)	Craig	Hern	
Clarke (NY)	Craig	Hern	
Cleaver	Craig	Hern	
Cline	Craig	Hern	
Cloud	Craig	Hern	
Clyburn	Craig	Hern	
Clyde	Craig	Hern	
Cohen	Craig	Hern	
Cole	Craig	Hern	
Collins	Craig	Hern	
Comer	Craig	Hern	
Connolly	Craig	Hern	
Correa	Craig	Hern	
Courtney	Craig	Hern	
Craig	Craig	Hern	
Crane	Craig	Hern	

Larsen (WA)	Norman	Smith (NJ)
Larson (CT)	Nunn (IA)	Smith (WA)
Latte	Obernolte	Smucker
LaTurner	Ocasio-Cortez	Sorensen
Lawler	Ogles	Soto
Lee (FL)	Omar	Spanberger
Lee (NV)	Owens	Spartz
Lee (PA)	Pallone	Stansbury
Leger Fernandez	Palmer	Stanton
Lesko	Panetta	Stauber
Letlow	Pappas	Steel
Levin	Pascrall	Stefanik
Lieu	Payne	Steil
Lofgren	Pelosi	Steube
Loudermilk	Peltola	Stevens
Lucas	Perez	Strickland
Luetkemeyer	Perry	Strong
Luna	Peters	Takano
Luttrell	Pettersen	Tenney
Lynch	Pfluger	Thanedar
Mace	Phillips	Thompson (CA)
Magaziner	Pingree	Thompson (MS)
Malliotakis	Pocan	Thompson (PA)
Mann	Posey	Tiffany
Manning	Pressley	Timmons
Massie	Quigley	Titus
Mast	Ramirez	Tlaib
Matsui	Raskin	Tokuda
McBath	Reschenthaler	Tonko
McCaul	Rodgers (WA)	Torres (CA)
McClain	Rogers (AL)	Torres (NY)
McClellan	Rogers (KY)	Trahan
McClintock	Rose	Trone
McCollum	Rosendale	Turner
McCormick	Rouzer	Underwood
McGarvey	Roy	Valadão
McGovern	Ruiz	Van Drew
McHenry	Ruppersberger	Van Duyne
Meeks	Rutherford	Van Orden
Menendez	Ryan	Vasquez
Meuser	Salazar	Veasey
Mfume	Salinas	Velázquez
Miller (WV)	Sánchez	Wagner
Miller-Meeks	Santos	Walberg
Mills	Sarbanes	Waltz
Molinaro	Scalise	Wasserman
Moolenaar	Scanlon	Schultz
Mooney	Schakowsky	Waters
Moore (AL)	Schiff	Watson Coleman
Moore (UT)	Schneider	Weber (TX)
Moore (WI)	Scholten	Webster (FL)
Moran	Schrirer	Wenstrup
Morelle	Schweikert	Westerman
Moskowitz	Scott (VA)	Wexton
Moulton	Scott, Austin	Wild
Mrvan	Self	Williams (GA)
Mullin	Sessions	Williams (NY)
Nadler	Sewell	Williams (TX)
Napolitano	Sherman	Wilson (FL)
Neguse	Sherrill	Wilson (SC)
Nehls	Simpson	Wittman
Newhouse	Slotkin	Womack
Nickel	Smith (MO)	Yakym
Norcross	Smith (NE)	Zinke

NOT VOTING—24

Bush	Kildee	Pence
Costa	Lamborn	Porter
Doggett	Lee (CA)	Ross
Evans	Meng	Scott, David
Garbarino	Miller (IL)	Stewart
Grijalva	Miller (OH)	Swalwell
Harris	Murphy	Sykes
Kelly (PA)	Neal	Vargas

□ 1906

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the resolution, as amended, was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mrs. SYKES. Madam Speaker, I was absent for today's vote so that I could help find a path forward for my community following today's grand jury decision to not indict Akron police officers involved in the fatal shooting of Jayland Walker.

Had I been present, I would have voted yea on rollcall No. 183 and yea on rollcall No. 184.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Ms. PORTER. Madam Speaker, I was unable to be present to cast votes today. Had I been present, I would have voted yea on rollcall 183 and yea on rollcall 184.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the question on agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal, which the Chair will put to the House.

The question is on the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER AS COSPONSOR OF H.R. 386

Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to remove the name of the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. ROUZER) as cosponsor of H.R. 386.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. LUTTRELL). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from South Dakota?

There was no objection.

MOMENT OF SILENCE FOR LOUISVILLE

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

Mr. McGARVEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today because my community is hurting. We are hurting because on Monday, April 10, the day after Easter, the promise of the beautiful spring morning was shattered by gunfire, and Louisville joined the many communities across this country impacted by a senseless mass shooting.

Five innocent people were killed. Eight others were shot. If it weren't for the absolutely heroic actions of the Louisville Metro Police Department, we undoubtedly would have lost more lives.

LMPD Officers Wilt and Galloway raced headfirst into a barrage of bullets. Officer Galloway was injured. Officer Wilt took an AR-15 round to the head. He is still in critical condition. I have talked with his family. His mother has asked for our prayers. If you are so inclined, please do so.

We are here today not just to talk about how they died but to remember how they lived: Deana Eckert, Jim Tutt, Josh Barrick, Juliana Farmer, and my friend, Tommy Elliott.

There was more grief. Chea'von Moore was killed just moments after Monday's shooting in a separate shooting in downtown Louisville.

Saturday night, we had our second mass shooting of the week in Chickasaw Park, where two people were killed and six others injured.

We lost our friends. Our community is hurting. We lost people who loved

deeply, cared deeply, and had people who cared about them, people who made our community and our lives better, taken from us too soon.

In the coming days and weeks, we will take up the fight on gun violence, but today, I ask everyone to join me in remembering those we lost, in hurting and healing with our community, and to offer a prayer for the families of those impacted, all of those impacted, including the officer currently fighting for his life.

□ 1915

COMMENDING DEL SPAFFORD ON RECEIVING JAMES M. ROCHE SPIRIT OF VOLUNTEERISM AWARD

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend Del Spafford of DuBois, Pennsylvania, for receiving the 2023 James M. Roche Spirit of Volunteerism award.

The Roche award is the highest volunteer award given by the Department of Defense's office of Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve. The award calls attention to significant achievements made by volunteers in contributing to and accomplishing the ESGR mission of promoting cooperation between civilian employers and servicemembers of the National Guard and Reserve.

Since retiring as Battalion Commander from the famous 28th Division of the Pennsylvania Army National Guard, Spafford has demonstrated the spirit of patriotism and service.

For more than 34 years, Spafford has served the ESGR in many capacities and has the distinguished honor of being the longest continuing serving committee member in Pennsylvania.

Most notably, he has accumulated an astonishing 1,285 volunteer hours with the ESGR in the past 8 years alone while serving in a variety of overlapping roles.

I commend Del Spafford for earning the James M. Roche Spirit of Volunteerism Award for his commitment to our citizen soldiers and for his dedication to supporting military-civilian relations in north-central Pennsylvania.

CELEBRATING THE 106TH ANNIVERSARY OF ABYSSINIAN BAPTIST CHURCH

(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 the 106th anniversary of Abyssinian Baptist Church.

For 106 years, the Abyssinian Baptist Church has helped thousands of people find salvation and spiritual health. It

serves the community through faith-based initiatives and brings hope to residents who need it. The spirit of this congregation is represented in one of the church's original names.

In 1939, the church was called Friendship Baptist. It is through friendships that this congregation shows how much it cares about people.

In addition, it inspires the community with a strong dedication to serving the Lord our Savior. In the process, it has helped thousands of people who have walked crooked roads to find a straight path.

Congratulations again to Deacon James Destin and the pious congregation of Abyssinian Baptist Church. It is an exceptional faith-based community in my district.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF RUTH STUENCKEL

(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 celebrate the life of Ruth Stuenckel, a loving wife, mother, and social worker.

A native of Egg Harbor City, New Jersey, Ruth held positions with Children's Seashore House and the New Jersey Division of Youth and Family Services.

In 1989, Ruth and her husband, Elton, moved to Savannah. Shortly after, Ruth became an active member of the choir at Wesley Monumental United Methodist Church.

She traveled internationally with the choir, singing in cathedrals across Europe. Ruth also traveled to Israel and Jordan with the Cape May United Methodist Church.

As an artist and avid gardener, she painted much of the beauty she saw in nature. Ruth was also a member of the Savannah Art Association and the Garden Club of Savannah.

Another passion of Ruth's was reading. More than being an avid reader, Ruth was a proponent of learning for learning's sake. Every week for more than 20 years, Ruth read to children at Royce Learning Center at Chatham Academy.

She will be dearly missed. Our thoughts and prayers are with her and her family.

BIPARTISAN ACTION ON GUN VIOLENCE

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

Mr. LANDSMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call for a bipartisan House and Senate select committee to address gun violence. Later this week, the Gun Violence Prevention Task Force will meet, and I pray that substantive work will emerge.

The Second Amendment provides Americans the right to have a gun to

protect themselves and their families and rifles to hunt.

Weapons of war are different. To be clear, we are talking about the weapons that spray hundreds of bullets in seconds, tearing bodies to shreds.

The folks in my district, whether they are Republicans or Democrats or Independents, are on the same page. They want us to double or triple the number of mental health professionals, pass red flag laws, safe storage laws, and have commonsense, comprehensive background checks to keep these guns and rifles away from people who want to hurt others. Most agree that these weapons of war have no place in our communities or anywhere near our children.

We need both parties to be about public safety. This bipartisan group of both House and Senate Members can make it happen, and we have to act fast.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO ALAN MOSKIN, WORLD WAR II VETERAN

(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, today I rise to remember and pay tribute to a true hero, Alan Moskin, a resident of the 17th District of New York who recently passed away at the age of 96.

Alan was a World War II veteran who fought with valor and bravery against Nazi Germany.

Alan was among the liberators of a sub-camp of the notorious Mauthausen concentration camp in Austria, where he and his unit freed more than 1,500 prisoners from certain death.

Alan Moskin's service and courage serve as a stark reminder of the sacrifices made by so many of our Greatest Generation during the Second World War.

Alan dedicated himself to fighting for freedom and justice, and his bravery will never be forgotten. He frequently visited schools and spoke with students about the importance of never forgetting the Holocaust or the horrors perpetrated during it. He spoke at Yom HaShoah events.

How fitting it is that his passing comes as we enter Holocaust Remembrance Day.

His community involvement was a testament to his desire to further the education of our youth and impart to them the importance of treating each other with kindness. Most of all, I will miss seeing him at our naturalization ceremonies where he would talk about the importance of service and lead new citizens in the Pledge of Allegiance.

May Alan's memory always be a blessing. He will be sorely missed.

HONORING MAJOR JOE BALOGH, RETIRED ARMY AIR CORPS BOMBER PILOT

(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 to honor a true trailblazer in North Carolina's First Congressional District, retired United States Army Air Corps bomber pilot, Major Joe Balogh.

Joe and I had a chance to chat in Franklin County, and this World War II hero, at the age of 102, shared countless stories of service with a vivid recollection of the detail.

During our chat, Joe shared with me when his airplane was shot down. He also shared about witnessing soldiers paying the ultimate sacrifice. Joe will continue to be a beacon of hope for eastern North Carolina and America.

Mr. Speaker, Joe's selfless service will ensure the freedom of future generations of North Carolinians and Americans.

I thank and salute Joe and others like him across America.

HONORING CORPORAL CHRIS BRYANT, VETERAN OF THE MONTH

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

Mr. BURCHETT. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Corporal Chris Bryant, an American hero who has served his country and community for the past 26 years.

In January of 1997, he left the Knox County Sheriff's Office to join the Marine Corps. He graduated basic training as an infantry machine gunner and was assigned to Kings Bay, Georgia, where he was stationed to watch over the nuclear sub base.

In 2002, he returned to the Knox County Sheriff's Department. In 2004, he was assigned full time to the narcotics division along with his K9 dog, Storm.

During his 12 years in the narcotics division, he has worked for the FBI Drug Task Force and has been promoted to lieutenant. In 2023, he enlisted in the Tennessee Army National Guard and is currently attending military police training in Smyrna, Tennessee.

Our country's heroes are the men and women of our Armed Forces like Corporal Bryant, who have served and sacrificed for our freedom and protected our communities.

It is my honor to recognize Corporal Chris Bryant as Tennessee's Second District's April 2023 Veteran of the Month.

ADVANCING HEALTHCARE NEEDS IN OHIO

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

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise to highlight advancing healthcare at both the Federal and State levels to meet

the healthcare needs of people living in the northwest quadrant of Ohio, including the mentally ill.

Our Federal-State joint efforts in combined funding of over \$35 million awarded to Toledo's academic medical center at the University of Toledo through the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid have allowed UTMC to upgrade critical trauma care from trauma III to trauma II.

In addition, Congress appropriated over \$81 million in 2022 and 2023 to Ohio through the Substance Abuse and Treatment Block Grant.

This morning, I had the privilege of welcoming Ohio Governor Mike DeWine to Toledo, as we toured the University of Toledo Medical Center and the State's Northwest Ohio Psychiatric Hospital. Governor DeWine is the first Governor to visit the State facility in the 21st century.

This important visit shows that Ohioans are continuing to make progress to strengthen critical medical assets for the region in a bipartisan fashion at every level.

Our medically underserved region must continue to champion medical advancements on every level. Onward Northwest Ohio, a community that cares for all people.

□ 1930

HONORING SELENA QUINTANILLA-PEREZ

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

Ms. DE LA CRUZ. Mr. Speaker, it is a privilege to rise in the people's House to honor Selena Quintanilla-Perez, an icon and trailblazer from south Texas whose music has transcended borders, cultures, and generations.

Her unique blend of cumbia, Tejano, and pop has captivated audiences around the world and introduced my community's culture to millions of Americans over the last 30 years.

Selena's seamless mix of Spanish and English lyrics, combining Mexican folklore and R&B, perfectly captured the richness of a beautiful culture that is shared by millions of us who are both fully American and proud of our Mexican heritage.

Selena's music is essential to the soundtrack of our lives. That is why I am submitting, for nomination, her album, "Amor Prohibido," to the Library of Congress for historical preservation in honor of her birthday, which was yesterday.

May Selena's legacy be forever engraved in our hearts and our Nation's history.

MIDWEST ALLIANCE FOR CLEAN ENERGY HYDROGEN HUB

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

Mr. MRVAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to highlight a letter recently sent to the administration from myself and my colleagues from Indiana in support of the Midwest Alliance for Clean Hydrogen proposal.

I was proud to support in the 117th Congress the Bipartisan Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, which established this Regional Clean Hydrogen Hubs funding opportunity.

Northwest Indiana and our Midwest region have robust and well-established agricultural, manufacturing, and transportation infrastructure networks. We are a prime central location for the development of new hydrogen technologies and the delivery of hydrogen products.

I am grateful for the leadership of Senator YOUNG, Senator BRAUN, and my House colleagues for their vocal support. I look forward to continuing to work with them and all the stakeholders to advance this transformational proposal that will create new, good-paying job opportunities for everyone in Northwest Indiana, the region, and the Midwest.

CONGRATULATING JON RAHM

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

Mr. ALLEN. Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to rise to offer my sincerest congratulations to Jon Rahm for his decisive victory in the 2023 Masters Tournament.

Every spring, the world's greatest golfers travel to Georgia's 12th District to play at the world's greatest golf course, Augusta National, a tradition like no other.

As people from all around the world make the trip to my district or tune in from the comfort of their homes, they get to experience one of the country's greatest competitions in the world of sports. In doing so, they get a glimpse into the beautiful city I am privileged to call home, Augusta, Georgia.

Many thanks to Chairman Ridley, the members of Augusta National, the staff and volunteers, for another magnificent tournament.

In winning this year's tournament, Jon Rahm joins an elite group of Spanish Masters champions that include Sergio Garcia, Jose Maria Olazabal, and Jon's very own role model, the late Seve Ballesteros.

In typical Masters form, Jon made his charge to the top of the leader board on the back nine on Sunday to finish with a 3-under-par 69 score to finish at 12 under. He did so on the 66th birthday of his role model, Seve Ballesteros.

Congratulations to Jon Rahm, a most deserving champion.

WELCOMING GREATER HOUSTON LGBT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

(Mrs. FLETCHER asked and was given permission to address the House

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

Mrs. FLETCHER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to welcome the Greater Houston LGBT Chamber of Commerce on their first trip to Washington.

I am so proud to represent so many thriving LGBTQ+ and allied businesses in my district and in the Greater Houston area.

This week, Chamber representatives are in Washington to advance policies that foster economic inclusion and equality for the LGBTQ+ business community. I want them to know how welcome they are here in Washington, in the U.S. Congress, the people's House. I want to recognize them for being here, for their efforts and engagement, and for being great partners and leaders.

The Greater Houston LGBT Chamber of Commerce brings the best of our diverse, dynamic, and inclusive community to Washington this week, and I could not be more proud to represent them or to welcome them here to the people's House.

RECOGNIZING THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SINKING OF USS "THRESHER"

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

Mr. WILLIAMS of New York. Mr. Speaker, this month marks the 60th anniversary of the loss of the nuclear submarine the USS *Thresher*, SSN 593.

On that fateful day, on April 10, 1963, 129 sailors and shipyard workers went out on an engineering trial. They encountered engineering problems that they were unable to recover from and, tragically, all hands were lost.

The submarine service that I served in became much safer as a result of this tragedy, and I am honored, as the first nuclear submarine veteran to serve in Congress in 50 years, to remember those that were lost today.

Even more importantly, we remember the widows that were created that day and the children that grew up fatherless. We stop and we remember them and say thank you for the life that you have lived without those loved ones.

PROTECT WOMEN'S REPRODUCTIVE FREEDOM

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

Mr. AUCHINCLOSS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to a Texas judge's attack on women's reproductive freedom. This ruling undermines proven scientific research and needlessly restricts women's access to healthcare.

Mifepristone is a safe and effective medication that has been used by millions since it was approved by the FDA two decades ago. Medical determinations should be left to medical professionals.

I am thankful for the work of the Healey administration in my home State to insulate Massachusetts residents from this decision. The Commonwealth must not let Texas set the agenda for women's healthcare.

I also strongly support the work of organizations like Mayday Health, who are informing and empowering women to make their own decisions about their reproductive health and working to get the medication across State lines.

On the Federal level, I joined my colleagues in submitting an amicus brief to the Supreme Court urging them to protect a woman's right to choose. I will not stop fighting to ensure access to safe, effective reproductive healthcare for all Americans.

APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO INVESTIGATIVE SUBCOMMITTEES OF THE COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair announces the Speaker's appointment, pursuant to clause 5(a)(4)(A) of rule X, and the order of the House of January 9, 2023, of the following Members of the House to be available to serve on investigative subcommittees of the Committee on Ethics for the 118th Congress:

Mr. BENTZ, Oregon
 Mr. CLINE, Virginia
 Mrs. KIM, California
 Ms. LEE, Florida
 Mr. MANN, Kansas
 Mr. OWENS, Utah
 Mr. PENCE, Indiana
 Mr. ROSE, Tennessee
 Mr. ROUZER, North Carolina
 Mr. YAKYM, Indiana

CONGRESSIONAL BLACK CAUCUS

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

GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. CHERFILUS-MC CORMICK. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include any extraneous material on the subject of this Special Order hour.

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

There was no objection.

Mrs. CHERFILUS-MC CORMICK. Mr. Speaker, for the next 60 minutes, we have a chance to speak directly to the American people on issues that are of great importance to the Congressional Black Caucus, Congress, the constituents we represent, and all Americans.

I rise today for the Tennessee Three, who stood in the face of bigotry and vitriol to fight for the communities they serve.

After six lives were lost due to gun violence in Nashville, the Republican-

led Tennessee Legislature expelled two Black lawmakers who stood with families, teachers, and students to demand a solution.

What happened to Representative Justin Pearson and Representative Justin Jones is an utter disgrace. This expulsion was a blow to our democracy and underscored the legislature's flagrant disrespect for their First Amendment rights.

The families of those who lost loved ones in The Covenant School shooting deserve real legislative solutions, not bigotry and petty politics.

As elected officials, it is our solemn responsibility to keep our communities safe from gun violence. Extreme Republicans have other priorities; protecting the NRA instead of our children and silencing the voices of our Black leaders.

Extremist Republicans continue to look the other way as our schools become firing ranges; as our movie theaters become firing ranges; as our places of worship become firing ranges.

It should provide us with some comfort that both of these lawmakers expelled were recently reinstated with unanimous support. Local leaders in Shelby County and Nashville were able to see through the hatred and recognize that representatives Pearson and Jones were fighting for their constituents.

However, let's not forget that what happened in the Tennessee Legislature can happen in any community anywhere in our country. Any State could be next, including my home State of Florida.

We cannot forget about why Justin Jones and Justin Pearson were expelled in the first place. They were fighting for an answer to end the gun violence epidemic that wreaks havoc in all communities in our country.

Nashville, like so many other cities, has been touched by this crisis. Families in South Florida know it all too well after a gunman entered the grounds of Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School and took 17 innocent lives in 2018.

Enough is enough. I urge Congress to come together in passing an assault weapons ban before more lives are lost. This senseless violence can no longer be left unaddressed.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Illinois, (Mr. JACKSON).

Mr. JACKSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to confront a multitude of challenges that have relentlessly gnawed at the very soul of our Nation, the devastating plague of gun violence, the erosion of our democratic values, and the insidious persistence of racism that continues to cast its dark shadow over our society.

As we stand today, hearts heavy with sorrow, we remember the innocent lives lost in the tragic mass shooting at The Covenant School in Nashville. Three young children and three adults were mercilessly taken from us, leaving a void in their families and communities that can never be filled.

The Metropolitan Nashville Police Department identified the victims as Evelyn Dieckhaus, 9 years of age; Hallie Scruggs, 9 years of age; William Kinney, 9 years of age; Katherine Koonce, 60; Cynthia Peak, 61; Mike Hill, 61.

In the wake of this unspeakable tragedy, the Tennessee State Legislature, a body that was meant to protect its citizens and uphold the values of this great Nation, chose to abdicate its responsibilities.

Instead of working tirelessly to keep their communities safe from the horrors of gun violence, they opted for an unprecedented and unjust course of action; expelling two Black members of the Democratic Caucus who stood with families, who stood with teachers, and who stood with the will of the students in their righteous demand for gun safety reform.

Representative Justin Jones and Representative Justin Pearson, two Black and duly elected representatives, were silenced, their voices snuffed out like candles in a storm.

The GOP-led House's actions have sent a chilling message that racism, the vile scourge that has blighted our Nation's history, is still alive and well.

My fellow colleagues, it is high time we stand up and speak truth to power. We must stand tall, shoulder to shoulder, and declare that we will no longer tolerate this blatant racism and anti-democratic behavior. We will not let the echoes of the past define our presence, nor dictate our future.

To truly understand the gravity of the situation in Tennessee, we must delve into the sordid history of State legislatures in the South and their treatment of Black lawmakers.

During the Reconstruction era, we saw the rise of Black political representation. However, this progress was met with fierce resistance from the white supremacists who sought to maintain their grip on power.

□ 1945

In Georgia, 32 Black legislators, known as the Original 33, were expelled from the general assembly in 1868. They were among the first African-American State legislators in the United States. Twenty-four of their members were ministers. Their only crime was the color of their skin.

This blatant act of racism sets a dangerous precedent for future generations.

In the turbulent times of the civil rights and antiwar movements, Mr. Julian Bond, a key figure in the founding of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee, was elected to the Georgia House of Representatives in 1966. Amidst the struggle for justice and equality, the Georgia House refused to seat Mr. Julian Bond, alleging that his opposition to the Vietnam war rendered him unfit to serve.

It took a Supreme Court ruling to overturn the decision and affirm Bond's right to serve in the State legislature.

Moreover, we cannot forget that even the United States Congress has denied African-American lawmakers their rights to seats.

On February 27, 1869, Congress rejected John Willis Menard, the first Black man elected to the House of Representatives. Mr. Menard, a poet, newspaper publisher, and politician, secured a resounding victory in Louisiana's Second Congressional District.

In November 1868, despite his triumph, his election was met with fierce opposition led by the defeated White candidate, Caleb S. Hunt. Then-Congressman JAMES Garfield argued it was too soon "for a Negro" to join the Congress and that the seat should be declared vacant to save the \$5,000 salary.

As a result, Mr. Menard was never seated, and his constituents were denied representation until the next election.

It is both disheartening and infuriating that even after more than 150 years since the end of the Civil War, we continue to grapple with the same injustices that have plagued our Nation since its inception. Racism remains deeply entrenched in our society, and the expulsion of Representative Justin Jones and Representative Justin Pearson in Tennessee is a stark reminder that our struggle for equality, justice, and fair representation is far from over.

We as a nation have not made as much progress as we should have despite the countless sacrifices of our forebearers. Black people in America continue to face systemic oppression and are silenced in various forms.

The legacy of slavery, segregation, sedition, and racial violence casts a long shadow over our society. However, it is in the face of adversity that we find our strength.

Throughout history, Black Americans have persevered, united, and fought for their rights, standing tall against the forces that sought to silence them. From the brave men and women who stood up against racial segregation to the pioneering lawmakers who broke barriers in the State legislatures and Congress, their resilience and determination have paved the way for future generations.

Now, it is our turn to carry the torch of progress. We must stand to demand an end to the injustices that continue to suppress the voices of our brothers and our sisters. We must actively dismantle the structures that perpetuate racism and inequality, ensuring that every citizen, regardless of the color of their skin, has the opportunity to thrive and make their voices heard.

Let us draw inspiration from those who have come before us and forged a new path toward a brighter future. Let the bold parallels of the past guide us as we reshape the narrative, ensuring that the sacrifices of our ancestors were not made in vain. It is our responsibility as a nation to guarantee that every American, irrespective of race, has the right to be heard, respected, and valued.

We are one Nation, indivisible, bound by our shared history and our common aspirations. Let us rise together and demand change not only for ourselves but for our children and our children's children.

We must break the chains of injustice, end the cycle of discrimination, and ensure that our voices, the voices of Black Americans and all marginalized people, will never again be silenced.

Mrs. CHERFILUS-MCCORMICK. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. CLARKE).

Ms. CLARKE of New York. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from Florida (Mrs. CHERFILUS-MCCORMICK) for yielding, and I thank Mr. JACKSON for co-anchoring this evening's Special Order hour.

Mr. Speaker, I rise on this day praying for the speedy recovery of 16-year-old Ralph Yarl of Kansas City, Missouri, who was released from the hospital today after being shot in the head for ringing the wrong doorbell.

We live in a society today where more and more communities are living in a recurring nightmare, reeling from gun violence.

Gun violence is the number one killer of children in the United States of America. While it has always been Black communities that have borne the brunt and have been the most victimized and terrorized by gun violence, and have too often assumed the blame of a poorly regulated gun industry, I truly expected that there would have been some bipartisan action taken to protect the next generation after the tragedy at Sandy Hook all those years ago.

Instead, the far right stays licking the boot of the NRA, taking their blood money and looking the other way. It has become crystal clear that the rightwing Republicans couldn't care less.

It is unconscionable that they care so little for the lives of children. I mean, look at what has happened just this past week in Tennessee, Kentucky, and Alabama.

Mass murder and mass casualties have become commonplace, but we can't make them normalized.

It is not lost upon me that two Black lawmakers, Representatives Justin Jones and Justin Pearson, were expelled from the Tennessee House after joining peaceful protests against gun violence. Another generation that has had to grow up doing gun violence drills in their schools has now taken leadership and is leading the charge.

Let's be clear. The CBC won't stand by and allow another Jim Crow era to take root while further GOP legislators abuse their power, as we saw in Tennessee. The CBC will continue to push back against any and all efforts by Republicans to subvert the will of the American people, whether it is the effort to overturn our election on January 6 or efforts to silence or expel members from statehouses who advo-

cate for a better nation, a better America, safe from the horrors of gun violence.

Again, I thank the gentlewoman from Fort Lauderdale, Florida, for yielding.

Mrs. CHERFILUS-MCCORMICK. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PAYNE).

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from Florida and the gentleman from Illinois for leading this Special Order hour, which is a great responsibility given to them by the chairman of this body.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to address the recent expulsion of two elected members of the Tennessee Legislature and the threat this action poses for American democracy.

On April 6, two Black elected officials, Justin Jones and Justin Pearson, as we all know, were expelled from the Tennessee State Legislature. They were involved in peaceful protests to demand legislators pass stricter gun laws in the State.

Why they were engaged in that peaceful protest is because their colleagues had tried to silence them so many times during normal debate, in committee, and on the floor of the Tennessee Legislature that they finally had to take these actions in order to be heard. They were expelled because of that protest.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud of those young men. They stood up for what they felt was right, and they took their opportunity, as elected officials of that body, to be heard. If it took rebellion to be heard, a megaphone to be heard on the floor, then that is what they had to do.

I was honored to be part of something similar that the Congressional Black Caucus led on this floor not too many years ago. I see my colleague JOYCE BEATTY and my colleague YVETTE CLARKE here. They were both part of that rebellion. We sat down on the House floor, which is against the rules.

We sat down because of the same issue these young men spoke up for: gun violence. We were tired. John Lewis led us, as he had done so many times before, and we sat right down on that floor and held the House of Representatives for over 24 hours.

Our colleagues tried to come back and disrupt us and scare us, but we were unbowed. We continued to hold this floor until we had people understand that we were serious about this.

Our children are being killed all over this Nation, and the unfortunate thing that happens with so many of my colleagues on the other side of the aisle is that, until it happens in their community, until it happens to their friends, until it happens to their family, they don't want to talk about it. Let it happen in their community and to their friends and to their family, and then we have to do something.

It is just like the fentanyl problem, a major problem in this country now.

Urban communities screamed about the opioid issue for 20 years, and nobody did anything. Now that it is impacting their families, it is a major health issue.

We have to understand that all issues in this country should be looked at in that manner. These young men were brave and articulate. It made sense for them to protest the horrible and unnecessary gun violence that occurs every day in this country.

In March, a former student entered the Covenant School in Nashville and killed three students and three adults. The school was part of Nashville's Covenant Presbyterian Church. Like millions of Americans, Tennessee residents are sick and tired of gun violence.

I have many Members behind me, so I will not belabor the point, but, Mr. Speaker, when are we going to address this issue?

The majority of the people in this country say they are willing to have reasonable gun background checks to make sure criminals or people with mental illness do not have these weapons because we are finding many times those are the people that are having these issues.

Why can't we deal with that? It is not unreasonable. Every American has a Second Amendment right to own a gun, but we should make sure we keep guns out of certain people's hands. That is what we need to do.

□ 2000

Mrs. CHERFILUS-MC CORMICK. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Ohio (Mrs. BEATTY), from the Third District.

Mrs. BEATTY. Mr. Speaker, let me say thank you to my colleagues and my friends for chairing tonight's Special Order hour. To the gentlewoman from Florida and the gentleman from Illinois, I thank them for speaking truth to power. I thank them for reminding us of our history. I thank them for reminding us why we are here tonight as we speak to the Nation.

Mr. Speaker, I rise this evening to stand in solidarity with the members of the Congressional Black Caucus and with the Tennessee Three. I have this raised fist on a poster behind me saying: I stand with the #TennesseeThree.

Mr. Speaker, as we speak truth to power tonight in the face of an unspeakable tragedy, in which six Americans—three educators, and three babies 9 years old—were murdered senselessly due to gun violence, the move by the Tennessee legislature to expel these lawmakers for using their voice to speak truth to power is unjust, undemocratic, and un-American.

You will hear those words riddled through our Chamber throughout the night. To silence lawmakers for standing up for the will of the people is not democracy. I am glad that my classmate, my colleague, and my friend, Congressman DONALD PAYNE reminded us of April, 7 years ago in this very

Chamber, where in a full House we had a sit-in and stopped the Congress in an effort to get laws passed on gun violence, gun reform, because of the number of times we come to this Chamber, we come to the floor's microphone, and we say: 1 minute of silence. We did it today, Mr. Speaker.

Democrats and Republicans can come and stand in this Chamber and in a solemn hollow voice beg us to pray for the victims of another mass shooting, beg us to stand together for 1 minute, 60 seconds in it, because lives have been lost to gun violence with assault weapons.

Mr. Speaker, I respect the Second Amendment, but I don't respect coming to this floor—and I don't respect the individuals that will not bring gun reform to this floor in legislation that will help us eradicate what we are living through. It is just not fair.

If I had my way, I would put a piece of legislation on the House floor that says we can't come to the floor and do a 1-minute when we are losing lives because we can put something in place to make a difference.

The expulsion of the State representatives, Justin Jones and Justin Pearson, two Black, duly-elected members representing minority districts, makes it clear that racism is still alive and well in this Nation.

What happened in Tennessee's legislature was a blow to our democracy. If this can happen in Nashville, it can happen in any community in this country we call America. Republicans in Tennessee's legislature shut down the members for standing up for our children.

Mr. Speaker, gun violence is a leading cause of death. Mr. Speaker, gun violence is an epidemic in our country. Inaction, Mr. Speaker, should not be an option. We need more leaders and officials standing on the front lines with the American people to assure them that we are fighting to ban assault weapons, fighting to protect our children, fighting to protect our communities, and yes, fighting to protect our democracy. That is exactly what the Tennessee Three did.

Two Black men—young men—and a White woman stood together for justice. They fought to defend our democracy and the power of our voices. And, yes, as you have heard and I imagine will hear repeated again, just yesterday another tragedy occurred in this Nation, taking the lives of four Alabama young people, 16 years old, going to a birthday party.

I imagine this week we will come to this floor again, Democrats and Republicans, and acknowledge that this should not have happened, and acknowledge that, again, we should bow our heads for 1 minute, 60 seconds.

As a grandmother, as someone who has grandchildren who I hope can live to look to the future, I would hope that we would stand here and say for our children, if not for us as Republicans and Democrats, that we can stand to-

gether and come up with some type of legislation for gun reform.

Let me end here by saying, yes, we should put gun violence at the forefront of our agenda.

Mr. Speaker, it is simple, we should put people over politics because not bringing gun reform to this floor is simply a political maneuver. Let me say, we stand here together as members of the powerful Congressional Black Caucus, and we remind you that you cannot expel justice and you cannot expel our voices.

Mrs. CHERFILUS-MC CORMICK. Mr. Speaker, can I inquire how much time is remaining?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentlewoman has 33 minutes remaining.

Mrs. CHERFILUS-MC CORMICK. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE), from the 18th District.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I am delighted but sad but empowered but anguished but yet fulfilled but yet rising but yet encouraged but yet ready to fight this evening. I thank the gentlewoman from Florida for her distinguished leadership and friendship.

Mr. Speaker, I am delighted as well with the gentleman from Illinois for his shining leadership and transformational changes that are happening in and around his district in Chicago.

I am honored to be here with my other colleagues that are here. I thank Chairman HORSFORD and Chairwoman BEATTY, emeritus of the Congressional Black Caucus, and I am honored to again call the Congressional Black Caucus the conscience of the Congress, and, yes, the conscience of the Nation. We can say that because in our midst we have had the Honorable John Lewis.

Mr. Speaker, I want to go down memory lane just a bit. As I do so and before I speak to the irony of the connection of the Tennessee Three to the historical record. Does anyone remember the Georgia 33, as we have brought to highlight? There were 33 Black legislators right after the Civil War, 1866 to 1868, proud and standing tall because they had some way of gaining the right to vote and the people there—the freed slaves, after the 13th Amendment was eliminated ending slavery in the United States—our freed slaves could vote. Property owners, as I believe.

They elected 33 Black legislators, and they were proud. You could see them with their button-down suits, speaking the best English they could, and fighting for their constituents. That is what we are to do here. Listening to the people and having the ear of their constituents.

Yet, within a few moments of their great victory, election to the Georgia Assembly they were expelled, thrown out because of the color of their skin, which began the demise of reconstruction and the Black codes and the horrors of the rage of the Klan and others leading into the 1900s.

Mr. Speaker, I am reminded of George White who stood on the floor in

1901, who had been drawn out of this Congress, a Member of Congress, and said: The Negro will rise like the phoenix.

Then in 1966—I am still stunned—a brilliant young man by the name of Julian Bond was duly-elected by the constituents, he had their ear, and they had his ear. A young man. He had all the willingness to do what was right as an elected member of the Georgia Assembly, and he was expelled for his supporting the fact of the SNCC, the organization that he previously led, indicating that the Vietnam war violated international law.

He didn't speak of the soldiers, which I have repeatedly said that our soldiers put on uniforms unselfishly. We never accuse them. They fight and they die. They died in Vietnam from all of our communities from the South to the North to the East to West, from our backyards. But because he expressed a democratic belief, meaning his right to a belief that might have been different, and because of democracy he had the right to speak, he was expelled.

Now we come to the fear and the absolute outrage of lack of understanding. I am baffled by the expulsion of the Tennessee Three: Representative Pearson, Representative Jones, and Representative Johnson.

All they did was come to hear the cries of America's best, the youth, the children, crying out again: How much more bloodshed can we take? The Congressional Black Caucus has been a leading force joining with our colleagues.

Mr. Speaker, let me say this tonight—we come from the same State—let me just say this. We all tend to oratory, we are passionate and emotional. After all these years and all the deaths of children, can we find even a sense of Congress that will lead us to be able to condemn gun violence as being the number one killer of our children through homicide?

The very fact that four children died and other innocent persons in Nashville just a mere couple of weeks ago, I want you to know that I feel personal pain when the news rises up in the early morning hours of what happened the night before, or the weekend, I have a personal pain.

My tenure here was a tenure during the assault weapons ban, but in the midst there was Columbine. The numbers showed that they went down, the assault weapon incidences. Now I am living with Sandy Hook. I am living with Parkland, Virginia Tech. I am living with Texas Tech. I am living with any number of those in Texas from the Walmart to the church to Uvalde where I went and talked with the families and went to funerals and cried and wondered why children were dead—19 of them.

These young men in Tennessee were walking the pathway of the Georgia 33 and Julian Bond. As history reflects, they did nothing wrong. These three individuals, one who was not expelled,

did nothing wrong as well. They were representing their constituents. They were nonviolent. They were in the midst of civil disobedience. They could not be heard. They were on the floor where one could do a lot of things.

Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD an article titled "The 'All Things Being Equal Test' Part II: Blatant Racism in the Tennessee House."

[From Forbes, Apr 7, 2023]

THE 'ALL THINGS BEING EQUAL TEST' PART II: BLATANT RACISM IN THE TENNESSEE HOUSE

(By Susan Harmeling)

The shocking but not surprising expulsion of two young Black men by the Tennessee State Legislature while their 60-year-old White colleague was spared ouster despite breaking house rules in the exact same way is a blatant display of racism, pure and simple. It may sound ridiculously obvious, but it needs saying. Representatives Justin Jones and Justin Pearson were clearly kicked out because they are Black, and also supposedly not "apologetic" enough for their White, male counterparts who decided to pursue the nuclear option and remove them from office instead of using other, lesser punishments such as censure. Representative Gloria Johnson, who a few days earlier had joined Jones and Pearson in taking to the house floor to demand an assault weapons ban following the slaughter of three little kids in their school, was protected by her whiteness, as she herself publicly stated.

This is an important moment in our society as it exposes both an ugly truth and an opportunity for progress. The ugly truth is obvious: two young, Black men in Tennessee—the birthplace of the Ku Klux Klan—were expelled for breaking rules of "decorum" while their White colleague who, again, joined them every step of the way still has her job. As Rep. Jones pointed out, there have been only two other expulsions from the Tennessee House in the last 157 years. In 1980, a representative was found guilty of accepting a bribe while in office and in 2016, another was expelled over allegations of sexual harassment. Recently, neither an arrest on charges of domestic violence nor admitted child molestation nor alleged urination on the seat of a fellow legislator was enough to warrant these offenders expulsion, but loudly protesting inaction on gun violence after three 9-year-olds are executed—and especially protesting such horror while Black—was reason enough for a Republican supermajority to take this extreme action. In a particularly repulsive and condescending comment, Rep. Andrew Farmer, R-Sevierville, blamed Pearson for throwing a "temper tantrum with an adolescent bullhorn". He continued addressing Pearson, "That yearning for attention, that's what you wanted? Well, you're getting it now." Farmer may as well have preceded his ugly rant with the word "boy" for good measure.

But take heart! Farmer is right in one sense—these young men are clearly going to get attention, just not the kind of attention Farmer was hoping for. This is clearly not the last we have heard from Jones and Pearson, both of whom are extraordinarily talented young legislators and orators. In fact, the Tennessee Republicans picked the wrong targets if they are hoping for this issue to go away. I personally have hope that their strong and powerful voices, particularly on the epidemic of gun violence, will not be silenced by this temporary, unjustified setback.

I would like to focus on the opportunity—and more specifically the lesson—that this sorry episode presents. Too often, white peo-

ple (or any people whose own "tribe" acts in such a blatantly racist way) look for alternative explanations for such behavior. But if it walks like racism and quacks like racism, it is racism. Due to our tendency toward homophobia, our knee-jerk reaction is to start explaining away the bad behavior of people who look like we do. But we have to stop it. And the best way to stop it is to put the episode through the "all-things-being-equal" test (otherwise known as the "but for" test), as in, would these young men have been expelled "but for" their race? Well, in this case, our answer was served up on a silver platter because Rep. Johnson was spared while her two colleagues lost their seats.

Typically, it's a bit more subtle. Would I have been called "confident" in teaching evaluations but for my gender? The answer is no, because not one single one of my male counterparts ever saw that adjective on their evaluations. Their confidence was simply assumed. Would Joe Biden have called Barack Obama "clean and articulate" but for Obama's race? No, because in the next breath he called him the first "mainstream African American". Would a young woman I recently interviewed have been asked by an older male colleague what she was making her boyfriend for dinner had the gender roles been reversed? Again, very doubtful (she swears she doesn't cook and never told this man that she does). Would George Floyd still be here today but for his race? Would a young, Black female former student of mine have been told by her White male boss that she could get promoted more quickly if she just "told a few more jokes" "but for" her race and gender? You get the idea. . .

Assumptions, stereotypes, and the natural human desire to hang around with our "Amen Choir" only serve to further divide us and to keep certain members of society from reaching their full potential. I suspect that those conservative, White, male Tennessee legislators would be a lot more comfortable with Reps. Jones and Pearson if they tried harder to conform to their ways of dress, behavior, speech and "decorum". In fact, Representative Pearson's previous decision to wear a traditional, African dashiki on the house floor really got some of those guys riled up.

But the promise of America is that it is a melting pot where we are called by our better angels to treat all fellow citizens with respect and tolerance. And the punishment for rule-breaking (or law-breaking) should be proportionate to the transgression, and the same for everyone. The quest for fairness in all areas of society, from law to politics to business to our many daily personal interactions, would benefit from the regular application of the all-things-being-equal test—"but for" the individual's race, gender, age, sexual orientation, etc, would things have played out in the same way? In Tennessee, if you're a young, Black male in the statehouse, the answer is clearly no.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I come today to be able to join my colleagues and to again ask for the question of justice and democracy and freedom, and to be able to salute these three. To say that in their name, from Tennessee, now from Alabama where teenagers were murdered, can we not do our work on the floor of the House: from abandoning assault weapons, from passing a sensible storage bill, the Emily Vaughan storage bill, to getting rid of ghost guns, to making red flag laws permanent and not voluntary—because of what happened in Louisville, mental health concerns, and a number of other places. Can we not do this?

□ 2015

I simply close with respect to the late Representative John Lewis. I simply close and pay tribute to him, for it was before your tenure, Mr. Speaker, that we did take to the floor of the House to sit with his leadership in the pain of another shooting of children way back during Parkland. We couldn't take it anymore. I wonder if this is not the moment when we can find common ground. I am going to look for my friends on both sides of the aisle to see whether we can find common ground on some form of gun safety legislation. Then I will say to those Tennessee Three what John Lewis said: Never give in, never give out, and never give up.

I pay tribute to them and all others who have never given up, never given out, and never given in.

God bless all of you, and God bless the United States of America.

Mr. Speaker, last week, we witnessed acts reminiscent of the extraordinary punitive action against lawmakers that can be traced back in Tennessee's deeply rooted racist history.

In fact, the third time since the Civil War era that the Tennessee House has expelled a lawmaker from its ranks and threatens to further inflame the partisan rancor within a bitterly divided state.

The silencing of the voices of two Black members for peacefully protesting gun violence is not only racist and anti-democratic, but also morally bankrupt, and out of step with the overwhelming majority of Americans who believe that we need common sense gun control reforms to save lives.

The expulsions of Tennessee State Representative Justin Jones and Representative Justin Pearson—two Black duly elected members representing minority districts—makes clear that racism is alive and well in Tennessee, and in America.

If we want to progressively advance as a democracy, we must recognize and acknowledge these ugly truths and work towards eradicating racism when and where it rears its ugly head.

These expulsions showcase a harsh and racist retaliation against Representatives Jones and Pearson because they rightfully supported peaceful student protestors and demanded that the Republican majority in the legislature do more to protect communities against gun violence in the aftermath of the Covenant School shooting.

I ask, why have we come this far to achieve progress for our democracy to go backwards?

What occurred in the Tennessee Legislature and to our fellow lawmakers was a blow to our democracy.

We must be cognizant of that.

This should concern every American because the hallmark of a vibrant and healthy democracy is the very thing the Republicans in the Tennessee Legislature shut down: Freedom of Speech.

It is hard to ignore the racial dynamic that played out. Its clear race is involved when two Black members were expelled and not the white member for the same alleged offense.

Tennessee Speaker Sexton comparing children, parents, teachers and their representatives—who only want children to be safe from gun violence in the classroom—to insurrec-

tionists shows how morally-bankrupt Republicans are in our country.

There is absolutely no comparison between that peaceful protest, and the violence in the U.S. Capitol on January 6th.

I stand today to acknowledge, support, and engage as much as possible to make sure reinstatement is upheld, equal democracy is demonstrated across all levels of government no matter the party affiliation, and we move forward as a democracy.

We must be weary, however, that this extraordinary abuse of power in Tennessee is an ominous sign of what is currently taking place and what may still lie ahead in other state legislatures.

These anti-democracy efforts are spreading in red states around the country, including: the Texas State TEA's move to take control of Houston schools, removing the elected school board and superintendent; and Florida Governor Ron DeSantis's abuse of power in removing a prosecutor for political reasons.

In Florida, Governor Ron DeSantis abused his power by removing an elected prosecutor because he didn't like his policy positions. A federal judge said DeSantis acted unconstitutionally, but the judge said he did not have the power to reinstate the prosecutor. DeSantis is now considering removing a second prosecutor.

And in my home state of Texas, the state Government Education Agency will soon take oversight of the Houston school system away from the elected school board and superintendent. The takeover, an ACLU Texas attorney explains, "is not about public education but about political control of an almost entirely Black and brown student body in one of the country's most diverse cities."

Like our ancestors and civil rights legends, we must stand up and push back against these growing, dangerous attacks on our freedoms and democracy.

Mrs. CHERFILUS-MCCORMICK. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from the Seventh District of Georgia (Mrs. MCBAATH).

Mrs. MCBAATH. First, Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the Honorable SHEILA CHERFILUS-MCCORMICK and also JONATHAN JACKSON on behalf of the CBC for standing on the front lines tonight for this very special hour.

I rise this evening to address the frightening assault on democracy which took place in the Tennessee legislature. In the days following the tragic shooting at The Covenant School, Representatives Justin Jones and Justin Pearson demanded action to keep their communities safe from gun violence.

In the spirit of our dear departed friend and as we have talked about John Lewis a great deal tonight, these lawmakers were doing nothing more than making good trouble. In response, the Republican Party majority in Tennessee took measures to expel Representatives Jones and Pearson from their positions undermining the will of the voters who sent them to Nashville.

This is simply unconscionable. This is not how it works. This is not how democracy works. This is an attack on the very principle of representative democracy on which our Nation was founded.

Our children are being murdered in their classrooms, and rather than work on solutions to prevent these senseless tragedies from happening again and again and again, Republican leaders in Tennessee opted to expel the lawmakers who are simply fighting for change, fighting to save lives, and fighting to save the lives of everyone in this country.

Our children are being murdered in their classrooms. We watch it day in and day out. We watch it at birthday parties, on our front doorsteps, and in their friends' cars as my son, Jordan, was murdered.

We cannot look away from the tragedies that are devastating families all across the country. Shame on us. Shame on this body to turn a blind eye to the massacre of human life.

Who have we become in this body that we have no thought for preservation of human life?

We cannot seek to silence the voices that are crying out for change because we are not powerless. We have the power. We are the body. We have solutions to put an end to gun violence that claims over 100 Americans in this country every single day; solutions that the majority of Americans support and are crying out for.

What happened in Nashville sets a very disturbing precedent. Efforts to silence duly elected representatives can happen in States all across this country. It happened right here in this very Chamber. But the will of the American people will not be overturned. The efforts of those who would rather betray trust in our democratic institutions than fight to keep kids safe in our school, those efforts will fail, and we will continue our efforts to make good on the promise that we must fulfill for America's children. A better and safer America is what they deserve. It is truly possible if we have the will and the courage to do it.

Representatives Jones and Pearson are disrupters. And, yes, for cultural change to make this community—our community—safer, it means disruption. That is how change happens.

As we talked about earlier, mentioning the sit-in with Representative John Lewis on the floor, when that happened, I was leading a rally outside the Capitol, disrupting, to make sure that people's voices were heard and to make sure that survivors and victims like me have the ability to express and ask this body to do what is right.

The time has passed. It is long overdue. Over and over and over and over again, we come before this House and this body and ask people to stand up with courage and do the right thing.

When will it happen?

Do we have the courage to act?

Mrs. CHERFILUS-MCCORMICK. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from the Second District of Louisiana (Mr. CARTER).

Mr. CARTER of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, I thank my esteemed colleagues, Congresswoman CHERFILUS-

MCCORMICK from Florida and Representative JACKSON from Illinois, for their leadership, their commitment, and for allowing us to have this opportunity to speak on such an important, important measure.

I was outraged by what we all witnessed in Tennessee at the beginning of April. Following the tragic mass shooting at The Covenant School, the Republican majority in the State legislature chose to avoid passing any meaningful gun reform or even having any meaningful discussion about gun reform. Instead, they sought to thwart democracy and to silence the critics who stood with the community and who demanded action. Prayers are wonderful. I subscribe to them daily. Well-wishing is a wonderful thing, and it makes us feel good. That alone without action is not enough.

We as elected officials are sworn to a task and to a duty to serve and to provide. In Tennessee that day, we failed the people of Tennessee. We failed the people of America. Instead of action, they expelled two Black American members of the Democratic Caucus who stood with parents, teachers, and students to demand action and to speak truth to power about the reality of gun violence.

This was an attack on our democracy, and all of us, Republican, Democrat, and other, should be outraged with such an attack on democracy because this issue today may have been an issue that the majority ruling party didn't like.

What happens tomorrow when we unilaterally seek to silence the voices of duly elected people in a democratic society?

Stop and think about that for a second. Stop and think about it. Stop and think about the threat to our democracy. The cornerstone and the pillar of our society is freedom of speech, freedom of expression, and the ability to disagree and to have meaningful discourse. That is what we all ran on. That is what the mighty Constitution protects.

Yet, in Tennessee that was ignored. It was ignored. It was defiled. Everyone, of every race and party, should find disdain and pain with that kind of treatment in the democratic process.

In the post-Civil War Reconstruction era, four Members of the House, James Lewis, John Willis Menard, P.B.S. Pinchback, and Josiah Thomas Walls, were wrongly denied the right to take their seats.

These egregious actions in Tennessee show us that the fight for Black representation in the United States is still an ongoing battle.

Our democracy is built on the freedom of speech and the freedom to protest. To expel elected representatives for standing with their neighbors after an horrific act of gun violence against children is appalling. I am enraged that it was two Black lawmakers who were expelled.

Black people in the United States have historically been vilified for

speaking up. We have been beaten. We have been attacked by dogs. We have been hosed with powerful water hoses. We have been hanged from trees. Yet, in 2023, two duly elected members of a State legislature were unilaterally dismissed and removed from service for standing up with the people. There were no guns. There were no spears. There were no choke holds. There was no fighting. There was no profanity. There were no broken windows or broken arms. It was mere words—mere words—that defended the Constitution of our land and that defended the people to protest against something as egregious as the death of children. And we say we don't need to do anything with gun control?

You can't find one thing, Mr. Speaker?

Can we find any one thing that we can come together on that would suggest that we hear the pain? We hear the cries? We see the eyes of Black and White mothers and fathers who will never see their children again?

Yet, we continue to find a comfortable place in the shade and hide behind rhetoric.

The time has come for us to do something, to act, to move, and to show the American people that we will not continue to sit back and watch senseless killings on our streets. Look at the statistics. We have more mass murders in a year than we have days in this year.

Doesn't that mean anything?

Doesn't that cause you to cringe and say no more?

Black, White, Republican, and Democratic, there are lots of things that we can agree to disagree on. Public safety should not be one of them, particularly when it comes to standing up for our young people.

Today, Mr. Speaker, we send a promise of action, and we ask you to join us in delivering on that promise of action.

Today I stand for justice. Today I stand with the Justins. Today I stand with the Tennessee Three. Today and every day I invite you, Mr. Speaker, to join me and others in supporting the bare principle of democracy and protecting its people.

□ 2030

Mrs. CHERFILUS-MCCORMICK. Mr. Speaker, may I inquire how much time is remaining.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentlewoman has 10 minutes remaining.

Mrs. CHERFILUS-MCCORMICK. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. FROST).

Mr. FROST. Mr. Speaker, I am here today because I, like the rest of our Nation, am outraged about what we have seen happen in Tennessee.

Six innocent people died as a result of senseless gun violence in Nashville, a school shooting where we lost children that will never be forgotten.

Instead of banning together to honor these victims, to honor those families, to honor with action, real action that

would save lives, Republicans in the Tennessee Legislature took the racist step of expelling two Black lawmakers who stood with the families, students, teachers, and their constituents in demanding change.

The only thing that Representatives Jones and Pearson are guilty of is doing the right thing, of standing with their constituents who sent them to the State legislature to fight for their lives. That is why they have already been unanimously reappointed to their positions by the people in their local governments.

I pray and act and fight for a day when we are more outraged that children were murdered in a pool of their own blood at school than we are that Black folks have the audacity to take up space in the halls of power.

Guess what? Representatives Jones and Pearson will continue to take up that space. Black lawmakers such as myself and my colleagues in this room will continue to take up that space. The people—children—for whom the leading cause of death in this country is guns will continue to take up that space.

As long as there is injustice, we will not be silent. We will continue to fight for a world where no one has to have the fear of gun violence.

I commend Representatives Jones and Pearson. They are American heroes because they fight for a day when we can be safe.

Mrs. CHERFILUS-MCCORMICK. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE).

Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from Florida and the gentleman from Illinois for managing this very important Special Order hour.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to discuss the blatantly antidemocratic and, frankly, racist expulsion of Tennessee Representatives Justin Jones and Justin Pearson.

In response to the Covenant School shooting that claimed the lives of three innocent children and three staff members, Representatives Jones, Pearson, and Johnson protested on the floor of the Tennessee House. They were calling for long-overdue commonsense gun reform that would help save the lives of children and keep our communities from becoming war zones.

They engaged in good trouble, similar to what Congressman John Lewis did when he sat on this very floor to demand action to end gun violence.

What the “Tennessee Three” did was righteous, yet instead of joining the calls to keep our communities safe, extremist Republicans retaliated by expelling Representatives Jones and Pearson, two young Black male lawmakers.

Actions of civil disobedience by Black men and women have been the impetus of change in our Nation, from boycotts to peaceful protests to sit-ins. I know we like to romanticize the civil rights movement, but let's be clear: It

was not long ago that dogs were sicced on young people for wanting the right to vote, and their disobedience was in nonviolently persisting.

Representatives Jones and Pearson's only "disobedience" was in being vocal and unapologetic about gun violence in this Nation and about being Black.

Unfortunately, throughout our history, Black people fighting for a stronger democracy and a more perfect Union have been silenced and shut down by white supremacy. When asked to make a choice between democracy and white supremacy, those in the Tennessee Legislature chose white supremacy, ignorantly presuming that this could happen without any attention, but they were wrong.

There is a long history of attacks against Black legislators going back to the Reconstruction era or even the case against civil rights advocate Julian Bond and Congressman Adam Clayton Powell.

Tennessee Republicans managed to expel two duly elected Black legislators, but the vote against Representative JOHNSON, a White woman, failed.

We cannot ignore the racial undertones of this incident and the efforts to temporarily disenfranchise Black voters and muzzle Black voices. Was it the color of these young men's skin, their age, their hair?

As a Black legislator, I know what it feels like to have to explain my very presence in these spaces. Sadly, my story is not unique. It is the story of individuals in Black and Brown communities everywhere.

That is why I introduced a resolution to immediately condemn the actions of the Tennessee Legislature and to recognize this as an attack on the very heart of our democracy.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. COHEN) for joining the resolution with me. He is a true advocate for the people of Tennessee.

In addition, I am proud to work with my colleagues in the Congressional Black Caucus who reached out to Representatives Jones and Pearson and assured them that they have our support.

My colleagues stand by me today as we demand more from a country founded on the principles of liberty and justice for all because it is clear that we live in a nation where liberty and justice are only granted for some.

I am glad that both Representatives Jones and Pearson have been reinstated as interim representatives so that they can continue to serve their constituents. Their municipal governments saw the importance of getting them back to work. They have it right. The Tennessee House had it wrong. The fact that it took national outrage and the shaming of the legislature of Tennessee is absurd.

I will continue to work with my CBC colleagues to call out attacks on our democracy in Black communities across the country as we work to advance racial equity and address the needs of Black Americans because

these young men were fighting to end gun violence.

As you have heard, guns are the leading cause of death for children and teens, and Black men are 10 times more likely to be killed by gun violence. They were speaking truth to reality, and they were silenced.

I don't know why the truth is so scary, but that is why I am so proud to be part of the CBC, to make sure that we are reminding people of the truth every single day.

Mrs. CHERFILUS-MCCORMICK. Mr. Speaker, may I inquire how much time is remaining.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentlewoman has 2 minutes remaining.

Mrs. CHERFILUS-MCCORMICK. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Virginia (Mrs. McCLELLAN).

Mrs. McCLELLAN. Mr. Speaker, I thank Chairman HORSFORD and Representatives Cherfilus-McCormick and Jackson for convening this Congressional Black Caucus Special Order hour.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in solidarity with my CBC colleagues in support of the "Tennessee Three" and in staunch opposition to the dangerous precedent set by Tennessee Republicans.

Just 10 days after three children and three adults were brutally and tragically murdered, rather than working to prevent that tragedy from happening again, Tennessee Republicans expelled Representatives Justin Jones and Justin Pearson in a gross abuse of power, a blatant infringement of free speech, and a disenfranchisement of the voters of the 52nd and 86th Tennessee House districts.

Attempts to compare the actions of the "Tennessee Three" to those of the January 6 insurrectionists to justify the expulsion trivializes the tragic events that occurred in this very building. Nobody died in the Tennessee House. A bullhorn is not a pipe bomb. Nobody called for members of the Tennessee Legislature to be hung.

Instead, Tennessee Republicans have set a dangerous precedent that threatens the very foundational principles of American democracy by attempting to silence calls for gun reform. This is something that should concern every voter. A controlling party cannot invalidate the will of the people simply because they don't agree with the position of their colleagues or the peaceful exercise of their free speech.

I stand with my CBC colleagues in denouncing this overreach. We will not stand idly by for such threats on democracy.

Mrs. CHERFILUS-MCCORMICK. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Nevada (Mr. HORSFORD), our chairman.

Mr. HORSFORD. Mr. Speaker, I thank our co-anchors and all the Members who spoke.

I send one very clear message: The actions of the Tennessee Legislature led by the GOP were a direct assault on our democracy and on people's duly

elected Representatives. It smacks of overt racism that they would expel two of the youngest Black men in their body for simply speaking on behalf of their constituents.

This is still an ongoing threat that we should be concerned about because what happened in the Tennessee Legislature was a blow to our democracy, and if it can happen in Nashville, it can happen in communities all over our country.

This should concern every American, including my Republican colleagues, because the hallmark of a vibrant and healthy democracy is the very thing that the Republicans in the Tennessee Legislature shut down: freedom of speech.

The Congressional Black Caucus won't stand by and allow another Jim Crow era to take root while GOP legislatures abuse their power, as we saw in Tennessee.

We stand with the "Tennessee Three." We stand with the parents calling for gun violence to end in their communities. We stand for free speech. We stand for our democracy.

Mrs. CHERFILUS-MCCORMICK. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, in the wake of our country's 129th mass shooting, Tennessee Legislators had the opportunity to set an example of what it means to respond and act on the needs of your constituents. After an attack that killed six people—including three 9-year-old children, Tennessee Representatives had the chance to do something, anything, to keep Tennesseans safe from gun violence.

On April 6, 2023 the Tennessee Legislature set an example, but it sure wasn't the right one. Instead of actually working to keep children safe from gun violence, Republicans in the Tennessee Legislature chose to expel two Black lawmakers who chose to stand alongside families, students and teachers for gun safety reforms.

The expulsions of Representatives Justin Jones and Justin Pearson were both unwarranted and undemocratic. Representatives Jones and Pearson were simply supporting student protestors and demanded that the Republican majority in the Legislature do more to protect communities from gun violence following the Covenant School Shooting.

Now Representatives Jones and Pearson weren't the only legislators who joined the protestors, but they were the only two expelled which makes it clear that racism is at the root of these anti-democratic expulsions. It was an attempt to both silence Black leaders and undermine Black voters who sent Representatives Jones and Pearson to the State Capitol in the first place.

Let's be clear: this is not an isolated incident. State legislatures in the South have a history of silencing Black lawmakers and unfortunately my home State is one of the main offenders. In 1966, the Georgia General Assembly voted to refuse to seat a newly elected Julian Bond after he used his constitutional right to free speech in protest of the United States' war in Vietnam. Mr. Bond was ultimately seated in the legislature and went on to serve for 20 years in the Georgia General Assembly.

In 2017, I was elected to the same seat Julian Bond held in the Georgia State Senate. Nearly one year after being duly elected to serve, I was arrested inside the Georgia State Capitol while doing my job and standing with my constituents demanding that every vote be counted in November 2018.

As I watched the events unfold in Tennessee, the parallels struck me and reminded me that free speech in this country doesn't always apply to Black voices like mine.

Free speech is at the foundation of any healthy democracy and it is the very thing Republicans in Tennessee chose to shut down when they expelled Representatives Jones and Pearson. This should sound an alarm for every American because as history teaches us, actions that go unchecked only repeat themselves—again, and again, and again.

Though Representatives Jones and Pearson were rightfully reappointed to their seats, we cannot ignore the fact that what happened in Tennessee was yet another blow in the continued assault on democracy. And on top of it, the expulsions were completely out of step with the voices of the people—an overwhelming majority of Americans agree that common-sense gun safety laws are necessary to save lives.

We have a moral responsibility to reject any and all actions that threaten our democracy, particularly those targeted toward Black people and communities who have systemically been silenced for far too long.

Tonight, I stand with my Congressional Black Caucus colleagues to say 'no more.' That's why I've co-sponsored Representative SYDNEY KAMLAGER-DOVE's resolution condemning the expulsions of Representatives Justin Jones and Justin Pearson from the Tennessee Legislature, and I encourage all of my colleagues who claim to stand on the side of democracy to do the same.

CHINESE INVOLVEMENT IN HIGHER EDUCATION IN AMERICA

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 9, 2023, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BEAN) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BEAN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. BEAN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to stand before you and lead this Special Order tonight.

I have a message. That message is our Nation's higher education system is being purchased and manipulated by the Chinese Communist Party.

America needs a wake-up call. I thought that wake-up call would come in the form of a Chinese spy balloon. If it was the Chinese spy balloon sent to wake us up, it seems that America has hit the snooze button.

A few weeks ago, several members of the Education and the Workforce Committee were briefed on the scheme, the

manipulation of the Chinese Communist Party on higher education in the USA, and we were all shocked. It was a shocking report, and we wanted to share the truth of how China is infiltrating and taking control over higher education in the United States.

Since 2013, \$12 billion has poured into our higher education system from foreign sources. China is by far the largest of foreign donations since that time.

Between 2013 and 2020, U.S. universities accepted nearly a billion dollars from Chinese donations. The tuition paid by Chinese students is estimated to be over \$12 billion per year. It is time we look at this influence and take it seriously.

It started over 20 years ago, Mr. Speaker, that China has been playing this game of infiltration, manipulation, and trying to purchase influence. It started with this game they play that they call the Confucius Institutes. These centers teach Chinese languages and culture but avoid discussing China's widespread human rights abuses and present Taiwan as undisputed Chinese territory.

They are simply a propaganda machine funded and directed by the Chinese Government, and we haven't even gotten started on what they are stealing from us, Mr. Speaker.

Tonight, members of the Education and the Workforce Committee and other invited Members are going to tell the story of just how far China has been infiltrating our university system. You are going to hear how top colleges and universities have not fully reported donations from foreign sources, including that of the Chinese Government.

You are going to hear the administration is not enforcing existing laws requiring full reporting of these foreign sources.

Universities, in their desire to seek donations from the public, sometimes unexpectedly or overtly take money from foreign sources and, in this case, many times from the Chinese Government.

You are going to hear also how the United States is losing the technology edge that we have long enjoyed for many years in computing, science, and engineering, all kinds of energy sources where we were the dominant player, but now because of theft and China's influence in our university system, those edges in technology are now leaning China's way. You are going to hear about that.

□ 2045

So, Mr. Speaker, as we begin tonight, I just want to say that it is long overdue that we hear the truth and we are fully aware how bad China is.

I would first yield a few minutes to the chair of Education and the Workforce Committee, the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. FOXX).

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I thank Congressman BEAN for his leadership on the Education and the Workforce Com-

mittee and also his leadership in leading this Special Order tonight.

It is a very important issue to the people of the United States, and I am very proud of him for taking the leadership and putting this Special Order together.

Mr. Speaker, we are engaged in a new era of warfare with our foreign adversaries who are vying for influence and control not only over America but especially over America's postsecondary education system.

Losing on this 21st century battleground has serious consequences for free thought, economic competitiveness, and national security.

Foreign adversaries like the Chinese Communist Party have used power and monetary influence to infiltrate colleges and universities to grow their sphere of influence in American society.

Mr. Speaker, make no mistake: When we talk about China and its exertion of force and its exertion of power, we are not talking about the Chinese people. We are talking about the Chinese Communist Party, the CCP.

So let us be clear on that tonight so that nobody mistakes who we see as the enemy. It is the Chinese Communist Party.

At face value, foreign contributions coming into universities might seem harmless, but the reality is foreign money often comes with strings attached. We know with the CCP, there are always strings attached.

Every dollar that institutions accept from undisclosed foreign entities that do not share our Nation's values sends them deeper into a dangerous entanglement that undermines our Republic.

For years, this influence scheme has been going on, yet neither the Chinese Communist Party nor institutions of higher education have faced repercussions for their actions.

Indeed, during the Trump administration, it discovered \$6.5 billion in previously unreported foreign money to universities from adversarial countries.

For the first time, real progress was being made to hold institutions accountable for undisclosed contributions.

But mysteriously, when the Biden administration came into office, all progress toward discovering these contributions stopped.

The Department of Education is shirking its duty to enforce the law and has abandoned robust scrutiny of undisclosed foreign gifts and contracts that violate section 117 of the Higher Education Act of 1965.

Mr. Speaker, we have known since 1965 that the potential for damage done to our institutions through foreign contributions was possible.

Section 117 is the single most important enforcement tool at the Biden administration's disposal to protect against the threats posed by our foreign adversaries attempting to steal research and buy off students and faculty on our Nation's campuses.

Republicans have sent multiple letters to Secretary Cardona demanding answers about this foreign money. Yet, this administration continues its pattern of stonewalling Congress with limited and woefully insufficient responses.

This is a part of Congress' oversight responsibility, Mr. Speaker, and is not being done on a whim.

It is unacceptable that the Biden administration has exercised minimal effort to expose the lack of integrity happening at so-called "elite" institutions.

The possible consequences of the department's limited engagement are dire. Section 117 is effective only if it is enforced.

That is why congressional oversight is necessary to hold the Department of Education accountable to enforce the law.

We must fight money and coercion beginning with accountability and transparency. Without accountability and transparency, the Chinese Communist Party could win this new-age battle because America has been fighting with one hand tied behind its back.

Mr. Speaker, I say: No more. My Republican colleagues and I will not stop until we see rigorous enforcement of section 117 that hold the universities responsible and hold the Chinese Communist Party responsible for what it may be trying to do.

Mr. BEAN. Dr. FOXX, thank you so much. You are doing such a great job as chairman of Education and the Workforce. Thank you for the opportunity to serve on that committee.

Thank you for highlighting the decades-long campaign that has manifested into bigger problems for America by the Chinese Communist Party.

America's education system is being purchased and manipulated by China. Since 2013, \$12 billion has flooded in from foreign sources to U.S. colleges and universities, including more than a billion from communist China.

Rather than forcing colleges and universities to comply with reporting requirements under section 117 of the Higher Education Act, this administration is playing into the hands of the Chinese Communist Party by refusing to pursue enforcement.

For the past 2 years, Mr. Speaker, this administration has been trying to distract the American people of the very real threat China poses with its far-left policies. That ends tonight.

Up next to help spread the word of exactly how bad an actor China is, is my friend and colleague, the gentleman from California.

He is the chairman of the Workforce Protections Subcommittee. Mr. Speaker, I yield 8 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. KILEY).

Mr. KILEY. Thank you very much to my colleague from Florida. I appreciate you identifying this very important issue, the attempt of the Chinese Communist Party to gain influence at American universities in very con-

cerning ways because it so clearly highlights the mentality and strategy of the CCP, that they understand where the battle lines are being drawn in the 21st century.

The truly concerning thing is that increasingly, China is beating the United States at its own game, outpacing us and the rest of the world in key areas of technological advancements.

Through their actions, the CCP has shown an understanding that the 21st century will belong to the most innovative Nation, the one that is able to harness the whole power of new technologies.

China has known for decades that Nation was unquestionably the United States. But what we have seen over the last 2 decades is that China has dramatically ramped up its own investment in research and development, cutting into America's traditional dominance.

From 2000 to 2019, China's share of global R&D quadrupled to nearly a quarter, while our share slid from 37 percent to just 27 percent.

China has increased its R&D spending by nearly 16 times over the same period and plans to compound its R&D investments by an additional 7 percent annually.

By contrast, Federal R&D investment in the United States has never surpassed .8 percent of GDP over the last decade.

Of course, spending isn't the only metric that matters. The United States is also increasingly losing the talent battle, and the trend lines are getting worse.

China has consistently graduated more STEM Ph.D.s than the United States, and of course, many are getting educated right here in the United States.

Looking at the publication of peer-reviewed articles and journals, Chinese scholars surpassed the United States in the last decade.

In 2020, China published 38 percent more peer-reviewed articles than the United States and is on track to extend this gap even further over the next 5 years.

This all puts into perspective the pervasive attempts by the Chinese Communist Party to gain leverage over American universities.

Even though colleges and universities are required to report foreign gifts and contracts under section 117 of the Higher Education Act, over \$6.5 billion in unreported Federal money received by colleges has already been uncovered.

The Biden administration has done little to enforce this reporting requirement or open new investigations into how China is influencing our higher education system even though China wields the spending to co-opt innovative research. China has signaled that intellectual property is absolutely key to its long-term goals.

For years, the CCP sought to acquire IP through outright theft from U.S.

companies or by gaining influence in our universities.

But what we also have to acknowledge in this discussion is that their strategy has gotten much more sophisticated.

In addition to outright theft, China has signaled its plans to, in fact, elevate the status of the China National Intellectual Property Administration to make it a top-level independent agency.

While President Biden didn't mention IP at all in his most recent state of the Union address, Chinese President Xi Jinping speaks about IP frequently.

"We will increase investment in science and technology through diverse channels and strengthen legal protection of intellectual property rights . . .", he said in his speech at the opening of the 20th National Congress of the Communist Party of China last year.

So clearly, the United States is at risk of forfeiting our technological edge at a time when it is more important than ever to protect our national interests.

To outcompete China, we need to out-innovate China, and that requires policymakers to act with urgency, not only to protect our companies and universities from Chinese influence but also to change the policy environment in ways that promote and protect American innovation.

Unfortunately, recent policy changes have done just the opposite. For example, FTC Chair Lina Khan has proposed sweeping new rules to unilaterally ban employers from using noncompete agreements, something California, by the way, has already done.

This will hamstring employers in the most competitive, trade-secret-rich sectors: artificial intelligence, biotechnology, and provision manufacturing, and render the United States less competitive than China.

Meanwhile, administrative processes at the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office are creating headaches and worse for innovators seeking to defend their patents.

A quasi-judicial administrative body within the USPTO, the Patent Trial and Appeal Board or PTAB, has become the favorite forum for companies to challenge the validity of patents they are accused of infringing.

This works to the disadvantage of innovators and small businesses who must defend their IP in court and the PTAB simultaneously, reducing the incentive to invent in the first place.

But here is the good news. The United States has a proven track record of beating authoritarian governments in strategic technological competitions. We didn't beat the Soviet Union to the Moon by chance. It required a generational investment in cutting-edge research and development, which was enabled by American citizens solving the toughest technological problems of their day.

We have that same capacity in the challenges we now face in the 21st century, but that requires a change in how

we approach intellectual property and innovation in this country.

I think that the issue that is being highlighted today, the outright attempts by the CCP to go to our centers of research, of higher learning, our centers of intellectual life in this country shows that they understand the stakes and it is time that we here in Congress and throughout our government understand that as well.

Mr. Speaker, I thank my fellow subcommittee chair for bringing this issue to our attention.

□ 2100

Mr. BEAN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from California (Mr. KILEY).

Mr. Speaker, for those just tuning in, China is manipulating and trying to peddle influence among our higher universities, and Members are standing up and saying enough.

A few weeks ago, and to great amazement, we saw this Chinese spy balloon that cruised over our most sensitive sites in our country.

We were told we were blocking it from transmitting any data at the time, but now we have found that that spy balloon was transmitting pictures and information of our most sensitive military and nuclear sites in real time.

Who knows? I don't know if we will ever find out the true damage of that espionage break. Why on earth it wasn't shot down, I don't know. But what about the things we can't see? We can't see what China is doing to buy influence and to infiltrate our university systems.

Mr. Speaker, somebody that is going to tell us his angle on it is a gentleman who was part of a delegation that just last week went to Taiwan, went on an Asia tour to meet with leaders about just exactly what is going on over there.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. MORAN).

Mr. MORAN. Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend and colleague, Mr. BEAN of Florida, for gathering us here this evening to raise awareness of the rising influence of foreign adversaries in our institutions of higher education, namely China and the Chinese Communist Party.

As he mentioned, I have just returned from a Foreign Affairs congressional delegation trip to the Indo-Pacific region where we met with the leaders of Japan, South Korea, and Taiwan to talk about the aggression of China not just from a military standpoint, but from a diplomatic and an economic standpoint.

Here tonight, we are talking about the aggression of China to take over America through its educational institutions.

Universities across the Nation are being exploited by the Chinese Communist Party and other foreign adversaries, with the CCP leading efforts to infiltrate college campuses to steal our

intellectual property, spread propaganda, and collect information to send back to China.

Our institutions of higher learning play a vital role in preparing our workforce for not only the next step in their career, but in evolving as contributing members of our society.

On college campuses across the United States, China has sponsored ambassadors to enroll in American institutions called "Confucius Institutes" to take advantage of domestic resources while influencing public perception that China is somehow compassionate and does not pose an economic or security threat to this Nation. They are doing it all within our borders, and it is simply false.

The Confucius Institutes aim to expand the Chinese footprint on universities around the world, influencing our students and threatening academic freedom.

In the United States alone, China has spent over \$150 million developing these programs by planting over 100 of the institutions. Today, there are 13 Confucius Institutes in the United States, with over 100 of the previously established institutes having closed or being in the process of closing, thankfully.

These so-called culture centers have given universities a direct line of communication with foreign adversaries, in addition to a direct source of foreign funding.

By law, universities receiving gifts from foreign countries with a value of over \$250,000 are required to report these donations to the Department of Education.

Several prestigious universities, however, across the United States, including universities such as the University of Pennsylvania, MIT, Harvard, Yale, and Georgetown received funding—lots of funding, millions and millions of dollars of funding—from foreign adversaries between 2014 and 2017. Yet, they failed to disclose any of these donations to the Department of Education.

I wonder why.

During the Trump administration, the Department of Education actually enforced the law and investigated these reports and donations ensuring that universities were compliant in this reporting.

As we all know, transparency is the key to accountability in this country. Yet here we see a lack of transparency on the part of these universities.

Unsurprisingly, the Biden administration, who has been weak on foreign policy and the promotion of American interests, has not yet investigated the nearly \$6.5 billion in unreported foreign money received by colleges and universities during the Biden administration.

I will repeat that again: \$6.5 billion.

And you ask, what is that money buying the Chinese Communist Party?

The administration's failure to enforce the law and ensure transparency and accountability of foreign money funneled into the United States insti-

tutions is dangerous, and it reveals a lack of desire to protect American national security and our values from bad actors.

The stake that the Chinese Government has in universities has given the People's Republic of China and the Chinese Communist Party a seat at the table of our educational institutions, a seat they should not have. They are strong-arming free speech and academic freedom. They are rewriting history, the history of the Chinese Communist Party, and they are doing it all through the dissolution of our free speech and our academic freedom, those pillars of our society.

As Members of Congress, it is of the utmost importance that we have accountability over the foreign dollars entering our college campuses and universities and ensure that dangerous ideals are not being promoted across the country through the Chinese Communist Party and other foreign adversaries that would use this information and these investments against our national security efforts.

American universities and colleges are esteemed for brilliant research and academia. We must not tolerate foreign governments stealing critical information in these premier research programs for the purpose of using it against the United States and weakening our national security.

I can tell you again from experience, these past couple of weeks have opened my eyes to the reality of the threat that is the Chinese Communist Party. Again, it is not just our diplomatic status, it is not just our economic warfare that we are engaging in, it is not just what we are seeing from a military presence that they have around the island of Taiwan. Know that it is now indeed in our educational institutions.

We must push back on every front. It is a multi-front fight that we cannot lose, or we will lose this Nation.

Mr. BEAN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman.

Mr. Speaker, our Nation's higher education system is being purchased and manipulated by the Chinese Communist Party. You have heard about it and we keep hearing about it. China can't keep up with our Nation's unrelenting free market system that is constantly innovating, so the only way they see to catch up with us is to cheat and steal our intellectual property and infiltrate our university systems and steal our discoveries. It has got to end.

Let's hear more about what China is doing to manipulate our university systems.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield to the gentleman from Utah (Mr. OWENS), the distinguished chair of the Subcommittee on Higher Education and Workforce Development.

Mr. OWENS. Mr. Speaker, I thank my esteemed colleague for yielding.

Here are some facts you need to know about the abysmal record of the Chinese Communist Party on human rights and against our American way of freedom.

China has carried out the torture, forced sterilization, and sexual abuse of over 1 million Uyghurs.

China has ranked 175 out of 180 countries that lack free press, and it is notorious for jailing journalists with dissenting voices. Chinese officials have detained, tortured, and executed protestors with impunity.

Since 2013, U.S. colleges and universities have received more than \$1 billion in gifts and contracts from the Chinese Communist Party and its affiliated sources.

As a result, professors, student groups, and guest speakers critical of the Communist Party's human rights abuses have been silenced, threatened, and de-platformed. The China regime is spreading anti-democratic, anti-American propaganda by funneling large sums of money into education.

Sadly, we have Americans who have and continue to think that turning their back on our Nation for self-aggrandizement is okay. This profit over patriotism culture that has infested our country and our institutions of higher learning is okay.

This must end.

It is a national security issue when the Communist Party simply buys onto platforms that manipulate our children, their education, the vision and ability to appreciate this great country.

We have for years allowed the Chinese Communist Party to find a home in our high schools and colleges with their Confucius Institutes.

□ 2110

Granted the credibility of our institutions and the pipeline of our children, they indoctrinate them into their form of government, one that can only survive through tyranny, is good, and that our form of government, a representative republic that thrives on freedom, is bad.

It is on these college campuses where the stealing of our intellectual property, technology, and national security secrets is not looked upon as betrayal, which it is at the highest, but instead deemed a necessity to build bigger, more spacious buildings and to hire more bureaucrats committed to teach our impressionable and trusting children that Marxism is okay after all.

The manipulation of our children on American soil, paid for by American taxpayers, is unacceptable. Again, the profit over patriotism culture that has infested too many of our higher education institutions must stop now.

As we watched a slow-moving Communist spy balloon that took a week to lumber over our Nation, doing figure eights over our military bases; then, as we learned this morning of the secret Communist Chinese police station spying on, intimidating, and disrupting free speech of Chinese Americans in New York City, we have to wonder what is really being taught or not taught in our educational system.

It is indeed broken if our past generations taught by these institutions can

see the blatant attacks on our American culture and think there is nothing wrong; that the presence of misery, chaos, hopelessness, and divisiveness throughout our Nation is normal and acceptable.

From establishing a bipartisan select committee on China, to reducing reliance on foreign adversaries for our American energy needs, the House GOP has delivered on its promise outlined in our Commitment to America; that is, to counter the malignant influence of China in corporate boardrooms, social media, and on college and high school campuses. We have done so in our first 100 days.

As the chairman of the Higher Education and Workforce Development Subcommittee, I am proud to lead the charge in ensuring the freedom of speech of every American on every college campus and to preserve the integrity of America's higher education.

I am committed to championing the freedom and liberty we enjoy as Americans. As was the statement made by a Japanese Admiral after the attack on Pearl Harbor and the deaths of close to 3,000 Americans, "I fear we've awakened a sleeping giant."

To the Biden administration that has for 2 years been asleep as our Nation has faced threats from within and without, the American people will not stand by and let our children be indoctrinated out of our belief in freedom, our American way, and the history of proud Americans who sacrificed their blood, sweat, and tears to grant us this great gift.

You have awakened a sleeping giant, a freedom-loving we the people.

Mr. BEAN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, our Nation's higher education system is being purchased and manipulated by the Chinese Communist Party. You have heard from various Members giving you details of how it is done, but we need somebody who can give us the big picture.

We need somebody who can give us big ideas. We need somebody who can give us big solutions. There is only one guy that can do that, Mr. Speaker.

I yield to the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. BIGGS).

Mr. BIGGS. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding time to me.

There is a great Chinese scholar, Professor Sheridan wrote a book called "China in Disintegration," and he analyzed the fall of China's government in the early 1900s before you moved to kind of an anarchical situation where you saw the rise of Chiang Kai-shek and the Kuomintang versus, ultimately, post-World War II Mao Zedong and the Chinese Communist long march as they marched around and eventually the U.S. wavered and China fell to communism under Chairman Mao.

What was the premise of "China in Disintegration"? It was an analysis of why great powers, great nations, great empires fail. They fail because of a loss of geographical integrity. They fail for—that is the first thing.

The second thing is they fail because their currency loses value and trust. Once that goes, and the culture begins to change, they are either overextended, or they allow individuals with malevolent intentions to come into their country and influence the population.

So what do we have? We have a wide-open border, so we have lost our geographical integrity. We have \$31.4 trillion in national debt and rising inflation.

We have nations like India contemplating moving to the Chinese yuan for their currency of exchange instead of the dollar. They have settled on the rupee.

We have lost economic integrity as well.

What has happened? Well, China views, as they always have, themselves as the center of the universe. They have viewed Westerners as barbarians. Mao and his ambitions were superseded ultimately by Deng Zhao Ping, who said we are going to put a unique spin and have a hybridized economy, and it is going to have some elements of capitalism, but it is going to be Communistic overall.

Now, why did he do that? Because they were failing as a Communist state.

We built the Chinese middle class. We built the Chinese deep water navy. We gave China superior telemetry.

Ladies and gentlemen, we have basically given China our technology. What we haven't given them, they have stolen.

Now you have reached a point where you have a CEO of a company like Nike, who says, we are not an American company anymore, we are a Chinese company.

How have they done that? There are literally tens of thousands of Chinese national students in our universities. When we talk about the billions of dollars that have come in in donations, a more insidious thing is the out-of-State tuition that funds these State universities who rely on out-of-State tuition, so they come in and they pay that tuition.

It is not a normalized situation. To come over here as a student, you have to be a member of the CCP.

There are 330 million people in the CCP, as many as we have living in the United States today.

They send their students over here and they exit. They leave and they go home with what? Our technology and experience that we have given them to defeat ourselves.

We can continue to put our head in the sand and hope that it isn't true. There are those who believe it is xenophobic to talk about this.

I appreciate the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BEAN) being here tonight and leading this Special Order because Americans need to know the peril that we are in because China doesn't view us as an economic opponent or competitor. They view us as an adversary, a geopolitical adversary.

For them, they want to be the world's dominant hegemon. That isn't me saying it. You can look at any modern writing within the top leadership of the CCP. It is pretty clear.

I would suggest that we need to take back our educational institutions. Couple that with the integration, we need to decouple our economic integration and dependence upon China. They know we are dependent. They know they can exploit that. We saw how they exploited it just recently in the COVID-19 epidemic.

Let's be wise. We are going to have to take action.

□ 2120

Mr. BEAN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, our Nation's higher education system is being purchased and manipulated by the Chinese Communist Party. Tonight, you have heard from various members of a fantastic committee and other Members, led by Dr. VIRGINIA FOXX, shining the light on just how bad it is, just how blind an eye that we have turned to it for the last 20 years.

We now realize through donations and purchases and influence in sending their kids here to school, as well as something called the Confucius Institutes, that it is all for the propaganda and a way for China to infiltrate and manipulate our higher education system.

Mr. Speaker, where do we go from here? We have work to do, including alerting America, which is what we are doing tonight, but also alerting our higher ed, our leadership in our universities and colleges, to let them be wary of any foreign donation coming into their institutions, particularly anything coming from China should be a red flag.

The Department of Education should immediately enforce existing laws. Should we make a new law? How about enforcing the laws that are already on the books requiring these institutions, some of the biggest names in higher ed, to report foreign gifts and grants?

The Biden administration should ban Confucius Institutes and all collaborations between U.S. institutions and Chinese entities affiliated with the Chinese Ministry of State Security immediately.

Congress should also consider withholding State and Federal funds from colleges and universities that resist efforts to eliminate CCP influence operations.

Lastly, the State Department—Mr. BIGGS said it so well. The State Department must review applications from adversarial countries, including the CCP, the background and research plan of every applicant for a student visa. We need to say no. We need to say no to the CCP coming in, getting our information, and then going back home.

We have lots to do, but it starts with alerting the American people. We have done that tonight. The rest of the work is up to this Congress. It is up to the administration to enforce our laws and

to hold these universities and China accountable for exactly what they are doing, which is manipulating and using undue influence in our higher education system. It stops now and going forward.

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

THE MYSTERIOUS DEBT CEILING

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 9, 2023, the Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. BIGGS) for 30 minutes.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BIGGS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. BIGGS. Mr. Speaker, we are going to talk tonight about this debt ceiling, this mysterious debt ceiling that we hear so much about. I am joined by two of my colleagues who have strong ideas about this, as well.

I want to just relate something to America, so you can hear this.

We had a meeting several weeks back talking about the debt ceiling. I don't think anybody had ever asked this question, and I started asking it at every meeting. I said: How much does the Biden administration want to raise the debt?

We stand at \$34.1 trillion now. We spend \$6.1 trillion a year, but we raise \$4.9 trillion. Every month, we fall short by about \$100 billion.

I said: How much do they want?

Well, when I first started asking the question, everybody says: I don't know. We don't know.

Now, it is \$4 trillion. That is what I am hearing, \$4 trillion. Tonight, we heard \$3.5 trillion. In any event, it is \$3.5 trillion to \$4 trillion.

I asked the next question. I said: Look, I really want to know what happens if we don't lift the debt ceiling. I don't know. These guys might have been there.

The fellow was nonplussed. This former deputy at the OMB, the Office of Management and Budget, an economist, stood there for probably 2 minutes. Nobody had ever asked him that question before. He says: Nothing. Nothing will happen.

I said: How can that be? I am hearing that it is collapse city. Tell me, how can that be?

He said: All the bills go to OMB. They get forwarded on to the Fed, and they all get paid as they come due. They just keep paying them.

I am here to tell you that the debt ceiling is mysterious. It is a black box. It is the Wizard of Oz behind the curtain. And it is time for us to face the facts.

If they are going to try to leverage us, then we have to do something to

make this more responsible, this spending more responsible, and get our budget back together.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Montana (Mr. ROSENDALE).

Mr. ROSENDALE. Mr. Speaker, I thank Representative BIGGS, my good friend from Arizona, for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, President Joe Biden wants to raise the national debt by more than \$3 trillion over the next 2 years. Washington is bleeding American taxpayers dry with their addiction to spending, with no end in sight to this endless financial disaster.

The U.S. already has roughly \$31.6 trillion in debt, with no concrete plan to pay it back. Most folks cannot even fathom how much money that truly is.

Congress can avoid raising the debt ceiling almost indefinitely by returning spending to pre-COVID levels and practicing fiscal responsibility.

On March 28, my colleagues and I proposed targeted cuts to nondefense discretionary spending that would reduce the deficit by \$100 billion over the next year and reduce the total spending by more than \$1 trillion over the next decade.

I am proud to cosponsor over 500 bills that were introduced by Representative ANDY BIGGS to achieve this. These are concrete, commonsense proposals to eliminate woke and wasteful spending from our Federal Government.

We must rescind unspent COVID-19 money and stop funding the radical left's wish list, like the IRS expansion, wasteful green energy projects, and student loan bailout.

Congress can still pass a strong budget that protects Social Security and Medicare benefits without having to raise the debt ceiling at all. Yet, Democrat leaders have yet to respond to this proposal, and the President has made it clear that he is unwilling to work with any Republicans.

Biden's proposed budget of \$6.8 trillion represents a nearly 32 percent increase in spending since the COVID-19 pandemic began.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. President, my fellow colleagues, the pandemic is over. The Federal Government was big in 2019. The American people were taxed enough already in 2019.

When the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act passed, it lowered Federal taxes for all Americans and led to the lowest unemployment rate in 50 years. It has generated nearly \$1 trillion a year more in Federal revenue.

It is inappropriate for the President to ask the American people for even more of their hard-earned money when there is still over \$100 billion in unspent COVID relief money lying on the table.

There are too many wasteful organizations and woke government programs that do almost nothing for the American people while costing them billions each year in increased spending and increased regulatory burdens.

In fact, the Congressional Budget Office produces a long list of Federal departments, programs, and agencies

that are no longer authorized, but many of these programs still receive funding.

This is just one example of the countless ways that Congress could address our spending addiction.

Mr. Speaker, our deficit is getting worse every year. Congress has failed in its duty to provide sound stewardship of the American finances, and we are all facing the consequences of this failure.

□ 2130

Worse yet, the consequences of our decisions will fall on the future generations of Americans.

We all need to come together and find a solution to this problem and shrink Washington and grow America.

Mr. BIGGS. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Montana. He mentioned unauthorized programs that we are continuing to fund. There are more than 1,200 Federal programs that are unauthorized right now. \$500 billion. That is what we spend every year for those 1,200 unauthorized programs. Congress hasn't authorized them. They have expired. We haven't reauthorized, but we are still spending \$500 billion a year. People wonder what is crazy about D.C. Well, let me give you one more datapoint.

That same meeting that we were talking about, the gentleman was getting ready to leave, this economist, and then we had a former head of OMB there with us. I asked them: Can you tell me how many agencies there are in the Federal Government?

The answer was "no."

I said: What?

He said: Nobody knows. That is hard to believe. I couldn't believe it. I did some more digging. Nobody can tell me. Nobody can tell me how many Federal agencies there are. We can tell you how much we are spending. We are spending over \$100 billion every month more than we bring in.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. GOOD).

Mr. GOOD of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I thank Chairman BIGGS, my friend from Arizona for his leadership on this all-important issue. I also thank my friend from Montana and his remarks just a moment ago.

Mr. Speaker, the Founders gave, in the Constitution, the authority for spending to the House of Representatives. It is the House of Representatives that most directly reflects where the American people are, what the American people's wishes are on a Federal level. It is not the White House. It is not the Senate. It certainly is not the Supreme Court. It is the people's House, the House of Representatives, which proportionally represents everyone across the country equally with some 800,000 citizens per representative.

It is the House of Representatives that has the responsibility to ensure our ability to pay our Nation's debts and to protect the credit or the bor-

rowing capacity for when it is necessary of the United States Federal Government.

We talk often about what are the greatest threats to the country. There are numerous existential threats to our country right now, I would submit like never before in the history of the United States, brought on by the policies of this administration, Mr. Speaker, and those who had the majority of both Houses for the previous 2 years.

Whether it is the open border where some 6 to 7 million illegals have swarmed into our country, facilitated and helped by this administration's policies. Whether it is our broken education system, our indoctrination on our college campuses, our K-12. Whether it is the weakening of our military, our failures on the national stage. Whether it is the threat of China. Whether it is our national debt and our spending.

As we address tonight and discuss the national debt and the spending and the debt ceiling issue, the spending piece of this, the responsibility of the House is not just addressing that issue, but how we manage the United States' spending. The Federal spending addresses all of the other issues: to utilize the power of the purse, to stop funding the harmful policies. Not just the wasteful reckless spending, but the literal harmful spending that is making our country less safe, less secure, less prosperous, and less free.

As we talked specifically about the national debt, it has been said already tonight, over \$31 trillion. I happen to serve on the Budget Committee. A couple of weeks ago we brought before our committee, once again, OMB Director Shalanda Young, the Biden administration's budget director—funny term to apply budget director to anybody in this administration, Mr. Speaker—as we were having a chance to question the budget director for the Biden administration, I asked Ms. Young: What is the national debt? She could not tell me. She said it was somewhere around maybe \$24 trillion. I corrected her that it was over \$31 trillion.

I asked her: How much does that equate to per American citizen? She did not know. I helped her with the fact that it is nearly \$100,000 for 330 million American citizens. \$100,000 per citizen. That means about \$300,000 per taxpayer or per family.

Mr. Speaker, I then asked her what is the percentage of debt to GDP? She did not know, Mr. Speaker. She thought it might be 90-some percent. I helped her with the information that it is about 125 percent debt to GDP ratio.

I asked: When was the last time it was that high in the history of our country? She did not know. I helped her to realize that it was World War II.

To follow up on what my friend from Arizona (Mr. BIGGS) was saying a moment ago. We also had—another committee that I serve on, another caucus I am a part of, the Republican Study Committee—Federal Reserve Chairman

Powell—he spoke to us about interest rates and about trying to bring down inflation. He shared his remarks. Once again, he did not deal with the issue of the national debt. He didn't even bring it up. He didn't bring up the Federal spending.

I said to him: What is the number one cause of inflation?

Historically, when we raise interest rates, we are trying to what?

Cool a hot economy to ward off a recession. Instead, we have caused the inflation with the spending, and now we are making it worse on the American people by raising the interest rates in a futile attempt to reduce inflation in a weak economy and making things worse for the American people.

Mr. Speaker, with respect to the remarks a few moments ago from my colleague from Arizona (Mr. BIGGS), I led a letter to Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen asking her about what Mr. BIGGS was speaking about a moment ago.

What is her plan to ensure we do not have a default when we reach the debt ceiling limit?

How will she prioritize spending to ensure we don't result in a default when we reach that debt limit?

We have not gotten satisfactory answers to that.

Mr. BIGGS is exactly right, Mr. Speaker. When we exhaust these so-called extraordinary measures, which part of my letter also asked: When will we exhaust those? How is that determined? We have not gotten satisfactory answers to that.

But the fact is, when we reach the debt limit and we can no longer utilize gimmicks and clever tactics to try to extend that, we will simply have to prioritize our spending. We have got a record \$5 trillion coming into the Treasury. Never happened before in the history of the country. Frankly, because of the Trump Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, which has done what always happens in history when you cut taxes, you get more income and more revenue.

Don't let the Democrats or the administration lie to us, Mr. Speaker, and tell us we have a deficit because of the tax cuts. That is simply not true, with \$5 trillion in revenue coming into the Treasury for the first time in history.

However, as Mr. BIGGS said, we are spending over \$6 trillion if we reach the debt limit, and we can no longer delay through these extraordinary measures. We will simply have to prioritize spending. That is why they don't want to do it. That is why they want your \$3 or \$4 trillion, as Mr. ROSENDALE and Mr. BIGGS stated a few moments ago, because they don't want to prioritize spending.

There is more than enough revenue coming in to fund Social Security and Medicare. There is more than enough revenue to pay the interest on the debt. We would simply be forced to cut discretionary spending.

We have a plan that we in the House Freedom Caucus have put forward to cut somewhere in the range of \$1.5 trillion immediately out of the gate. Mr. BIGGS led the way on this with 500 bills with 500 specific target cuts toward those 1,200 unauthorized, but still appropriated in the previous Congress' programs. That would save us another \$500 billion so that we would never have to raise the debt ceiling again if we have the immediate \$1.5 trillion in cuts now, and we use the appropriations process this fall to cut even further.

□ 2140

Mr. BIGGS. I thank the gentleman for his remarks.

May I inquire of the Speaker how much time I have remaining?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Arizona has 14 minutes remaining.

Mr. BIGGS. Mr. Speaker, HFC put in a proposal just recently. I think this is really important. The idea is to shrink Washington and grow the country again. We proposed it in early March.

The first thing is we cancel the student loan forgiveness plan which totals \$609 billion. We cut the wasteful, woke, weaponized spending programs and get the Nation back on track. We eliminate Green New Deal tax credits and subsidies.

I recently scored it at 350. I am told now it is \$400 billion. Between those two items alone, Mr. Speaker, we are moving towards \$1 trillion.

We cut the IRS expansion. We already passed that out of the House. That is \$80 billion. We take into account the 500 targeted reductions that we have made. Maybe we don't do all of them. Maybe we just do half of them. Maybe we do 50, 70, \$85 billion worth.

Then I will tell you something else, Mr. Speaker, that you have to do. You take back the COVID money that we sent out. There is about \$80 billion of that that hasn't been spent. Bring that back.

All of that is in the first year, and I haven't even talked about reductions. That is the rescissions.

Then we start reducing, and we can make it targeted. We can do the discretionary.

Guess what?

We start getting to a place where we are not in the hole \$100 billion per month.

How about doing that for a year?

How about doing that for a year?

I am told that a lot of these folks don't really want to do that, and I find that hard to believe.

So in fiscal year 2024 alone, if we add to what I just outlined, what we proposed, what we cosponsored, those 500 bills, we just want you to look at them for mercy's sake.

If we took all of them, then we would be a little over \$100 billion in savings in fiscal year 2024 alone.

There are ways out of this, aren't there?

But it is going to take some courage and some discipline. Quite frankly, part of the reason that I wanted to do this tonight is I am hearing all the time that we don't know where you guys are.

I say: How can you not know where I am?

I have been so explicit, and I am transparent. Everybody knows where Biggs is because Biggs doesn't keep his mouth shut.

This is where we need to be. We need to be telling the truth. The American people need to understand clearly what is about to happen to them. What is about to happen to them is they are going to raise that debt ceiling. Somebody is going to raise the debt ceiling.

The idea that they are talking about now—just so people know—is anywhere from 1.5 to \$4 trillion. That is what they are talking about.

They are going to trade it for 10 years with maybe \$3.5 to \$4 trillion in reductions in savings, net savings—not even net savings, I'm sorry to say that, gross savings.

So over here on that ledger, Mr. Speaker, you have to get \$4 trillion over 10 years. But if you raise the debt ceiling by \$1.5 to \$4 trillion over that year, 18 to 24 months, now extend that out for the rest of that 10-year cycle.

We are not raising the national debt by \$24 trillion. We are raising it by \$19 trillion.

So we are still hitting 50-plus trillion dollars because we didn't have the courage to make the reductions and the hard choices this year.

My favorite thing to hear around here is that we are going to have a 10-year plan to balance the budget. Mr. Speaker, I could go back and show you from 15 years ago. They still relive that first year over and over again because it is like déjà vu.

So this year they are telling everybody: We are going to do a 10-year plan. It is going to be great. We think we can get balanced in 10 years. We are going to have to make some tough decisions.

But next year they will come back and say: We have got a 10-year plan. You have to make some tough decisions.

Two years they will come back and say: We have a 10-year plan.

Do it now. Do it now.

People tell me: You are conflating the budget with the debt ceiling.

Do you know why, Mr. Speaker?

Because I can tell you that if we don't do it now in the debt ceiling, when that budget comes around, you are going to have an omnibus bill. You are going to have an omnibus bill. That is what is going to happen. That may not work, so you get a CR.

Part of the package that HFC put out is that if you end up with a mandatory CR, then you start reducing funding on that. So you never have a government shutdown, which is in some ways too bad, quite frankly.

Then we have also proposed adding the REINS Act. The REINS Act says

that before a bureaucratic agency can impose rules on anything that will impact more than—it is \$100 million—I think that is way too high. It should be like \$10 million, but they are telling me it is \$100 million—then we have to bring it back to Congress.

I think that is a great place to start. Do you know why, Mr. Speaker?

We have delegated our authority to bureaucracy. So we have the bureaucracy out there, and they are making rules. That is the same thing as legislating. They are enforcing the rules. That is the executive branch power. They are adjudicating whether you have committed a violation of the rules and fining you.

In some cases most of the 40,000 crimes that are Federal in nature were created under the rulemaking process.

Mr. Speaker, I am just telling you: Our government is out of control, and our spending is out of control.

Guess what, Mr. Speaker?

If we went back to 2019 levels—which is what we have proposed—if you go back to 2019 levels which nobody would say: Oh, we had too little government in 2019. If you go back to those levels, Mr. Speaker, guess what?

You can pay it because we were spending about \$5 trillion, and now we are bringing in about \$5 trillion. So let's go back to the 2019 levels, for Pete's sake, and then let's do the rescissions to boot, and let's stop the seemingly endless cycle of a national debt increase.

If we do that, then we stop the imminent bankruptcy of this country, we stop the devaluation of our currency around the world, and we stop the inflationary pressures. Then once we do things like reduce some more taxes, reduce some more regulations, and get some better energy production, then we will, again, be the world's economic leader.

I am just here to tell you, Mr. Speaker, we have got a plan. We presented our plan. I don't think anybody should ever say that Mr. GOOD, Mr. ROSENDALE, Mr. BIGGS, and the half dozen others or so, that they don't know where we are. I have never voted to raise the debt ceiling. I don't think that is what I was sent here to do, and I am finding it awfully hard to believe that there is any justification for raising it \$2 to \$4 trillion.

I encourage everyone to understand that we can put an end to this cycle of self-immolation.

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

JOINT RESOLUTIONS PRESENTED TO THE PRESIDENT

Cheryl L. Johnson, Clerk of the House, reported that on April 5, 2023, the following joint resolutions were presented to the President of the United States for approval:

H.J. Res. 7. Relating to a national emergency declared by the President on March 13, 2020

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’”

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. BIGGS. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 9 o'clock and 48 minutes p.m.), the House adjourned until tomorrow, Tuesday, April 18, 2023, at 10 a.m. for morning-hour debate.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

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

EC-756. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Prohibition Against Certain Flights in the Territory and Airspace of Libya [Docket No.: FAA-2011-0246; Amdt. No.: 91-321F] (RIN: 2120-AL79) received April 10, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-757. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Standard Instrument Approach Procedures, and Takeoff Minimums and Obstacle Departure Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments [Docket No.: 31475; Amdt. No.: 4050] received April 10, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-758. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Standard Instrument Approach Procedures, and Takeoff Minimums and Obstacle Departure Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments [Docket No.: 31474; Amdt. No.: 4049] received April 10, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-759. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — IFR Altitudes; Miscellaneous Amendments [Docket No.: 31480; Amdt. No.: 571] received April 10, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-760. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Establishment of Class E Airspace; Mefford Field Airport, CA [Docket No.: FAA-202-1453; Airspace Docket No.: 21-AWP-57] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received April 10, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-761. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Amendment of Class E Airspace; Hanford Municipal Airport, CA [Docket No.: FAA-2022-1448; Airspace Docket No.: 21-AWP-58] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received

April 10, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-762. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Establishment of United States Area Navigation (RNAV) Route T-380; Emmonak, AK [Docket No.: FAA-2022-0245; Airspace Docket No.: 19-AAL-49] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received April 10, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-763. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Amendment of Class C Airspace; Chicago, IL [Docket No.: FAA-2022-0999; Airspace Docket No.: 22-AWA-2] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received April 10, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-764. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Establishment of Class E Airspace; Escalante Municipal Airport, Escalante, UT [Docket No.: FAA-2022-1561; Airspace Docket No.: 22-ANM-58] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received April 10, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

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. COMER: Committee on Oversight and Accountability. Authorization and Oversight Plans for All House Committees (Rept. 118-36). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mrs. HOUCHEIN: Committee on Rules. House Resolution 298. Resolution providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 734) to amend the Education Amendments of 1972 to provide that for purposes of determining compliance with title IX of such Act in athletics, sex shall be recognized based solely on a person's reproductive biology and genetics at birth, and providing for consideration of the joint resolution (H.J. Res. 42) disapproving the action of the District of Columbia Council in approving the Comprehensive Policing and Justice Reform Amendment Act of 2022 (Rept. 118-37). 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. SANTOS:

H.R. 2631. A bill to prohibit the Federal Government from imposing any mandate requiring an individual to receive a vaccine that has not been authorized for marketing for at least 10 years, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. SANTOS:

H.R. 2632. A bill to require reports on the immigration status of individuals convicted of State crimes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. SANTOS:

H.R. 2633. A bill to direct the Secretary of State to submit to Congress a report on the

designation of MS-13, Queen Nation, Sinaloa, Cartel Jalisco Nueva Generación, and Beltrán Leyva Organization as foreign terrorist organizations, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. SANTOS:

H.R. 2634. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to make alimony deductible; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. SANTOS:

H.R. 2635. A bill to amend section 230 of the Communications Act of 1934 to limit liability protection provided by such section for providers of social media service, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. SANTOS:

H.R. 2636. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to include neuropathy in the list of conditions covered by the World Trade Center Health Program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. SANTOS:

H.R. 2637. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to waive the early withdrawal penalty on certain distributions from qualified retirement plans; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. GIMENEZ (for himself, Ms. SALAZAR, and Ms. MALLIOTAKIS):

H.R. 2638. A bill to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to treat certain individuals who participated in the invasion of the Bay of Pigs, Cuba, in April, 1961, as veterans for the purposes of eligibility for benefits under laws administered by the Secretary; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. SESSIONS:

H.R. 2639. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for additional requirements with respect to electrodiagnostic services under the Medicare program; 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. MCCLINTOCK (for himself and Mr. BIGGS):

H.R. 2640. A bill to provide for reform of the asylum system and protection of the border; to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committees on Ways and Means, Education and the Workforce, and Homeland Security, 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. ALLRED:

H.R. 2641. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow students to take the saver's credit; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Ms. BALINT:

H.R. 2642. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to authorize the Secretary of Health and Human Services, acting through the Assistant Secretary for Mental Health and Substance Use, to award grants for peer mental health first aid, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. BLUMENAUER (for himself, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. JOYCE of Ohio, Ms. LEE of California, and Ms. MACE):

H.R. 2643. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow deductions and credits relating to expenditures in connection with marijuana sales conducted in compliance with State law; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. BURGESS:

H.R. 2644. A bill to reduce the amount of foreign assistance to El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras based on the number of

unaccompanied alien children who are nationals or citizens of such countries and who in the preceding fiscal year are placed in Federal custody by reason of their immigration status; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Ms. CARAVEO:

H.R. 2645. A bill to amend section 2202 of the Families First Coronavirus Response Act to extend for 1 year the availability of certain flexible benefits under the supplemental nutrition assistance program (SNAP); to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Mr. COHEN:

H.R. 2646. A bill to prohibit States from carrying out more than one Congressional redistricting after a decennial census and apportionment, to require States to conduct such redistricting through independent commissions, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. CRENSHAW (for himself, Mr. BURGESS, Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio, Mr. BILIRAKIS, Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS, Mr. LAMBORN, Mr. STEUBE, Mr. BABIN, Mr. ZINKE, Mr. BACON, Mrs. LESKO, and Mr. ELLZEY):

H.R. 2647. A bill to require the Comptroller General of the United States to submit a report on the public health mitigation messaging and guidance of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. DESJARLAIS (for himself and Mr. ROSE):

H.R. 2648. A bill to amend the Horse Protection Act to provide increased protection for horses participating in shows, exhibitions, sales, and auctions, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana:

H.R. 2649. A bill to require the Attorney General and the Secretary of Education to conduct a survey of all public schools to determine the number of school resource officers at such schools; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce, 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. HIGGINS of Louisiana:

H.R. 2650. A bill to direct the Attorney General and the Secretary of Education to develop and implement best practices for occupation-specific education for school resource officers; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce, 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 Mrs. HOUCHIN:

H.R. 2651. A bill to amend the Securities Act of 1933 with respect to small company capital formation, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. MOONEY:

H.R. 2652. A bill to amend the Securities Act of 1933 to add additional investment thresholds for an individual to qualify as an accredited investor, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Ms. PORTER:

H.R. 2653. A bill to require the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration to issue regulations that establish minimum requirements for aviation enterprise resource planning systems, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Ms. PORTER:

H.R. 2654. A bill to direct the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration to take certain actions to prohibit air

carriers from reducing the size of passenger seats on aircraft, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. SCHNEIDER:

H.R. 2655. A bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal to Captain James Arthur Lovell, Jr., (USN-Ret), in recognition of his service to our Nation and most notably, his leadership, bravery, and general significance to the advancement of United States space exploration; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. TORRES of New York:

H.R. 2656. A bill to amend the Fair Credit Reporting Act to prohibit the creation and sale of trigger leads, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. TORRES of New York:

H.R. 2657. A bill to clarify the counting of electoral votes in Congress to be a National Special Security Event; to the Committee on Homeland Security.

By Mr. TORRES of New York:

H.R. 2658. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to impose criminal penalties on the President for engaging in actions to interfere with the determination of electoral votes in a presidential election, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. TORRES of New York:

H.R. 2659. A bill to require a Member of Congress who makes and any individual who receives a request from a Member of Congress for a presidential pardon to disclose the request to the Select Committee on Ethics of the Senate or the Committee on Ethics of the House of Representatives, and for other purposes; to the Committee on House Administration, and in addition to the Committee on Rules, 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. UNDERWOOD (for herself and Mr. CASTEN):

H.R. 2660. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to increase the limitation on the amount individuals can deduct for certain State and local taxes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ (for herself and Mr. HUNT):

H.R. 2661. A bill to reauthorize and update the Project Safe Childhood program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. WENSTRUP (for himself and Ms. SEWELL):

H.R. 2662. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for collegiate housing and infrastructure grants; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mrs. DINGELL (for herself, Ms. TLAIB, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. PASCRELL, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. CARSON, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Ms. WEXTON, Ms. PRESSLEY, and Ms. OMAR):

H. Res. 299. A resolution recognizing the Muslim holy month of Ramadan, commanding a month of fasting and spiritual renewal, and extending best wishes to Muslims in the United States and across the globe for a joyous and meaningful observance of Eid al-Fitr; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. GAETZ:

H. Res. 300. A resolution requesting the President and directing the Secretary of Defense to transmit, respectively, to the House of Representatives copies of all documents indicating any plans for current or future military assistance to Ukraine and documents indicating whether any United States Armed Forces, including special operations forces, are currently deployed in Ukraine; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mrs. RODGERS of Washington (for herself, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, and Mr. KIM of New Jersey):

H. Res. 301. A resolution supporting the designation of April 2023 as the “Month of the Military Child”; to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

By Mr. ROUZER:

H. Res. 302. A resolution recognizing linemen, the profession of linemen, the contributions of these brave men and women who protect public safety, and expressing support for the designation of April 18, 2023, as “National Lineman Appreciation Day”; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

MEMORIALS

Under clause 3 of rule XII,

ML-3. The SPEAKER presented a memorial of the Legislature of the State of North Carolina, relative to Resolution 352, urging the United States Congress to work more closely with Japan on trade issues and foreign investment, expressing support to the United States Congress for the United States-Japan Alliance, and remorse at the slaying of former Japanese Prime Minister Abe Shinzo; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

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. SANTOS:

H.R. 2631.

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

US Constitution, Article 1 Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

To prohibit the Federal Government from imposing any mandate requiring an individual to receive a vaccine that has not been authorized for marketing for at least 10 years, and for other purposes.

By Mr. SANTOS:

H.R. 2632.

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

US Constitution, Article 1 Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

To require reports on the immigration status of individuals convicted of State crimes.

By Mr. SANTOS:

H.R. 2633.

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

US Constitution, Article 1 Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

To direct the Secretary of State to submit to Congress a report on the designation of MS-13, Queen Nation, Sinaloa, Cartel Jalisco Nueva Generacion, and Beltran Leyva Organization as foreign terrorist organizations, and for other purposes.

By Mr. SANTOS:

H.R. 2634.

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

clause 3 of section 8 of article I of the Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

To amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to make alimony deductible.

By Mr. SANTOS:

H.R. 2635.

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

US Constitution, Article 1 Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

To amend section 230 of the Communications Act of 1934 to limit liability protection provided by such section for providers of social media service, and for other purposes.

By Mr. SANTOS:

H.R. 2636.

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

clause 3 of section 8 of article I of the Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

To amend the Public Health Service Act to include nephropathy in the list of conditions covered by the World Trade Center Health Program

By Mr. SANTOS:

H.R. 2637.

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

US Constitution, Article 1 Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

To amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to waive the early withdrawal penalty on certain distributions from qualified retirement plans.

By Mr. GIMENEZ:

H.R. 2638.

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

Article 1 Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

Cuban-American Unrecognized Bravery Act of 2023—To direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to treat certain individuals who participated in the invasion of the Bay of Pigs, Cuba, in April, 1961, as veterans for the purposes of eligibility for benefits under laws administered by the Secretary

By Mr. SESSIONS:

H.R. 2639.

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

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

The single subject of this legislation is:

Electrodiagnostic medicine testing accreditation for federal health care agencies.

By Mr. MCCLINTOCK:

H.R. 2640.

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

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 4

The single subject of this legislation is:

To provide for reform of the asylum system and protection of the border.

By Mr. ALLRED:

H.R. 2641.

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 Ms. BALINT:

H.R. 2642.

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

Article 1, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

Mental health training

By Mr. BLUMENAUER:

H.R. 2643.

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

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 1

The single subject of this legislation is:

The subject of this legislation is federal tax deductions for state-legal cannabis businesses.

By Mr. BURGESSION:

H.R. 2644.

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

Article 1, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

Federal funding for foreign assistance to El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras

By Ms. CARAVEO:

H.R. 2645.

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

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18

The single subject of this legislation is:

SNAP Emergency Allotments

By Mr. COHEN:

H.R. 2646.

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

Article I, Section 4

The single subject of this legislation is:

Redistricting

By Mr. CRENSHAW:

H.R. 2647.

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

Section 8 of article I of the Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is:

To require the Comptroller General of the United States to submit a report on the public health mitigation messaging and guidance of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

By Mr. DESJARLAIS:

H.R. 2648.

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

Article I, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

To amend the Horse Protection Act to provide increased protection for horses participating in shows, exhibitions, sales, and auctions

By Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana:

H.R. 2649.

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

Under Article 1, Section 8 of the Constitution, Congress has the power “to make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or any Department or Officer thereof.”

The single subject of this legislation is:

Requires the Attorney General and the Secretary of Education to conduct and submit to Congress a survey on the availability of School Resource Officers across the country.

By Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana:

H.R. 2650.

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

Under Article 1, Section 8 of the Constitution, Congress has the power “to make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or any Department or Officer thereof.”

The single subject of this legislation is:

Requires the Attorney General and the Secretary of Education to develop training best practices for School Resource Officers and submit to Congress a report on the findings.

By Mrs. HOUCHEIN:

H.R. 2651.

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

Article 1 Section 8, Clause 18

The single subject of this legislation is:

Finance and Financial Sector

By Mr. MOONEY:

H.R. 2652.

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

Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

Accredited Investor standard

By Ms. PORTER:

H.R. 2653.

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

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18

The single subject of this legislation is:

To require the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration to issue regulations that establish minimum requirements for aviation enterprise resource planning systems, and for other purposes.

By Ms. PORTER:

H.R. 2654.

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

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18

The single subject of this legislation is:

To direct the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration to take certain actions to prohibit air carriers from reducing the size of passenger seats on aircraft, and for other purposes.

By Mr. SCHNEIDER:

H.R. 2655.

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

Article I, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

This bill would award a Congressional Gold Medal to Captain James A. Lovell, Jr. for his service to the United States, most notably his leadership in the Apollo Space Program as captain of Apollo 13.

By Mr. TORRES of New York:

H.R. 2656.

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

Article 1, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

Residential Mortgage Loans

By Mr. TORRES of New York:

H.R. 2657.

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

Article 1, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

To clarify the counting of electoral votes in Congress to be a National Special Security Event.

By Mr. TORRES of New York:

H.R. 2658.

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 18, United States Code, to impose criminal penalties on the President for engaging in actions to interfere with the determination of electoral votes in a presidential election, and for other purposes.

By Mr. TORRES of New York:

H.R. 2659.

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

Article 1, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

Disclosing Presidential Pardons to the Select Committee on Ethics of the Senate or the Committee on Ethics of the House of Representatives, and for other purposes.

By Ms. UNDERWOOD:

H.R. 2660.

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:

State and Local Tax Deduction

By Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ:

H.R. 2661.

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 update the Project Safe Childhood program.

By Mr. WENSTRUP:

H.R. 2662.

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

Article I, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:
Tax

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

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

H.R. 17: Mr. MAGAZINER.
H.R. 25: Mr. SANTOS.
H.R. 27: Ms. GRANGER.
H.R. 51: Mr. NICKEL.
H.R. 59: Mr. DONALDS.
H.R. 79: Mr. LAMALFA.
H.R. 82: Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Ms. OMAR, and Ms. CLARKE of New York.
H.R. 239: Mrs. RAMIREZ.
H.R. 253: Mr. BLUMENAUER.
H.R. 321: Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. TONKO, Mr. PANETTA, Mr. SWALWELL, Mr. EVANS, Mr. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, Mr. GOMEZ, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Ms. MENG, Ms. BROWN, Mr. ALLRED, Ms. Barragán, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. PETERS, Ms. TITUS, Mr. RASKIN, and Mr. LIEU.
H.R. 329: Mrs. LESKO and Mr. LAMBORN.
H.R. 354: Mr. POSEY.
H.R. 471: Mr. GOLDEN of Maine.
H.R. 490: Mr. MOLINARO.
H.R. 491: Ms. SCHOLTEN.
H.R. 506: Ms. GARCIA of Texas.
H.R. 525: Ms. BROWN.
H.R. 536: Ms. MATSUI, Mrs. McCLELLAN, Ms. WILD, Ms. MENG, Mr. NADLER, and Ms. SCHOLTEN.
H.R. 537: Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, Mr. WEBER of Texas, and Mr. BILIRAKIS.
H.R. 549: Ms. MATSUI, Mr. LALOTA, Mr. RYAN, Mr. BERGMAN, and Mr. RUPPERSBERGER.
H.R. 589: Mr. BAIRD and Mr. HUFFMAN.
H.R. 594: Mr. TRONE.
H.R. 595: Mr. TRONE.
H.R. 598: Mr. GARCIA of Illinois.
H.R. 603: Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida.
H.R. 619: Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. CARTWRIGHT, Mr. TRONE, and Mr. CARTER of Georgia.
H.R. 646: Mrs. LESKO.
H.R. 651: Ms. STANSBURY.
H.R. 666: Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida.
H.R. 676: Mr. KEATING.
H.R. 703: Mr. DOGGETT.
H.R. 730: Mr. GOTTHEIMER.
H.R. 735: Mr. LANDSMAN and Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida.
H.R. 736: Mr. SANTOS.
H.R. 743: Mrs. LESKO, Mr. NEHLS, Mr. DIAZ-BALART, Mr. ALLEN, Mr. AMODEI, Ms. VAN DUYNE, Mr. KIM of New Jersey, Ms. LETLOW, Mr. PANETTA, Ms. FOXX, Mr. MIKE GARCIA of California, Mr. HARDER of California, Mr. BACON, Mr. POSEY, Mr. OBERNOLTE, and Mr. MCHENRY.
H.R. 765: Mrs. FOUSHEE.
H.R. 767: Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE and Mr. MULLIN.
H.R. 782: Ms. LEE of Pennsylvania.
H.R. 800: Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mrs. LESKO, and Mr. POSEY.
H.R. 808: Mr. JAMES.
H.R. 834: Ms. TOKUDA.
H.R. 854: Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina, Mr. GOLDEN of Maine, Mr. LALOTA, Mr. DELUZIO, Mr. TONKO, Mr. COHEN, and Ms. TOKUDA.
H.R. 866: Mr. CASAR and Mr. IVEY.
H.R. 895: Mr. HARDER of California.
H.R. 901: Ms. BROWN and Mr. MILLS.
H.R. 911: Mr. LIEU, Ms. NORTON, Mr. COHEN, and Ms. TOKUDA.
H.R. 915: Mr. ALLRED and Mr. YAKYM.
H.R. 926: Ms. PINGREE, Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania, Ms. NORTON, Mr. DELUZIO, Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. EVANS, Ms. SCANLON, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. TRONE, Mrs. BEATTY, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. POCAN, Ms. ROSS, Mr. SARBANES, Mr. ALLRED, Mr. HUFFMAN, Mr. GARCIA of Illinois, Mr. IVEY, Mrs. CHERFILUS-MC CORMICK, Ms. BALINT, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Ms. BUSH, Ms. CROCKETT, Ms. LEE of Pennsylvania, Mr. CASTEN, Ms. TLAIB, Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ, Mr. RASKIN, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. COURTNEY, Mr. TONKO, Ms. GARCIA of Texas, Ms. TITUS, Mr. MOULTON, and Mr. CARSON.
H.R. 927: Mr. HUFFMAN, Ms. PINGREE, Mr. DESAULNIER, Ms. NORTON, Mr. DELUZIO, Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. EVANS, Ms. SCANLON, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. TRONE, Mrs. BEATTY, Mr. MFUME, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. POCAN, Ms. ROSS, Mr. SARBANES, Mr. ALLRED, Mr. GARCIA of Illinois, Mr. IVEY, Mrs. CHERFILUS-MC CORMICK, Mr. VEASEY, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. NEGUSE, Ms. CROCKETT, Ms. LEE of Pennsylvania, Ms. BUSH, Mr. COURTNEY, Ms. TLAIB, Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ, Mr. RASKIN, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. RYAN, Mrs. FLETCHER, Ms. GARCIA of Texas, Ms. TITUS, Mr. HARDER of California, and Ms. DELBENE.
H.R. 963: Mr. VAN ORDEN and Ms. TENNEY.
H.R. 966: Mrs. GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN.
H.R. 974: Mr. MCGARVEY.
H.R. 987: Mr. COSTA, Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida, and Mr. PASCRELL.
H.R. 997: Mr. MASSIE and Mr. NORMAN.
H.R. 1003: Ms. HOYLE of Oregon.
H.R. 1047: Mr. LEVIN.
H.R. 1048: Mr. LEVIN.
H.R. 1071: Mr. MENENDEZ.
H.R. 1088: Mrs. NAPOLITANO and Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia.
H.R. 1100: Mr. OGLES.
H.R. 1127: Mr. PAPPAS.
H.R. 1134: Mr. HUFFMAN and Mrs. RAMIREZ.
H.R. 1138: Ms. PEREZ.
H.R. 1145: Mr. MCGARVEY.
H.R. 1173: Ms. LOFGREN.
H.R. 1181: Mr. CARSON.
H.R. 1200: Mr. COLE.
H.R. 1209: Mrs. RODGERS of Washington, Mr. YAKYM, Mr. PENCE, Mr. CLINE, Mrs. STEEL, Mr. JACKSON of Texas, Mr. BABIN, Mr. ADERHOLT, Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, Mr. HILL, Mr. GUTHRIE, Mr. FALLON, and Ms. LEE of Florida.
H.R. 1210: Mr. LUTTRELL, Mr. ALLEN, and Mr. HUDSON.
H.R. 1235: Mr. RYAN, Ms. DELBENE, Mr. MOLINARO, and Mr. CARBAJAL.
H.R. 1241: Mr. CÁRDENAS.
H.R. 1255: Mr. ALLRED, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Ms. LEE of California, Mrs. CHERFILUS-MC CORMICK, and Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina.
H.R. 1282: Mr. MFUME, Mr. GOOD of Virginia, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, and Mr. MURPHY.
H.R. 1302: Mr. ESPAILLAT and Ms. BROWN.
H.R. 1328: Mrs. BEATTY.
H.R. 1329: Ms. MANNING.
H.R. 1330: Mr. PAPPAS.
H.R. 1341: Mrs. LEE of Nevada.
H.R. 1351: Ms. CHU, Mr. POCAN, and Ms. PINGREE.
H.R. 1385: Mr. FOSTER.
H.R. 1396: Mr. LEVIN.
H.R. 1421: Ms. KUSTER.
H.R. 1458: Mr. PAPPAS, Mr. PETERS, and Ms. SEWELL.
H.R. 1470: Mr. HARRIS.
H.R. 1477: Mr. JAMES, Mrs. McClellan, Mr. GROTHMAN, and Mr. MILLER of Ohio.
H.R. 1484: Mr. EDWARDS.
H.R. 1499: Mr. PALLONE, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Ms. DEGETTE, Mr. MENENDEZ, Ms. GARCIA of Texas, Mr. KIM of New Jersey, Ms. SALINAS, Mr. MULLIN, Ms. WEXTON, Mr. GOTTHEIMER, Ms. MENG, Mr. DELUZIO, Ms. PORTER, Mr. LIEU, and Ms. JACOBS.
H.R. 1507: Mr. CASAR.
H.R. 1525: Ms. NORTON.
H.R. 1555: Ms. CHU, Mr. CALVERT, Mr. AGUILAR, and Ms. PORTER.
H.R. 1587: Mr. DELUZIO, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Ms. NORTON, Ms. TITUS, Mr. CARTER of Louisiana, and Mr. ALLRED.
H.R. 1607: Mrs. LESKO and Mr. GALLEGUO.
H.R. 1613: Mrs. HARSHBARGER.
H.R. 1624: Mr. COURTNEY, Ms. MALLIOTAKIS, Ms. STANSBURY, and Mr. BOYLE of Pennsylvania.
H.R. 1629: Mr. LIEU.
H.R. 1638: Ms. PINGREE, Ms. MATSUI, Mr. CÁRDENAS, and Mr. LIEU.
H.R. 1640: Mr. MOYLAN.
H.R. 1641: Ms. CLARKE of New York.
H.R. 1654: Mr. BEYER.
H.R. 1668: Ms. STANSBURY, Mr. CASTEN, Mrs. CHERFILUS-MC CORMICK, and Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN.
H.R. 1695: Mr. LIEU.
H.R. 1699: Ms. DEGETTE, Ms. PETTERSEN, Mr. HUFFMAN, Mr. MCGARVEY, Mr. MENENDEZ, Ms. MATSUI, and Ms. LEE of Pennsylvania.
H.R. 1705: Mr. LEVIN.
H.R. 1716: Ms. CHU and Mr. MILLER of Ohio.
H.R. 1729: Mr. RYAN, Mr. GREEN of Texas, and Mr. CASAR.
H.R. 1741: Mr. CARTER of Louisiana and Ms. SCHAKOWSKY.
H.R. 1742: Mr. FITZPATRICK.
H.R. 1744: Ms. CROCKETT and Mr. IVEY.
H.R. 1753: Mr. OBERNOLTE, Mr. NEGUSE, and Mr. PAPPAS.
H.R. 1756: Mr. BAIRD.
H.R. 1762: Mr. FULCHER.
H.R. 1767: Mr. SABLAN and Mr. CASAR.
H.R. 1777: Mr. DELUZIO, Mr. WOMACK, Mr. SCHNEIDER, Mr. POSEY, and Mrs. LEE of Nevada.
H.R. 1788: Mr. HUFFMAN.
H.R. 1793: Mr. LUTTRELL, Mr. SESSIONS, and Mrs. LESKO.
H.R. 1803: Mr. MRVAN, Ms. KUSTER, and Mr. SCHNEIDER.
H.R. 1808: Ms. CROCKETT, Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE, Mr. EVANS, and Mr. CASTEN.
H.R. 1818: Mr. MILLER of Ohio, Mr. RESCHENTHALER, Ms. SCHOLTEN, and Mr. ALLRED.
H.R. 1823: Mr. RUTHERFORD and Mr. BEAN of Florida.
H.R. 1830: Ms. DEGETTE.
H.R. 1833: Ms. SCHOLTEN, Mr. STANTON, and Ms. BROWNLEY.
H.R. 1843: Mr. MANN, Mr. OBERNOLTE, and Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina.
H.R. 2365: Mrs. BICE, Ms. MATSUI, Mr. NORTCROSS, Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida, Ms. CHU, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania, Mr. C. SCOTT FRANKLIN of Florida, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Mr. GOMEZ, Mr. SWALWELL, Mr. PAPPAS, and Ms. WEXTON.
H.R. 2367: Mr. GOODEN of Texas, Ms. PORTER, and Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota.
H.R. 2378: Ms. CARAVEO.
H.R. 2380: Mr. GUEST and Mr. DUNN of Florida.
H.R. 2382: Mr. GOTTHEIMER.
H.R. 2389: Ms. BARRAGÁN, Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, Ms. CHU, Mr. CROW, Mr. EVANS, Mrs. TRAHAN, Mr. PASCRELL, Mr. RYAN, Mrs. LEE of Nevada, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. KILDEE, Mr. MORELLE, Mr. LAWLER, Mr. KILMER, Mr. NADLER, Mr. SARBANES, Mr. KIM of New Jersey,

Mr. HUFFMAN, Mr. HIGGINS of New York, Mr. SABLAR, Mr. DOGGETT, Mr. PHILLIPS, Mr. NEGUSE, Mr. ALLRED, Mr. MENENDEZ, Ms. DEGETTE, and Ms. WILSON of Florida.
H.R. 2390: Mr. MCGARVEY.
H.R. 2394: Mr. GARCIA of Illinois.
H.R. 2400: Mr. CARDENAS and Mrs. TRAHAN.
H.R. 2410: Mr. RYAN.
H.R. 2411: Mr. OBERNOLTE and Ms. BARRAGÁN.
H.R. 2423: Mr. BAIRD and Mr. SELF.
H.R. 2426: Ms. MACE.
H.R. 2428: Mrs. CHERFILUS-McCORMICK, Mr. IVEY, Mr. ALLRED, Mr. MENENDEZ, and Mr. COHEN.
H.R. 2447: Mr. PAPPAS and Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN.
H.R. 2450: Mr. MOLINARO.
H.R. 2452: Mr. WALTZ.
H.R. 2454: Ms. SALAZAR, Mr. GOLDEN of Maine, Mr. GIMENEZ, Ms. MACE, Mr. GOTTHEIMER, and Mr. ARMSTRONG.
H.R. 2476: Mr. MILLER of Ohio.
H.R. 2477: Mr. BIGGS.
H.R. 2478: Mr. MILLER of Ohio.
H.R. 2479: Mr. MILLER of Ohio.
H.R. 2481: Ms. JAYAPAL.
H.R. 2537: Mr. HORSFORD, Ms. GARCIA of Texas, Ms. ESCOBAR, Mr. LIEU, and Mr. KIM of New Jersey.

H.R. 2547: Ms. DEGETTE.
H.R. 2553: Mr. MOORE of Alabama.
H.R. 2567: Mr. SMITH of Washington.
H.R. 2580: Mr. BURLISON and Mr. WEBER of Texas.
H.R. 2581: Mr. OGLES.
H.R. 2598: Mrs. CHAVEZ-DEREMER and Mr. CARTER of Louisiana.
H.R. 2599: Mr. SARBANES, Mr. FITZPATRICK, and Mr. PANETTA.
H.R. 2629: Ms. NORTON.
H.J. Res. 18: Mr. LAWLER.
H.J. Res. 25: Mr. MOSKOWITZ, Mr. MAGAZINER, Mr. HOYER, and Mr. MENENDEZ.
H.J. Res. 39: Ms. MALLIOTAKIS.
H.J. Res. 46: Mr. WEBER of Texas and Mr. MANN.
H. Con. Res. 10: Mr. ROSE.
H. Con. Res. 27: Mr. DIAZ-BALART.
H. Res. 50: Mr. DONALDS and Mrs. HARSHBARGER.
H. Res. 59: Mr. NUNN of Iowa.
H. Res. 108: Mr. PAPPAS and Mr. DUARTE.
H. Res. 154: Ms. MCCOLLUM.
H. Res. 160: Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas.
H. Res. 235: Mr. BAIRD.
H. Res. 240: Ms. MACE.
H. Res. 259: Mr. DESAULNIER, Ms. PORTER, and Mr. McGOVERN.

H. Res. 261: Ms. NORTON, Mr. RASKIN, and Mrs. BEATTY.

H. Res. 276: Mr. DUNN of Florida, Ms. MACE, and Ms. MATSUI.

H. Res. 280: Mr. LAWLER.

H. Res. 283: Mr. KEATING.

H. Res. 285: Mr. LANGWORTHY.

H. Res. 289: Ms. NORTON, Ms. PORTER, Ms. WILSON of Florida, and Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia.

H. Res. 291: Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. CLEAVER, Ms. GARCIA of Texas, Mr. NICKEL, and Mr. DONALDS.

H. Res. 292: Ms. LEE of Pennsylvania and Ms. LEE of California.

DELETIONS OF SPONSORS FROM PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

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

H.R. 386: Mr. ROUZER.



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 118th CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 169

WASHINGTON, MONDAY, APRIL 17, 2023

No. 63

Senate

The Senate met at 3 p.m. and was called to order by the Honorable PETER WELCH, a Senator from the State of Vermont.

PRAYER

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

Let us pray.

Most holy and gracious God, who turns the shadow of night into the glory of morning, shower our lawmakers with Your mercy this day. Lord, calm troubled thoughts, and guide their feet in the way of peace. Let Your strength be more than sufficient to help them build a better nation and world. Make them instruments of Your Grace and goodness as You renew in them the joy of belonging to You. Let Your eyes rest upon our Senators and become for them a bulwark, never failing. Guard their feet so that they will not deviate from the path of unwavering integrity.

We pray in Your blessed 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 legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, April 17, 2023.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby

appoint the Honorable PETER WELCH, a Senator from the State of Vermont, to perform the duties of the Chair.

PATTY MURRAY,
President pro tempore.

Mr. WELCH 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 legislative clerk read the nomination of Radha Iyengar Plumb, of New York, to be a Deputy Under Secretary of Defense.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

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

MITCH MCCONNELL AND JOHN FETTERMAN

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, first, let me begin by welcoming back our friend, Leader MCCONNELL, to the Senate. It is great to have him back here in this Chamber. We are all happy to see he is recovering well.

I also want to welcome back our colleague from Pennsylvania and friend, Senator FETTERMAN. We are all glad he got the support he needed, and he is sending an important message to millions of Americans that asking for and getting help works.

DEBT CEILING

Now, Mr. President, on the debt ceiling, today is the start of a consequential work period here in Congress, but instead of getting to work in our Nation's Capital, House Republican leadership took a field trip to New York City. It was sort of a circus. Today's big spectacle, of course, was Speaker McCARTHY's speech at the New York Stock Exchange, where he recycled the same old talking points but failed to provide anything new or anything of substance.

One thing is clear from this morning's theatrics: While Democrats want to preserve America's full faith and credit, Speaker McCARTHY continues to bumble our country toward default, which would cause the economy to crash, cause jobs to crater, and drastically raise costs across the board for American families.

Amazingly, one of the few specifics McCARTHY did present was his terrible idea to kick the can down the road for just a year and undergo this same default crisis all over again a year from now. Would anyone agree to undergo this fiasco again next year? Give me a break.

I will be blunt. If Speaker McCARTHY continues in this direction, he is heading us toward default. Do you know what will avoid default? Republicans working with Democrats to avert this crisis altogether, just as we did under Donald Trump.

Speaker McCARTHY, in his speech, invoked President Reagan, but Ronald Reagan was never reckless like McCARTHY is being. In fact, it was Reagan who said:

[Debt ceiling] brinkmanship threatens the holders of government bonds and those who rely on Social Security and veterans benefits. . . . The United States has a special responsibility to itself and the world to meet its obligations.

And despite the Speaker's stated concerns about costs, nothing—nothing—would do more to raise costs for American families than default.

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



Printed on recycled paper.

Now, for months, Speaker MCCARTHY has insisted on cuts in exchange for avoiding a default. We all know the best way to avoid default is with no brinkmanship, no hostage-taking. Do it clean. President Trump did it twice with Democrats and Republicans working together, and President Biden did it once with Democrats and Republicans working together. That is the way to do this.

MCCARTHY is insisting on cuts, but, to boot, he doesn't say what those cuts are. As I have said previously, there is a time and place to discuss cuts, but that is not part of this conversation. It belongs in the discussion about the budget, not as a precondition for avoiding default.

Again, let me repeat that so they might hear it on the other side, in the House Chamber: The discussion about cuts belongs in the discussion about budget, not as a precondition for avoiding default.

The solution here is straightforward. Republicans should work with Democrats in good faith to avoid default altogether just as we did with Donald Trump: no blackmail, no brinkmanship, no default.

Speaker MCCARTHY, show us your plan.

President Biden and I are happy to meet with Speaker MCCARTHY when he has something to talk about—a plan—as most Democratic leaders are, but we need to see his plan first so we can start from there and work to avoid a catastrophic default altogether. If we go to meetings without Speaker MCCARTHY having a plan, what are we going to do—talk about the furniture? the weather?

Finally, Speaker MCCARTHY, today, quoted a great Yankee, the great Babe Ruth, saying:

You just can't beat the person who never gives up.

Well, first, Speaker MCCARTHY, don't quote a Yankee to me in New York City. Second, the Speaker is right; he has never given up. However, that is only because he has never started: no plan, no progress, no persistence.

So, to make sense of today's speech, I think it was another great Yankee, the great No. 8, Yogi Berra, who hit the nail on the head. "It's déjà vu all over again," Yogi said. It applies exactly to Speaker MCCARTHY's speech today—no plan, no progress, nothing.

Speaker MCCARTHY, show us a plan. Work to deliver for the American people.

To sum it all up, Speaker MCCARTHY plays a risky and dangerous game when insisting on imposing severe cuts which would hurt the American people and threaten our economy before we avoid default. In addition, to boot, he can't even reveal what those cuts are. This is a sad truth, but it is the truth. If Speaker MCCARTHY doesn't change his course, he could well take this country over the cliff to default for the first time.

HOUSE REPUBLICAN AGENDA

Mr. President, on Republican extremism, at the start of the year, I warned that Republicans in Congress faced a critical choice: Abandon MAGA extremism for the good of the country or double down on the road to radicalism. Four months later, too many Republicans have made the choice clear. Instead of coming to the middle, they have sprinted to the extremes. Instead of abandoning MAGA, too many Republicans have doubled down; especially look at the last few weeks. Look no further than what happened last week in Florida, where the Republican Governor signed one of the most extreme anti-choice bills in the entire country, a near total ban on abortion after 6 weeks.

Let's not kid ourselves: A 6-week ban is practically a total ban. Many women don't even know they are pregnant by 6 weeks. Most Floridians fiercely oppose such a draconian provision, one that will endanger not only millions of women in Florida but tens of millions of women across the entire south who, tragically, have fewer and fewer options for accessing reproductive care.

And lest anyone think Republicans oppose abortion because of States' rights—oh, no. The decision by a Federal judge in Texas issuing a nationwide suspension of mifepristone should make it clear what this is about: a national ban on abortion. That is where the Republicans seem to be.

Republicans seem to be caught—these 2 weeks made it clear—in a self-destructive dynamic: The more that Americans reject their extreme views at the ballot box, the more these MAGA Republicans seem to double down.

We have seen this played out on choice, but we are seeing it play out on gun safety. Let me be clear: Most Americans support some commonsense gun safety. Parents are tired of worrying about whether their kids are safe at school. But when tragedy struck at a school in Nashville, TN, Republicans reacted not by voting new gun safety laws but, instead, by expelling two representatives of color who dared commit the sin of speaking out against the inaction. That is the antithesis of democracy. That is the road to outright autocracy.

Even today, Republican extremism was on full display in New York City. Today, the Republican House Judiciary chairman held what he claimed was a field hearing about public safety. But to date, Chairman JORDAN and his colleagues have refused to denounce President Trump's call to defund the FBI and the DOJ.

Defunding the FBI is truly unhinged, and every single Member of the House and Senate—Democrat and Republican alike—should unequivocally condemn former President Trump for pushing this idea. Very soon, the Members of this Chamber will have a chance to go on record and denounce the former President's call to cut funding to our

Federal law enforcement. I hope everyone in the Chamber does the right thing.

The FBI—many of them risk their lives to protect us from drugs, from guns, from terrorism. Defund it just because President Trump, in his self-serving moment, said so? Where are our Republican friends, or are they just moving so far to the right they can't even reject something as clear as this?

As I said moments ago, Republicans are caught in a self-destructive dynamic: The more that Americans reject their extreme views at the ballot box, the more they seem to double down. If they continue down this road, not only will our country suffer, but the GOP themselves will suffer as Americans keep rejecting them at the ballot box. If they continue down this road, our country will suffer and so will the GOP as Americans keep rejecting them at the ballot box.

BUSINESS BEFORE THE SENATE

Mr. President, finally, on upcoming Senate business, today, the Senate gears back in for the start of a busy week, a very busy work period.

There is so much we must do on lowering costs and improving lives of American families, strengthening healthcare, lowering prescription drug costs, preserving America's competitiveness, and protecting America's fundamental rights. We will get to work on these issues, particularly starting off with the fire bill, which will come before us this week.

I yield the floor.

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Republican leader is welcomed back.

SENATE LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, it is good to be back.

I want to thank all of my colleagues for their warm wishes shared over the past few weeks. Suffice it to say, this wasn't the first time that being hard-headed has served me very well.

We are truly lucky and blessed to get to serve in this remarkable institution, represent our home States, and serve our country. Needless to say, I am very happy to be back.

There is important business for Congress to tackle. We should be working to undo this administration's mistakes. We need to secure the border, reduce crime, fight inflation, and invest in America's strength and our security.

On an even more basic level, President Biden and his administration are literally "on the clock" to negotiate a debt ceiling solution with Speaker MCCARTHY and the Republican majority over in the House. The President's economic advisers say the deadline for a solution is not far off, but his political advisers apparently think the White House's position should be—listen to this—no talks and no reforms.

This extreme position is not even holding up in their own party. Even Washington Democrats are breaking

ranks from the administration's position of no talks and no reforms.

One of our Senate Democratic colleagues wrote an entire Washington Post op-ed calling on the President to sit down with Congress and reform spending. Reports indicate that a whole group of House Democrats are already talking about negotiations and about compromise.

Just a few years ago, the Democratic leader, Leader SCHUMER, said this about the debt ceiling:

[It] gives another ample opportunity for bipartisanship, not for one party jamming its choices down the throats of the other.

So President Biden does not get to stick his fingers in his ears and refuse to listen, talk, or negotiate, and the American people know that. The White House needs to stop wasting time and start negotiating with the Speaker of the House.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Illinois.

MITCH MCCONNELL AND JOHN FETTERMAN

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I welcome back my self-described, hard-headed Republican leader in the Senate.

It is good to see you, MITCH. I'm glad you are back.

I want to welcome Senator MCCONNELL as well as Senator FETTERMAN, who will be here today as well.

I spoke to him by Zoom several weeks ago, and I was really heartened by his message. He had the courage to step up and ask for help when he faced depression, to seek professional and medical advice, and I could tell by his responses and the tone of his voice that that decision had already made a difference in his life for the better.

I told him at the time I was so happy to speak to him personally, that what he had done publicly to address the issue of his own personal depression and the overall issue of mental health would save lives across America. I believe people will be inspired to follow his example and seek help.

We are, fortunately, living in a time and an age and a generation where the attitude toward mental health is much different than it was many years ago.

There was a time when mental illness was considered not just an illness but a curse, and people didn't speak about it. I know I had similar examples in my own family of people who were just speaking in whispers about the issues that related to my relatives.

That is changing for the better. Our honesty and openness in dealing with mental health makes us a better nation, and people will have better lives as a result of it.

I thank my colleague Senator FETTERMAN for stepping up and making the right decision in his life, and I am looking forward to his return.

VLADIMIR KARA-MURZA

On another topic, Mr. President, today, a Russian puppet court sentenced opposition leader Vladimir Kara-Murza to 25 years in prison. For

what? What did he do to merit a 25-year sentence in Russia? He had the nerve to criticize Vladimir Putin's invasion of Ukraine.

This is his photograph, incidentally. He visited my office several times before he made the incredible decision to go back to Russia and to confront the Putin administration. Now he is facing a 25-year sentence.

It comes on the heels of reports that Russian authorities may be trying to slowly poison another opposition leader, Alexey Navalny, after a failed attempt on his life in 2020.

Previously, Vladimir Putin tried twice to poison Mr. Kara-Murza as well. This kind of extrajudicial, extra-legal process has become all too common in Russia.

Apparently, Putin's fear of Russian patriots like Navalny and Kara-Murza, who have only advocated for an open and democratic Russia that is at peace with its neighbors, knows no ends.

Vladimir Kara-Murza, Alexey Navalny, and so many other Russians are courageously pursuing a better future for their country. They deserve our support and solidarity.

MIFEPRISTONE

Mr. President, this week, the fate of women's healthcare rests with the Supreme Court of the United States. In the coming days, the Justices are expected to decide whether one activist judge in Texas can singlehandedly disregard decades of medical and professional consensus, whether he can create chaos for doctors and women seeking abortion and cut off access to reproductive healthcare nationwide.

Remember when Justice Alito announced that the Dobbs decision would just give each State the authority to regulate abortion? It sounded so simple: 50 different standards for abortion, but then each State can make the decision.

Well, it has been less than a year since the Court's rightwing majority issued that decision overruling *Roe v. Wade*. Here we are, faced with the very real possibility that mifepristone—a pill, a drug, a medicine the Food and Drug Administration approved more than 20 years ago—could be banned or severely restricted all across the Nation—so much for each State's experiment on the issue. This decision would affect the medication nationwide, even in States where abortion has been judged legal.

So how did we reach this point? It starts with one Federal judge in Texas, Judge Matthew Kacsmaryk, and his original attempt to upend our Nation's drug approval process and ban mifepristone. You see, this drug has been on the market for over 20 years, approved by the Food and Drug Administration.

This story really reveals the fallacy at the heart of the Dobbs decision. Justice Alito and the rightwing majority claimed that they were just going to settle the controversy over abortion by returning the issue to each State, but

in truth, they just replaced controversy with chaos. The Dobbs ruling didn't resolve anything. It merely paved the way for activist judges like Judge Kacsmaryk to impose their radical agenda on everyone else, even in States which had voted to protect the right to abortion.

Earlier this month, that is what happened. Judge Kacsmaryk, in Amarillo, TX, defied decades of scientific evidence to revoke the FDA's approval of the medical abortion drug mifepristone. The medication is used in more than half the abortions in America. It is safe, it is extremely effective, and studies show that it is safer than Tylenol and presents fewer risks than routine medical procedures like colonoscopy. In the past 20 years, millions of American women have used this drug to terminate an early pregnancy or to help manage a miscarriage with minimal complications. So this attempt to ban this medication isn't grounded in science, and it certainly isn't grounded in any concern about the safety of women.

You see, Judge Kacsmaryk is a long-standing, outspoken critic of abortion. Just this weekend, the Washington Post revealed that this very same judge in Amarillo, TX, failed to disclose to the Senate Judiciary Committee an article that he had cowritten criticizing abortion rights when he was nominated to the Federal bench.

So why exactly did this judge, a known anti-choice radical, end up deciding this case with implications in the entire United States of America? Well, it wasn't a coincidence, believe me. On the contrary, it was a classic case of judge shopping. That is when plaintiffs game the legal system to bring their case before a favorable judge.

In this case, the plaintiffs, a group of rightwing MAGA activists, filed a lawsuit challenging the FDA's approval of mifepristone in the Amarillo division of the Northern District of Texas. Under the district court's rules, all cases filed in the Amarillo division are assigned to one judge. You can guess his name: Judge Kacsmaryk. So these rightwing activists knew, if they filed an antiabortion lawsuit in Amarillo, their case would be decided by a friendly judge who shares their views and his ruling would have an impact not just on Amarillo and Texas but the entire United States of America.

Well, the plaintiffs got exactly what they wanted. Judge Kacsmaryk delivered. The scheme worked. He delivered the biggest blow to reproductive rights since last year's Dobbs decision—so much for each State making a decision.

His decision didn't return this issue to the States. It replaced the will of the people in the States with this judge's point of view. By attempting to ban mifepristone nationwide, the judge tried to impose new national restrictions on abortion that have no basis in science and are extremely dangerous.

Now, there have been a number of developments in this case over the past

week, and, as a result, the Supreme Court will take up the issue of abortion again, twice in less than 1 year. This lawsuit against mifepristone is only the latest example of the never-ending chaos and confusion women and medical professionals have experienced since the Supreme Court threw out *Roe v. Wade*.

All across America, activist judges and rightwing lawmakers are working hand in hand to impose increasingly onerous restrictions on reproductive care, and they won't stop until abortion is banned in every form in every part of the country. It is not about each State deciding it at all.

Of course, there is only one reason this relentless assault has accelerated: the Dobbs decision. By erasing a constitutional right that had been on the books for 50 years, the rightwing majority opened the floodgates for new laws and new rulings and even criminalizing abortion. And the laws seem to be changing almost every week. Doctors have no idea if the care they provide today will be legal tomorrow.

Recently, Florida decided that they would not allow pregnancies to be terminated after 6 weeks of pregnancy. It is just a fact of life—and every person knows it—that it usually takes much more than 6 weeks for a woman to be certain that she is pregnant.

So instead of ending the ban on abortion, the Dobbs decision has really opened a different debate: How far will we let this brand of political radicalism go?

Look at how these attacks on reproductive healthcare have escalated. First, the Supreme Court overturned decades of legal precedent to revoke a constitutional right. That is the first time it has ever happened in the history of the Supreme Court, revoking an established constitutional right.

Now, less than a year later, one judge in Texas has decided to escalate the situation. He wants to take drug approval decisions out of the hands of doctors and scientific experts at the FDA and violate decades of congressional and Agency precedent.

So, naturally, the American people are wondering: What is next? How far will the rightwing extremists go in destabilizing our rights and the rule of law? What is next? Birth control? Vaccines? Medicine for HIV/AIDS?

It is a genuine question. Just ask healthcare providers in Illinois who are wondering if they are going to face criminal charges for providing vital and potentially lifesaving care.

Let me tell you about one of them. Her name is Andrea Gallegos. She operates a clinic in Carbondale. She opened her clinic last October after the Dobbs decision. She wanted to provide resources to women traveling from other States. Today, roughly 95 percent of her patients travel from outside of Illinois.

She tells us that the recent rulings on mifepristone have created chaos. Every day, she receives calls from ter-

rified patients who are wondering if they will even be able to receive care. The question she hears the most is: "Will someone come after me" when I ask for assistance? And while Andrea tries her best to reassure her patients, the truth is, she is even struggling to understand the state of the law in America. She says the chaos and confusion are "putting pregnant [women] even more at risk."

Andrea and her patients are living with the real-world consequences of anti-choice radicalism, and it shows how the Dobbs opinion is entirely detached from reality.

Andrea said:

The Dobbs decision did not resolve any controversy . . . it has forced pregnant [women] to flee their home[s] . . . for health care. . . . It has forced citizens of this country to become medical refugees [in their own] states. . . . [And it has] forced health care providers to put their patients in dangerous, potentially life-threatening situations.

She said:

The Dobbs decision goes against what we . . . stand for in America . . . a person's fundamental right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

These are the words of a healthcare professional trying to operate within the law and wondering, as it changes by the week, If Dobbs returned the question of abortion back to the States, what about my State? What about their elected leaders? Our voters spoke, and our leaders took action to reflect their will to strengthen access to abortion. So why does one judge in Amarillo, TX, have the last word when it comes to medical abortions in my State or any other State?

This war on women's healthcare has gone too far. That is why the Senate needs to do its job: Stop the chaos and return and establish the "*Roe v. Wade*" woman's right to choose once and for all by passing the Women's Health Protection Act.

In the meantime, here is what Senate Democrats are doing. I joined 49 of my Senate colleagues in filing an amicus brief to the Supreme Court urging them to immediately overturn the Amarillo decision banning and restricting access to mifepristone.

Additionally, in the coming weeks, the Senate Judiciary Committee, which I chair, will hold a hearing on the state of abortion rights. This will be a followup to the hearing we held last year immediately after the Dobbs decision.

We have learned what happens when you revoke a constitutional right from the American people. We can never let this happen again. We need to respect the rights of women to make this choice, to make their own healthcare decisions, and to do it in consultation with medical professionals—doctors and medical professionals who are not living in fear that they are going to be imprisoned by making the right medical decision. And Democrats won't rest until we have restored access to these constitutional rights nationwide.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. KING). The Senator from Texas.

SENATOR FEINSTEIN

Mr. CORNYN. Well, Mr. President, we are now back in session after a busy 2-week recess where I know many of us were traveling in our States or parts of the world and attending to our duties here in the Senate in various capacities. But now we are back here in Washington, DC, and it appears to me that we have a whole lot we need to do before the Fourth of July recess.

But before we begin the day-to-day task of legislating, the majority leader, it is reported, is expected to ask for some personnel changes in the Senate.

Senator FEINSTEIN, our colleague from California, has been out for a couple of months due to some health issues—not an uncommon occurrence here in the Senate, and I know the entire Senate joins me in wishing her a quick recovery and a speedy return here to the Senate.

But given the tight margins in this Chamber, her absence has created some complications for Senator SCHUMER within the Senate Judiciary Committee on which I serve.

Without her vote, our Democratic colleagues are simply unable to advance the most controversial and partisan judicial nominees whom the President has selected.

Given the lack of Republican support, these partisan nominees simply cannot move to the Senate floor for a vote. To get around the issue, Senator SCHUMER has come up with a unique proposal. He wants to temporarily replace Senator FEINSTEIN on the Judiciary Committee.

The idea is to remove her from the committee for an unspecified period of time, name a replacement, and then reinstate Senator FEINSTEIN when she returns. This is, it turns out, unprecedented. Over the years, Senators from both sides, as I indicated a moment ago, have needed time away due to various health issues. Never, not once, have we allowed temporary substitutes on committees, and now is not the time to start.

Republicans are not going to break this precedent in order to bail out Senator SCHUMER or the Biden administration's most controversial nominees. Yesterday evening, the majority leader said he spoke with Senator FEINSTEIN, and she hopes she will be back soon. We all hope that she comes back soon.

But it is another reason not to go along with Senator SCHUMER's ploy for temporary appointment of a member of the Judiciary Committee. Senator FEINSTEIN has been a mainstay of this body for more than three decades, and I hope to see her back in these Halls soon.

But until then, President Biden's most controversial partisan judicial nominees will have to wait.

DEBT CEILING

Mr. President, as I said, this Chamber has a lot to do—the 100 of us who

serve in this Chamber. One of the most critical tasks we have is to avoid a debt crisis. Back in January, the United States hit its debt limit, and the U.S. Treasury Department has begun using what they call extraordinary measures to prevent the government from defaulting on its debt.

Since then, we have been operating, literally, on borrowed time. We don't know exactly when those measures will be exhausted. It depends, in part, upon tax returns or tax revenue being generated, and that can be a little bit unpredictable. But experts have said that it could occur as soon as June, which is a little less than 2 months away.

As we know, nothing happens very quickly here in the Senate. It takes time to negotiate, to write, debate, and pass legislation; meaning, it is time to get serious about preventing a fiscal crisis. From the get-go, President Biden drew outrageous red lines and ruled out any negotiations over spending reforms.

Clearly, that was not a realistic nor a responsible position to take. President Biden has signed partisan spending bills totaling \$2.7 trillion just in the last year or so alone, and now he says it is up to the Republicans in the House to deal with the debt ceiling, and he is not going to negotiate. That is not a responsible position for the President of the United States to take.

Moreover, the national debt is now \$31.6 trillion and counting. Congress cannot just raise the debt limit and continue to borrow and spend like there is no tomorrow.

Yes, this is like your child maxing out their credit limit and then asking you or the bank, perhaps, to raise the credit limit without regard to repaying the debt or at least some of the debt that they owe. No responsible actor acts that way, and the President knows it.

So President Biden needs to get off his high horse. He needs to come to the negotiating table, and I am sure Speaker McCARTHY will more than meet him halfway.

Yes, we all agree, we need to avoid a debt crisis. No one wants the United States to default on its debts, but we also need to enact broader reforms to rein in spending, and that has traditionally been what happens when the debt ceiling is increased.

We can't just slap a bandaid on the problem and call it a day. We can't just continue to indefinitely raise the debt limit and burden more and more of future generations with the responsibility that we ourselves should embrace because it is our responsibility and not those future generations.

It is time for Congress to buckle down and get government spending in check, and this is a prime opportunity to have that debate and those votes. Of course, this is just one piece of the Senate's work to promote financial responsibility. We also need to pass regular appropriations bills on time and through the regular order. Move them

out of committee, across the floor, give Senators a chance to offer amendments, and then vote. That is what we call regular order around here.

Instead, what we have gotten, at least last year, was a \$1.7 trillion bill, I think that was the final pricetag, an omnibus bill, which denied the opportunity for any Member of Congress or the Senate to offer amendments or debate different portions of it, to either add to or reprioritize some of the spending or—Heaven forbid—to cut some of the wasteful spending.

Instead, we were given the choice of an up-or-down vote, and that, of course, is the way the leadership likes it. That is the way Speaker PELOSI and Senator SCHUMER, the Senate majority leader, likes it because it maximizes their authority, while it casts the rest of us who have been independently elected to this body on the sidelines as spectators, only to be called into action once the final vote is called.

Well, unfortunately, Congress hasn't had much of a success record when it comes to regular order for appropriations bills. The Senate and House Appropriations Committees, as we know, are charged with writing 12 separate bills to fund different components of the Federal Government.

They are supposed to pass, as I indicated, both Chambers, the House and the Senate, and then those differences are reconciled and then signed into law before September 30 of every year. But that didn't happen last year, as I said. The Democratic-led Senate did not pass a single regular appropriations bill. And, again, that is not by accident; that is by design.

But it doesn't serve the interest of our constituents; it doesn't serve the interests of rank-and-file Members of the Senate to be relegated to the sidelines like a potted plant; and it doesn't give the American people what they are entitled to, which is the kind of robust debate, prioritization, and, yes, some spending restraint and cuts, particularly in areas where we can all agree that that spending is not a high priority or is, indeed, wasteful.

Instead of that regular order, we saw a temporary continuing resolution, which doesn't help the Pentagon or any other element of the Federal Government actually make plans for a year-long spending appropriation, but rather has to deal with stopgap spending bills, pending this big Omnibus appropriations bill at the end of the year.

And, of course, all of this happens in a rushed fashion, completely out of the public's view. We simply cannot accept this as the new normal. We need to abandon this habit of continuing resolutions and last-minute omnibus and return to regular ontime appropriations bills.

In order to plan and prepare for the future, Federal Agencies and certainly our military are looking at daunting challenges all across the globe. Whether it is in Europe or in Asia, in North Korea or in the Middle East, we have

daunting national security challenges facing us. And this kind of inappropriate power play, frankly, by the leadership of the House and the Senate we saw demonstrated last December does not serve the interest of our military, our national security, or the public interest.

And it results in big, bloated, spending bills that Congress simply doesn't have the opportunity to parse. Well, we know that it takes time to do that so it shouldn't be put on the back burner until we are approaching the end of the fiscal year, which is coming at the end of September. We need to get that process moving now.

BORDER SECURITY

Mr. President, it is not just financial problems that need to be addressed, there are also big security issues on our plate. In the coming months, we need to pass an annual defense authorization bill to strengthen our military and our security around the world and, hopefully, to maintain the peace.

But we also have big security issues here at home that need to be addressed. As the Presiding Officer has heard me say many times from this position, the border crisis is still raging. Thousands of migrants are crossing the border every single day and completely overwhelming our capacity to respond. It is honestly not a question of capacity, it is really a matter of will, and so far the Biden administration has demonstrated no will to deal with this border crisis of its own making.

Law enforcement, border communities, nonprofits, and local businesses along the border region are feeling the strain. Our immigration system is now so backlogged that some migrants have to wait as long as 10 years before they can even begin immigration court proceedings.

And then we know from the track record of successful claims for asylum that only—let's say generously—85 percent of those cases will not be acknowledged. Only 15 percent will be granted because only 15 percent of that huge backlog of cases that ultimately end up in front of an immigration judge qualify for the very high legal standard for asylum.

Well, over the last couple of years, the administration has shattered every record when it comes to border crossings because there is a welcome mat out and a green light on for anybody and everybody who wants to come to the United States from literally anywhere around the world.

But as bad as the crisis has been the last 2 years, I am afraid the administration is about to break their own very bad record. Title 42, which is a public health law which says we can limit immigration to the United States in the interest of protecting our population against a public health crisis like COVID-19—that title is going to end in less than a month, and the Border Patrol will lose its authority to quickly expel migrants who simply have no legal basis to remain in the United States.

In February alone, more than 72,000 migrants were removed under title 42. Admittedly, it is a small number, but it is a significant number when you consider what happens when title 42 goes away because once it disappears, we will have to process, house, and care for every single one of those individuals.

When we inevitably run out of space, which will happen quickly, I expect the administration will start releasing migrants into the interior of the country at an unprecedented pace, and once that happens, even more migration will follow. This is simply one of the pull factors or the message that is sent; that if you violate our immigration laws, as long as you make it to the border—because the cartels, the transnational criminal organizations, have figured out if they can overwhelm our border patrols, they can make more money, and more and more people will be able to illegally migrate into the United States.

The transnational criminal organizations that continue to get rich because of the Biden border policies know that frontline officers and agents are busy processing and caring for migrants and in many cases unaccompanied children, which creates a golden opportunity for the cartels to move dangerous drugs into the country. They are moving drugs like fentanyl, synthetic opioids, heroin, and other dangerous drugs across the border and into communities all across the country, from Maine to Texas, to California, to New York—all across the country.

We lost about 70,000 Americans last year alone to fentanyl, and the U.S.-Mexico border is the primary gateway for fentanyl and these other illicit drugs. Securing the border is the key to stopping this overdose epidemic, and restoring some sense of order when it comes to migration. This needs to be a top priority here in the Senate, and, as I said a moment ago, with the expiration of title 42, a bad situation is getting ready to get worse.

These are just a few of the major tasks on the Senate's to-do list, and unfortunately this Chamber has wasted a lot of time. But since the beginning of this year, the majority leader hasn't allowed the Senate to actually spend much time legislating. We have confirmed a number of nominees and passed a few resolutions to nullify outlandish rules that were rolled out by the Biden administration. We unanimously passed a resolution designating January as "National Trafficking and Modern Slavery Prevention Month." The Senate passed a bill to repeal the Iraq war authorization, as if President Biden can be expected to use that authorization to declare some sort of military conflict or war someplace in the Middle East or elsewhere—something I doubt he would do.

Given Congress's long to-do list and the fact that we are 3½ months into the year, what I just recounted is a very slim list of accomplishments. I

hoped this work period would prompt a change and we could start working on important, time-sensitive tasks that need to be completed. Unfortunately, here again, we are not off to a great start.

Rather than bringing up legislation to address the debt ceiling or the border crisis or any one of a number of other problems facing American families, Senator SCHUMER has announced that this week, we will vote on a partisan resolution. The majority leader tried to frame this resolution as a way to defend the rule of law, but it is a nonbinding resolution. It fails to do anything other than send a political message.

The majority leader has been a fierce critic of similar resolutions in the past. During the summer of 2020, our colleague from Arkansas, Senator COTTON, authored a straightforward resolution to clarify that the Senate called for justice for George Floyd and opposed efforts to defund the police—both simple and straightforward points of, I would think, nearly unanimous agreement. But unfortunately the resolution didn't pass because it was—guess what—blocked by Senator SCHUMER. At the time, he said:

The resolution by my friend will do nothing. Nothing. It is rhetoric.

Well, that was Senator SCHUMER less than 3 years ago when he blocked a nonbinding resolution that denounced efforts to defund the police. Now that he has the power to set the schedule in the Senate, Senator SCHUMER could bring any bill to the floor that he wanted. That is the prerogative of the majority leader. He could schedule votes on actual bills. We could actually have votes on amendments to those bills and a fulsome debate, and we could take real action to support our law enforcement officers and defend the rule of law. But he refuses to bring that sort of bill to the floor—instead, just an empty statement or political message.

If the majority leader wants to issue statements on his own time, that is his prerogative, but he shouldn't continue to waste valuable floor time on purely partisan messaging that does absolutely nothing. The American people sent us here to work on their behalf, and it is high time the majority leader decided to take that responsibility seriously and bring important legislation that will solve real problems to the floor of the United States Senate.

As our friend Lamar Alexander, the former Senator from Tennessee, liked to say: It is not easy to get here, and it is not easy to stay here—because we have elections every 6 years—but while you are here, you might as well do something important. You might as well make a difference.

I fear we are not doing that by the sort of agenda setting and political messaging that the majority leader is endorsing, but it is something I dare-say the vast majority of Senators would relish—doing exactly that kind

of work and solving real problems for the American people.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

BIDEN ADMINISTRATION

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. President, just before Easter, the Biden administration released a report that they claim vindicates their role in our disastrous withdrawal from Afghanistan, but rather than laying out the facts and embracing accountability, the Biden administration returned to its default setting of blaming Donald Trump for their problems. They claim that because Trump did not provide them with a plan for every contingency, the Biden White House should be allowed to wash its hands of the mess they have made.

Now, you would think that anyone who witnessed mothers throwing their children over barbed wire fences and into the arms of our soldiers would at least hesitate before making excuses for the terrible decision making that led to those images. Biden and his team are kidding themselves if they think we have forgotten what happened. But the American people are not fooled. They remember that it was Joe Biden who chose to close Bagram Airfield; that it was Joe Biden who set an arbitrary evacuation deadline even though his military generals begged him not to do this; and that it was Joe Biden who surrendered control of Karzai International Airport and handed over the names of American citizens, green card holders, and our Afghan partners—handed this information over to the Taliban.

We saw the catastrophe unfold at the airfields and in the cities, and we see what the Biden administration has done. They have ignored it ever since. Afghanistan fell back into the Dark Ages. Twenty-three million people are going hungry. Twenty million Afghan women are subjugated under the Taliban's medieval boot.

On the day the evacuation officially ended, there were at least 4,000 Americans left behind—that is right, left behind—in Afghanistan. Today, our best guess is that there are around 175 still stranded there. Some of them are being held captive by the Taliban. Seventy-eight thousand of our Afghan partners remain in hiding, many being hunted by the Taliban. Yes, that is the mess that this administration and Joe Biden made.

And on his way out the door, Biden also left behind at least \$7.2 billion of American weaponry, including aircraft, vehicles, and guns, some of which have cropped up in the hands of militants in other countries. That is \$7.2 billion of

equipment, part of the \$80 billion investment there at Bagram Airfield.

And what did Joe Biden do? Here you go, Bagram—the investment in training, the investment in the troops, the investment in infrastructure, and all of that equipment.

Just imagine for a moment that you are one of our allies watching all of this unfold. It would cause you to be worried—and rightfully so.

Biden's disastrous withdrawal from Afghanistan damaged America's image on the world stage and sent once-strong alliances into a tailspin. Some of our most important allies now believe that the United States is weak, that we are unreliable, and that we are undependable.

This is what has emboldened what I term the new axis of evil—China, Russia, Iran, and North Korea. They think they have got running room because of the way the Afghan withdrawal was conducted.

Beijing wasted no time normalizing relations with the Taliban by offering multimillion-dollar investments through the Chinese Belt and Road Initiative. The CCP knows what it is doing here. Afghanistan has \$1 trillion in untapped resources that communist China has already signed a deal to extract. Since then, they have increased their aggression against Taiwan and elsewhere around the globe, and the Biden administration has had very little to say about it—an emboldened China going after the \$1 trillion in lithium in Afghanistan—rare-earth minerals, Afghanistan. That is why the Chinese Communist Party has inked that deal.

Oh, what did they do with it? Let's make chips. Let's make batteries.

Oh, what are we making those batteries for? Electric vehicles.

How about that? How about that? This is what has emboldened the CCP.

Afghanistan was a disaster. It was based on the decision making of this administration. So the CCP is encouraging Russia, Iran, and North Korea to join them in that axis of evil and push to global dominance.

The CCP even let a spy balloon sahay all the way across this country. We know it pulled intelligence. We know it went across much of our critical infrastructure.

What did my colleagues across the aisle have to say? Not much. Not much. They don't want to challenge the CCP and communist China, and Russia and Iran and North Korea. It makes you wonder.

Meanwhile, North Korea has leaned into their ballistic missile program, and Iran has openly celebrated a dangerous milestone: They are now technically capable of building multiple nuclear weapons. That is right. They are pushing their nuclear development program.

Not to be outdone, just 6 months after Biden surrendered to the Taliban, Vladimir Putin attacked Ukraine and launched the biggest land war in Eu-

rope since World War II. This is not a coincidence.

Biden knows he has no one to blame but himself and his officials for this. This is the mess they have made because of the decisions that they have made.

But there has been no accountability. There has been no justice for the 13 servicemembers murdered by terrorists during those final chaotic days in Kabul. I think it is clear that, if things keep going the way they are, there won't be accountability because this administration will not admit they made a mistake.

If there is any truth to be gleaned from the administration's report, it is that Joe Biden hasn't learned any lessons from what will certainly be remembered as one of the worst foreign policy disasters in our Nation's history.

The Biden administration will go down in history for failing our allies and our partners. They are questioning—they are questioning—if they should be our ally and partner.

The Biden administration will be remembered for destroying what was a robust economy, kowtowing to social justice warriors, and, of course, committing to outrageous policy proposals that insult the intelligence of the American people.

The Department of Homeland Security's recent budget request is no exception to the rule. This year, instead of asking for more money to equip law enforcement and secure our southern border, Joe Biden and Secretary Mayorkas decided to undercut that mission by \$600 million. That is right. The border is wide open. We have a Secretary of Homeland Security who does not believe in securing the homeland. So what does the Secretary and the President do? They cut the budget for securing the border by \$600 million. This is something that is so unfair to our Border Patrol.

We are only halfway through the fiscal year, and already Customs and Border Protection has recorded more than 1 million migrant encounters at the southern border. That is right—1 million that they have encountered. That is not counting the “got-aways”—the ones they can see but can't get to, or the ones that later they find where they have been but they could not get to them, didn't know about them. This is 1 million encounters on that border.

They have also seized 105,000 pounds of drugs, including enough fentanyl to kill several cities—almost 11,000 pounds of fentanyl in 5 short months. And get this: They caught 268 gang members, more than 11,000 criminal noncitizens, and almost 300 terrorists trying to sneak into this country.

Those are not my numbers. Those are not some pundit's numbers. Those are the stats that are coming from the Department of Homeland Security and the Border Patrol. Those are their numbers. They are telling us this.

Do people agree with this? Do they think this is secure border policy?

Listen to these numbers again: 105,000 pounds of drugs, 11,000 pounds of fentanyl, 268 gang members, and 11,000 criminal noncitizens. Those are people who have been convicted of crimes. These are the people who are being turned out of the jails in countries. Last year, 176 different countries had people present at that southern border. This year, so far, you have got 11,000 criminal noncitizens and almost 300 terrorists trying to come into this country.

Ask yourself a question: What in heaven's name do you think they are coming here for? Why are they sneaking into the country? Do you think it is because they know they wouldn't be able to come in? Do you think they are coming for a job, or are they coming to do us harm?

We should be outraged—outraged—and concerned.

Alarms should be blaring at the Department of Homeland Security. Right now, the Biden administration is just rolling out the red carpet. They are issuing an open invitation. Indeed, they said: We have got an app to make it easy for you to come. Go on your iPhone. Sign in on the app. We will be waiting for you when you get here.

Does that sound like securing the country? Criminal noncitizens, terrorists, gang members—these are the people who are coming in, cartel smugglers who are taking this administration up on their invitation: Come on in.

Every year, in Tennessee, I visit with each one of our 95 counties. I am on the ground in every county in the State. And this year, without exception, there are mayors and sheriffs and other officials who I am speaking with, talking with principals, talking with citizens. And do you know what? Border security comes up in every single one of these meetings, and the reason it comes up is because of this administration's policies turning every town into a border town and every State into a border State. And now it is the local officials and local law enforcement officers who are left to deal with the broken policies of this administration.

If you ask them what the biggest problem is, they are going to tell you: Well, MARSHA, it connects back to the border because the drugs we are apprehending are coming across the southern border, and 95 percent of those drugs, they are fentanyl, and that drives crime in our communities. There are gang members coming into these communities.

Now, here is a great example of this: Hamilton County, TN. That is Chattanooga, a great city. And their district attorney, Coty Wamp, and Sheriff Garrett there in Hamilton County were showing me some pictures from one of their drug busts. Well, these are rainbow fentanyl pills that were specifically manufactured to look like OxyContin—rainbow fentanyl.

Now, officers there in Chattanooga found more than 1,000 of these pills in a single search. That is enough to take

out the entire city of Chattanooga, TN. They weren't expecting to find fentanyl when they were executing that warrant, but that doesn't mean they were surprised. This is a persistent problem in Chattanooga.

Thank goodness, a great sheriff and a great DA working together—great officers—they conducted this bust, and this is what they found. And we have great local law enforcement all across the State of Tennessee. And they will tell you that fentanyl overdose deaths are occurring at such a rate that law enforcement does not have all the resources they need to investigate all the cases.

Now, this is just one story from one law enforcement entity in one city; but the danger is, this is occurring in every city, in every county, in each of our States. And it is happening because President Biden and my Democratic colleagues have refused to support securing the border, and they refuse to hold themselves accountable for the humanitarian crisis that this has created.

When Secretary Becerra testified before the Finance Committee about the Department of Health and Human Services budget request, he betrayed the same disregard for basic human decency as Secretary Mayorkas had. He used the opportunity to push his woke agenda items rather than focusing on poor operations of the Agency. Frankly, it is sad that there is even a question about whether a Senate-confirmed secretary is familiar with his own job description, especially when he can't answer basic questions about what is happening at the Agency he, supposedly, controls.

At the end of February, the New York Times reported that over the course of Joe Biden's Presidency, his administration has lost—that is right, lost—more than 85,000 children who were under the care of the Office of Refugee Resettlement. You heard me right. This administration has lost 85,000 children who were under the care of the Office of Refugee Resettlement. To be clear, this is the office within the Department of Health and Human Services that is directly responsible for unaccompanied children who come across the border. And now we know that this Agency has lost immediate contact with one third of the children they are responsible for.

The Times also reported that the Office of Refugee Resettlement may have approved sponsors who were under investigation for labor abuses and that case management officers may have been aware of children in dangerous situations but chose to do nothing.

During his hearing, I asked Secretary Becerra about this, frankly, horrifying revelation, and he did exactly what his compatriots have done when confronted with their failures: He feigned ignorance. He claimed he had never heard of those 85,000 missing children.

Joe Biden and the Democrats might be happy to pretend that we don't have

a problem down on the border, but the American people are not pretending that this is not a problem. They watched President Biden throw away border security policies that were working in favor of an open-borders agenda that benefits no one except the drug cartels; the sex trafficking rings that are abusing women and girls; the human traffickers that are smuggling people, preying on people, and physically, mentally, emotionally, drugging and sexually abusing them as they make their journey.

It is time to put politics aside and get serious about securing this border, and I encourage my colleagues: Please, join us in securing this border. Join us in saying let's enforce the laws we have on the books. Join us in saying let's eliminate the policies that incentivize breaking the law. Let's stand for the rule of law.

Earlier this year, I introduced the Stop Taxpayer Funding of Traffickers Act, which would prohibit anyone charged with drug or human trafficking from receiving Federal government benefits while they await trial. We could pass this bill today, and we should pass it because it would make a difference.

When I talked to local law enforcement, when I said, "What would be a way to help?" this is the idea they gave me. It is a problem that they have because many of these traffickers are getting government benefits, and we need to stop that today.

We should also return to the "Remain in Mexico" policy. We should end catch-and-release. And last but not least, let's get back to building that barrier. Border Patrol has told us for 30 years they need a physical barrier where they can have a barrier, and where they can't, they need better technology, they need more officers, more agents, more manpower and resources so that they can do their job, so they can protect this Nation's sovereignty, so they can protect our citizens.

That is it. These are the things that would be a solution to helping rid this country of this fentanyl crisis, to helping rid this country of the gangs, the terrorists that are flooding into our country, the criminals coming into this country. This is something that should have bipartisan agreement. We should do this.

Now, the Biden administration has touted its various White House staff and Cabinet nominees as being the most diverse in our Nation's history, but they all have one thing in common: Their priorities are at odds with what the American people are saying they want.

Secretary Mayorkas refuses to do his job and secure the border, even though local law enforcement officials are begging him for help. Secretary Becerra can't be bothered to offer so much as a talking point on behalf of 85,000 missing children. Attorney General Garland has weaponized the law against con-

servatives and created two tiers of justice: one for the liberal elites and one for everybody else.

Biden's nominee to lead the FAA withdrew in disgrace. His most recent nominee to the FCC has dedicated her career to violating the First Amendment. His Transportation Secretary is perpetually missing in action. And the Pentagon has yet to hold anyone accountable for one of the worst foreign policy disasters in American history. And, yes, that would be Afghanistan.

The mainstream media loves to complain that the American people have lost all faith in institutions, but I would ask that media to just stop, look at what Joe Biden's government has done to the country, and ask themselves: Are we safer and more secure than we were 4 years ago?

I yield the floor.

CLOTURE MOTION

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 19, Radha Iyengar Plumb, of New York, to be a Deputy Under Secretary of Defense.

Charles E. Schumer, Jack Reed, Richard J. Durbin, Sheldon Whitehouse, Martin Heinrich, Tim Kaine, Tammy Baldwin, Ben Ray Luján, Tammy Duckworth, John W. Hickenlooper, Amy Klobuchar, Jeanne Shaheen, Brian Schatz, Benjamin L. Cardin, Edward J. Markey, Alex Padilla, Margaret Wood Hassan, Catherine Cortez Masto.

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 Radha Iyengar Plumb, of New York, to be a Deputy Under Secretary of Defense, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Nevada (Ms. CORTEZ MASTO), the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN), the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND), the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. HEINRICH), the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY), the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. SCHATZ), and the Senator from Arizona (Ms. SINEMA) are necessarily absent.

Mr. McCONNELL. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. BARRASSO), the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. COTTON), the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. GRAHAM), the Senator from Idaho (Mr. RISCH), the Senator from Alaska (Mr. SULLIVAN), and the Senator from Indiana (Mr. YOUNG).

Further, if present and voting, the Senator from Idaho (Mr. RISCH) would

have voted "nay" and the Senator from Indiana (Mr. YOUNG) would have voted "yea."

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 61, nays 26, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 83 Ex.]

YEAS—61

Baldwin	Hickenlooper	Romney
Bennet	Hirono	Rosen
Blumenthal	Kaine	Rounds
Booker	Kelly	Sanders
Boozman	Kennedy	Schumer
Brown	King	Shaheen
Cantwell	Klobuchar	Smith
Capito	Luján	Stabenow
Cardin	Manchin	Tester
Carper	McConnell	Thune
Casey	Menendez	Tillis
Collins	Merkley	Van Hollen
Coons	Moran	Warner
Cramer	Murkowski	Warnock
Duckworth	Murphy	Warren
Durbin	Murray	Welch
Ernst	Ossoff	Whitehouse
Fetterman	Padilla	
Fischer	Peters	Wicker
Grassley	Reed	Wyden
Hassan	Ricketts	

NAYS—26

Blackburn	Hagerty	Mullin
Braun	Hawley	Paul
Britt	Hoeven	Rubio
Budd	Hyde-Smith	Schmitt
Cassidy	Johnson	Scott (FL)
Cornyn	Lankford	Scott (SC)
Crapo	Lee	Tuberville
Cruz	Lummis	Vance
Daines	Marshall	

NOT VOTING—13

Barrasso	Graham	Sinema
Cortez Masto	Heinrich	Sullivan
Cotton	Markey	Young
Feinstein	Risch	
Gillibrand	Schatz	

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. SMITH). The yeas are 61, the nays are 26.

The motion is agreed to.
The Senator from Michigan.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

MORNING BUSINESS

Ms. STABENOW. Madam 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 PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ARMS SALES NOTIFICATION

Mr. MENENDEZ. Madam President, section 36(b) of the Arms Export Control Act requires that Congress receive prior notification of certain proposed arms sales as defined by that statute. Upon such notification, the Congress has 30 calendar days during which the sale may be reviewed. The provision stipulates that, in the Senate, the notification of proposed sales shall be sent to the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

In keeping with the committee's intention to see that relevant information is available to the full Senate, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD the notifications which

have been received. If the cover letter references a classified annex, then such annex is available to all Senators in the office of the Foreign Relations Committee, room SD-423.

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

DEFENSE SECURITY
COOPERATION AGENCY,
Washington, DC.

Hon. ROBERT MENENDEZ,
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Relations,
U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended, we are forwarding herewith Transmittal No. 21-27, concerning the Army's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the Government of Morocco for defense articles and services estimated to cost \$524.2 million. After this letter is delivered to your office, we plan to issue a news release to notify the public of this proposed sale.

Sincerely,

JAMES A. HURSCH,
Director.

Enclosures.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 21-27

Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended

(i) Prospective Purchaser: Government of Morocco.

(ii) Total Estimated Value:

Major Defense Equipment* \$445.4 million. Other \$78.8 million.

Total \$524.2 million.

Funding Source: National Funds.

(iii) Description and Quantity or Quantities of Articles or Services under Consideration for Purchase:

Major Defense Equipment (MDE):

Eighteen (18) M142 High Mobility Artillery Rocket System (HIMARS) Launchers.

Forty (40) M57 Army Tactical Missile Systems (ATACMS).

Thirty-six (36) M31A2 Guided Multiple Launch Rocket Systems (GMLRS) Unitary.

Thirty-six (36) M30A2 Guided Multiple Launch Rocket Systems (GMLRS) Alternative Warhead.

Nine (9) M1152A1 High Mobility Multipurpose Wheeled Vehicles (HMMWV).

Eighteen (18) International Field Artillery Tactical Data Systems (IFATDS).

Non-MDE: Also included are forty (40) M28A2 Low Cost Reduced Range Practice Rocket Pods (LCRRPR); radios with similar "SINCGARS" capability; thirty-five (35) Vehicular Dual Long-Range Radio Systems w/ GPS; twenty-four (24) Single Radio, Long Range Vehicular System w/GPS; eighteen (18) M1084A2 cargo truck, Family of Medium Tactical Vehicles (FMTV) Resupply Vehicles (RSV); three (3) M1089A2 wrecker truck, FMTV, RSV; eighteen (18) M1095 5-ton trailer, FMTV; twenty-three (23) Simple Key Loader (SKL), AN/PYQ-10; fifty (50) Defense Advanced Global Positioning System Receivers (DAGR); camouflage screen and support systems; support equipment; communications equipment; spare and repair parts; test sets; laptop computers; training and training equipment; publications; systems integration support; technical data; Stockpile Reliability, Quality Assurance and Technical Assistance teams; U.S. Government and contractor technical, engineering, and logistics support services; and other related elements of logistical and program support.

(iv) Military Department: Army (MO-B-UUA).

(v) Prior Related Cases, if any: None.

(vi) Sales Commission, Fee, etc. Paid, Offered, or Agreed to be Paid: None.

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology Contained in Defense Article or Defense Services Proposed to be Sold: See Attached Annex.

(viii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: April 11, 2023.

* As defined in Section 47(6) of the Arms Export Control Act.

POLICY JUSTIFICATION

Morocco—High Mobility Artillery Rocket Systems (HIMARS)

The Government of Morocco has requested to buy eighteen (18) M142 High Mobility Artillery Rocket System (HIMARS) launchers; forty (40) M57 Army Tactical Missile Systems (ATACMS); thirty-six (36) M31A2 Guided Multiple Launch Rocket Systems (GMLRS) Unitary; thirty-six (36) M30A2 Guided Multiple Launch Rocket Systems (GMLRS) Alternative Warhead; nine (9) M1152A1 High Mobility Multipurpose Wheeled Vehicles (HMMWV); and eighteen (18) International Field Artillery Tactical Data Systems (IFATDS). Also included are forty (40) M28A2 Low Cost Reduced Range Practice Rocket Pods (LCRRPR); radios with similar "SINCGARS" capability; thirty-five (35) Vehicular Dual Long-Range Radio Systems w/ GPS; twenty-four (24) Single Radio, Long Range Vehicular System w/GPS; eighteen (18) M1084A2 cargo truck, Family of Medium Tactical Vehicles (FMTV) Resupply Vehicles (RSV); three (3) M1089A2 wrecker truck, FMTV, RSV; eighteen (18) M1095 5-ton trailer, FMTV; twenty-three (23) Simple Key Loader (SKL), AN/PYQ-10; fifty (50) Defense Advanced Global Positioning System Receivers (DAGR); camouflage screen and support systems; support equipment; communications equipment; spare and repair parts; test sets; laptop computers; training and training equipment; publications; systems integration support; technical data; Stockpile Reliability, Quality Assurance and Technical Assistance teams; U.S. Government and contractor technical, engineering, and logistics support services; and other related elements of logistical and program support. The estimated total cost is \$524.2 million.

This proposed sale will support the foreign policy and national security of the United States by helping to improve the security of a Major Non-NATO Ally that continues to be an important force for political stability and economic progress in North Africa.

The proposed sale will improve Morocco's capability to meet current and future threats and will contribute to Morocco's ability to detect threats and control its borders, contributing to the maintenance of regional stability and security. It will also enhance the interoperability of the Royal Armed Forces (FAR), which routinely exercises with U.S. forces, focusing on countering terrorism and Violent Extremist Organizations (VEOs) in the Maghreb and Sahel region. Morocco will have no difficulty absorbing these articles into its armed forces.

The proposed sale of this equipment and support will not alter the military balance in the region.

The principal contractors will be Lockheed Martin Missiles and Fire Control, Camden, AK; L3 Harris Communications, Inc., Rochester, NY; Raytheon, Waltham, MA; COBHAM Aerospace Connectivity, Buckinghamshire, UK; Oshkosh Defense, LLC, Oshkosh, WI; AAR Corporation AAR Manufacturing, Inc., Cadillac, MI; and AM General LLC, South Bend, IN. There are no known offset agreements proposed in connection with this potential sale.

Implementation of this proposed sale will require the assignment of U.S. Government and U.S. contractor representatives in Country: one (1) Contractor Field Service Representative (HIMARS) for a period of two years; two (2) U.S. Government personnel;

and seven (7) U.S. contractor representatives (13M HIMARS Crewmember Training) for a period of five (5) months; one (1) Contractor Field Service Representative (IFATDS) for a period of one year; one (1) Contractor Field Service Representative (FMTV) for a period of one year; and one (1) Contractor Field Service Representative (HMMWV) for a period of one year.

There will be no adverse impact on U.S. defense readiness as a result of this proposed sale.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 21-27

Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act

Annex Item No. vii

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology:

The M142 High Mobility Artillery Rocket System (HIMARS) launcher is a C-130 transportable wheeled version of the M270 Multiple Launch Rocket System (MLRS) launcher. It integrates the launch system on a fifteen Family of Medium Tactical Vehicles (FMTV) chassis. The system is capable of firing all of the MLRS Family of Munitions. The Universal Fire Control System (UFCS) provides the command and control interface, man-machine interface, weapon interface, launcher interface and embedded training; the UFCS enables the launcher to inter-operate with compatible national fire direction systems to navigate to specific fire and reload points, compute the technical firing solution, and orient the Launcher Module on the target to deliver the weapon accurately and effectively. The UFCS also provides position navigation and processing necessary to direct and maintain control of the launcher system to allow for accurate firing and loading of weapons.

2. The Guided Multiple Launch Rocket System—Unitary (GMLRS-U) is a solid propellant artillery rocket fires from the High Mobility Artillery Rocket System (HIMARS). GMLRS uses GPS-aided inertial guidance to accurately and quickly deliver a single high-explosive blast fragmentation warhead to targets. The GMLRS-U has an operational range of 15-70km.

3. The Guided Multiple Launch Rocket System—Alternative Warhead (GMLRS-AW) is a Department of Defense alternative munition for a “cluster-type” effect of the GMLRS munition, which is in compliance with cluster munitions statute and policy. The AW carries a 200-pound fragmentation assembly filled with high explosives which, upon detonation, accelerates two layers of preformed tungsten penetrators toward a target location. This provides an effective capability against imprecisely located targets over a wide area without the risk of leaving behind the unexploded ordinance associated with legacy cluster munitions. The GMLRS-AW is a material change to the GMLRS-U, but the two systems share a greater than 90% commonality.

4. The M57 Army Tactical Missile Systems (ATACMS)—Unitary is a conventional, semi-ballistic missile which utilizes a 500-pound high explosive warhead which can be fired from the HIMARS. ATACMS is a guided by GPS-aided inertial navigation systems to provide precise targeting over ranges of up to 270km.

5. The highest level of classification of defense articles, components, and services included in this potential sale is SECRET.

6. If a technologically advanced adversary were to obtain knowledge of the specific hardware and software elements, the information could be used to develop countermeasures that might reduce weapon system effectiveness or be used in the development of a system with similar or advanced capabilities.

7. A determination has been made that Morocco can provide substantially the same degree of protection for the sensitive technology being released as the U.S. Government. This sale is necessary in furtherance of the U.S. foreign policy and national security objectives outlined in the Policy Justification.

8. All defense articles and services listed in this transmittal are authorized for release and export to the Government of Morocco.

ARMS SALES NOTIFICATION

Mr. MENENDEZ. Madam President, section 36(b) of the Arms Export Control Act requires that Congress receive prior notification of certain proposed arms sales as defined by that statute. Upon such notification, the Congress has 30 calendar days during which the sale may be reviewed. The provision stipulates that, in the Senate, the notification of proposed sales shall be sent to the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

In keeping with the committee's intention to see that relevant information is available to the full Senate, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD the notifications which have been received. If the cover letter references a classified annex, then such annex is available to all Senators in the office of the Foreign Relations Committee, room SD-423.

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

DEFENSE SECURITY
COOPERATION AGENCY,
Washington, DC.

Hon. ROBERT MENENDEZ,
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Relations,
U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended, we are forwarding herewith Transmittal No. 21-57 concerning the Navy's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the Government of Morocco for defense articles and services estimated to cost \$250 million. After this letter is delivered to your office, we plan to issue a news release to notify the public of this proposed sale.

Sincerely,

JAMES A. HURSCH,
Director.

Enclosures.

TRANSMITTAL NO 21-57

Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended

(i) Prospective Purchaser: Government of Morocco.

(ii) Total Estimated Value:
Major Defense Equipment* \$100 million.
Other \$150 million.
Total \$250 million.

Funding Source: National Funds.

(iii) Description and Quantity or Quantities of Articles or Services under Consideration for Purchase:

Major Defense Equipment (MDE):

Forty (40) AGM-154C Joint Stand Off Weapons (JSOW).

Non-MDE: Also included are Dummy Air Training Missiles; Captive Flight Vehicles (CFVs); Free Flight Vehicles (FFVs); containers; mission planning, integration support, and testing; munitions storage security and training; weapon operational flight pro-

gram software development; transportation, tools and test equipment; support equipment; spare and repair parts; publications and technical documentation; personnel training and training equipment; U.S. Government and contractor engineering and logistics support services; and other related elements of logistical and program support.

(iv) Military Department: Navy (MO-P-AAM).

(v) Prior Related Cases, if any: Navy (MO-P-LBI, MO-P-AAL), Air Force (MO-D-SAH).

(vi) Sales Commission, Fee, etc., Paid, Offered, or Agreed to be Paid: None.

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology Contained in the Defense Article or Defense Services Proposed to be Sold: See Attached Annex.

(viii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: April 11, 2023.

*As defined in Section 47(6) of the Arms Export Control Act.

POLICY JUSTIFICATION

Morocco—Joint Stand Off Weapons (JSOW)

The Government of Morocco has requested to buy forty (40) AGM-154C Joint Stand Off Weapons (JSOW). Also included are Dummy Air Training Missiles; Captive Flight Vehicles (CFVs); Free Flight Vehicles (FFVs); containers; mission planning, integration support, and testing; munitions storage security and training; weapon operational flight program software development; transportation, tools and test equipment; support equipment; spare and repair parts; publications and technical documentation; personnel training and training equipment; U.S. Government and contractor engineering and logistics support services; and other related elements of logistical and program support. The estimated total cost is \$250 million.

This proposed sale will support the foreign policy and national security of the United States by helping to improve the security of a Major Non-NATO Ally that continues to be an important force for political stability and economic progress in North Africa.

The proposed sale will improve Morocco's capability to meet current and future threats. Morocco intends to use the missiles on its F-16, multi-role fighter aircraft and will provide enhanced capabilities in effective defense of critical sea lanes. The proposed sale of these missiles and support will increase the Royal Moroccan Air Force's maritime partnership potential and align its capabilities with existing regional baselines. Morocco will have no difficulty absorbing these weapons into its armed forces.

The proposed sale of this equipment and support will not alter the basic military balance in the region.

The principal contractor will be Raytheon Missiles & Defense Company, Tucson, Arizona. There are no known offset agreements proposed in connection with this potential sale.

Implementation of this proposed sale will require annual trips to Morocco involving U.S. Government and contractor representatives for technical reviews, support, and oversight for approximately seven (7) years.

There will be no adverse impact on U.S. defense readiness as a result of this proposed sale.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 21-57

Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act

Annex Item No. vii

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology:

1. The AGM-154 Joint Stand Off Weapon (JSOW) is used by Navy, Marine Corps, and Air Force, and allows aircraft to attack well-defended targets in day, night, and adverse weather conditions. The AGM-154C carries a BROACH warhead. The BROACH warhead incorporates an advanced multi-stage warhead.

The JSOW uses the Global Positioning System (GPS) Precise Positioning System (PPS), which provides for a more accurate capability than the commercial version of GPS.

2. The highest level of classification of defense articles, components, and services included in this potential sale is SECRET.

3. If a technologically advanced adversary were to obtain knowledge of the specific hardware and software elements, the information could be used to develop countermeasures that might reduce weapon system effectiveness or be used in the development of a system with similar or advanced capabilities.

4. A determination has been made that Morocco can provide substantially the same degree of protection for the sensitive technology being released as the U.S. Government. This sale is necessary in furtherance of the U.S. foreign policy and national security objectives outlined in the Policy Justification.

5. All defense articles and services listed in this transmittal have been authorized for release and export to the Government of Morocco.

GEORGIA MILITARY HOUSING OVERSIGHT

Mr. OSSOFF. Madam President, I have conducted further oversight into the treatment of military families in privatized housing at Fort Gordon, GA. The report summarizing the findings and conclusions of my oversight can be found at <http://Ossoff.senate.gov/MilitaryHousingOversight>.

TRIBUTE TO LIEUTENANT COLONEL JOHN D. “IKE” FESLER

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Madam President, I rise today to honor a fellow Tennessean, a great American, and an exceptional member of the U.S. Air Force.

Lt. Col. John D. “Ike” Fesler has distinguished himself through his professional character and dedication by serving this Nation in uniform. A leader and expert communicator, he has provided distinguished service to our country while assigned to the Air Force Senate Liaison Office. He is an outstanding leader and the perfect airman to represent the Air Force on Capitol Hill. Ike has honorably served in the Air National Guard and Navy for over 27 years in both the enlisted and officer ranks; during this time, he has led hundreds of airmen in support of U.S. Air Force missions worldwide.

Throughout his career, Ike has demonstrated exceptional, unrivaled officership. During his time as director of operations, course director, and flight commander at the Academy of Military Science, Maxwell AFB, AL, he commissioned more than 150 Air National Guard officers. Ike spent 4 years in the White House Military Office, his last title being Director of Staff, Policy Plans and Requirements, a position where he led the human resource operations for a 250-person organization

comprised of five military services, five billet sponsors, and numerous contract client partners, ensuring execution of Presidential continuity of operations were uninterrupted. Additionally, in direct support of Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom, Ike was the deputy chief, public affairs at the Air Force Mortuary Affairs Operations Center, ensuring our fallen heroes were provided the dignified treatment they deserved.

As a legislative liaison in the Air Force Senate Liaison Office from April 2021 to April 2023, Lieutenant Colonel Fesler performed his duties well and without reservation supporting the 117th and 118th U.S. Congresses. His strategic thinking and foresight helped to strengthen and improve our national security. Ike accomplished this utilizing his in-depth Air Force knowledge with numerous engagements between Congress and the Department of the Air Force. Ike expertly conveyed Department of the Air Force positions on the Air Force Future Design that included the future bomber, tanker, and fighter force. Ike’s direct support provided the U.S. Senate critical information necessary for two National Defense Authorization Acts. His efforts helped solidify the U.S. Space Force, ensure the confirmation of the 26th Air Force Secretary and ensured the Department of the Air Force’s support of the National Defense Strategy in our return to great power competition.

Lieutenant Colonel Fesler planned and led numerous delegations for members of Congress on visits all over the world. In fact, I became acquainted with Ike in the run up to my recent official visit to Europe. Anyone who has attended one of these delegation trips knows that while the planning is stressful, the execution is downright arduous. But Ike persevered with a smile, gave 100 percent, and the trip went off without a hitch. Due to his direct involvement and stewardship of this delegation and others like it, Members of Congress were able to make informed decisions on issues of national defense, tech policy, and other culturally significant questions and of course ensure the Department of the Air Force was properly resourced and funded, along with their brothers and sisters in arms across the Armed Forces.

After serving in this crucial role for the past 2 years and becoming a fixture on Capitol Hill, Lieutenant Colonel Fesler will retire from Active-Duty service. Ike has sacrificed much in service to our Nation. I am thankful for Ike’s service and his work with my office and the Senate over the past 2 years on issues of vital importance to the United States. I salute this American patriot whose selfless service has kept our country safe and strong.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

RECOGNIZING DIRT ROAD CANDLE COMPANY, INC.

• Ms. ERNST. Madam President, as ranking member of the Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, each week I recognize an outstanding Iowa small business that exemplifies the American entrepreneurial spirit. This week, it is my privilege to recognize Dirt Road Candle Company of Atlantic, IA, as the Senate Small Business of the Week.

What started as a hobby for Michelle Myers has turned into a full-time business through passion, a quality product, and rural Iowa inspiration. In 2016, Myers and her husband Steve Myers bought a farm on a dirt road. The farm was a dream come true for them. At first, creating candles was Myers’ hobby, but as demand for her candles increased, she began to make it her second job, which led to the creation of her small business. Soon after, Myers sold her candles on consignment at a local boutique and started selling her candles online. The growth has led Myers to hire six employees to join her at Dirt Road Candle Company.

The vision statement of the company is “happiness does have a smell.” Each candle is named after different moments or ideas that are inspired by rural Iowa. Myers started giving her candles fun names when she discovered that her customers engage more with the meaning of candles. She has had candles named “Call Your Mom,” which was inspired by Myers’ time at Iowa State University, candles named “Iowa Nice” or even “Backyard Lilacs,” which embodies the Iowa spring spirit. All of the candles are hand poured on the farm and are made with 100 percent USA-raised soy wax. Myers has even expanded her product line to include room sprays, car freshies, counter sprays, wall diffusers, wax melts, hand soap, and pet products.

Dirt Road Candle Company continues to look out for the community. Candle proceeds have been donated to various charities. A couple of years ago, she had a county-fair inspired candle. Proceeds went to support a child to go to the county fair or to buy a child a chicken. She also had a candle called “Love Your Neighbor,” with profits supporting the 2019 Iowa flood victims. Further, Myers opens up her candle workshop twice a year to sell her products in person. On those days, she also invites other entrepreneurs to sell their products in her shop.

Dirt Road Candle Company’s commitment to its values has paid off. In 6 years, Myers and team have been able to grow from a hobby to a thriving

small business that brings the joy of rural Iowa to many satisfied customers. Myers' farm life is her inspiration, and she has been able to use this muse to create a truly one of a kind Iowa experience from the comfort of your home. I want to commend Michelle Myers and the entire team at Dirt Road Candle Company for their continued dedication to spreading joy through their candles. This business exemplifies the perseverance and grit of the Iowa entrepreneur. I look forward to seeing your continued growth and success in Iowa.●

RECOGNIZING GEOTHERMAL ECO OPTIONS, INC.

• Ms. ERNST. Madam President, as ranking member of the Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, each week I recognize an outstanding Iowa small business that exemplifies the American entrepreneurial spirit. This week, it is my privilege to recognize Geothermal Eco Options, Inc., of Cresco, IA, as the Senate Small Business of the Week.

With over 60 years of construction experience, owners Larry Leliefeld and Frederic "Reed" Carlson provide a one-stop shop for geothermal heating and cooling. Geothermal Eco Options, Inc., was founded in 2011, serving Iowa and the surrounding States with drilling and installation of geothermal loops. Geothermal loops, a unique technology using the thermal temperature below the frost line to regulate temperature, can be used for year-round indoor climate control in buildings.

The company boasts equipment and personnel that can provide drilling to even the most closely packed areas. Each project is different for the team. They offer different types of loop options including those that run vertical, horizontal in the ground, adjacent to a pond, or even retrofitting an existing geothermal loop to provide adequate heating and cooling. Due to the expertise of the Geothermal Eco Options team, a geothermal loop installed by the team can last decades and require little to no maintenance.

Geothermal Eco Options is an established leader in the industry and has an impressive list of certified staff. They have both State and national certification for the drilling and installation of heat pump loops.

Geothermal Eco Options, Inc.'s commitment to innovation and hard work is clear. In 12 years, Leliefeld and Carlson have been able to provide an innovative way to heat and cool commercial, residential, and new properties. Their years of experience in the construction industry has culminated in owning a thriving small business that has grown throughout the region. I want to commend Larry Leliefeld, Reed Carlson, and the entire team at Geothermal Eco Options, Inc., for their work. This business exemplifies the innovative spirit and leadership skills of the Iowa entrepreneur. I look forward

to seeing your continued growth and success in Iowa.●

125TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SMOKY VALLEY ROLLER MILL

• Mr. MARSHALL. Madam President, I rise today to honor, recognize, and celebrate the 125th anniversary of the Smoky Valley Roller Mill in Lindsborg, KS.

On October 14, 1897, the Smoky Valley Roller Mill went up in flames, and while the communities' efforts to fight the fire saved the town, the mill was lost. One week later, Theodore Teichgraeber, owner of the mill, vowed to rebuild. By May of 1898, the mill was back in operation turning wheat into flour. The Smoky Valley Roller Mill would serve as a vital agricultural and commercial hub to Lindsborg and the surrounding region for over a half century, as the mill was in operation from 1898 to 1955 under the leadership of the Teichgraeber, Hagstrom, and Runbeck families.

Through the efforts of community members and the leadership of Malcom Esping, Mary Borg, and George Teserek in particular, the historic mill and original equipment were restored and preserved throughout the 1960s, '70s, and '80s. Through their hard work, Smoky Valley Roller Mill was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1972. The mill continues to be in good, working condition under the ownership of the Lindsborg Old Mill and Swedish Heritage Museum and continues to serve as a historical treasure, cultural center, and landmark of the community. In fact, it is the only operable flour mill in the Midwest still using roller mills.

This year marks the 125th anniversary since Smoky Valley Roller Mill was rebuilt, and the city of Lindsborg will be celebrating the Mill's quasquicentennial anniversary at their annual Millfest on May 6, 2023.

I now ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the 125th anniversary of the Smoky Valley Roller Mill, as well as celebrate all those who have contributed to the mill's 125 years of history and success.●

TRIBUTE TO NICHOLE CAMPBELL

• Mr. OSSOFF. Madam President, I rise to commend Nichole Campbell, a leader in the Augusta community working to empower women in business and give back to others.

In 2018, Ms. Campbell founded The Sisters Social, Inc., a nonprofit organization that aims to unite women of different backgrounds and provide entrepreneurial education, professional networking, and community outreach. After seeking out an organization of women business owners and failing to find one in her community, Ms. Campbell stepped up to found The Sisters Social, Inc., for women in Augusta and the Central Savannah River Area, CSRA. During the pandemic, the group

provided countless business owners with invaluable advice during a challenging time for many.

As Georgia's U.S. Senator, I commend and recognize Nichole Campbell on her leadership and great successes empowering women business owners and giving back to her community.●

TRIBUTE TO PASTOR J.H. FLAKES III

• Mr. OSSOFF. Madam President, I rise today to commend Reverend Dr. J. H. "Johnny" Flakes III for his mentorship and leadership in the Chattahoochee River Valley.

Like his father before him, Pastor Flakes III has become a mainstay at Fourth Street Missionary Baptist Church and in the greater Columbus faith community. As a student, Pastor Flakes III earned the distinction of being one of 21 students chosen by the Interdenominational Theological Center at Morehouse School of Religion for inclusion in "Who's Who Among Students in American Universities" across the United States. Alongside his work as a local spiritual mentor, Pastor Flakes' work has also made an impact nationally and internationally, delivering the keynote address at the American Baptist College convocation in Nashville and speaking at the Western Hemisphere Institute for Security Cooperation's event on Black health and wellness, where he celebrated the legacy of Black scholars and medical practitioners in Western medicine with other leaders from the faith and medical communities.

As Georgia's U.S. Senator, I recognize and commend Pastor J.H. Flakes III for his mentorship, leadership, and enduring commitment to the people of Columbus.●

TRIBUTE TO SISTER THERESA SULLIVAN AND RECOGNIZING THE MACON DAYBREAK DAY RESOURCE CENTER TEAM

• Mr. OSSOFF. Madam President, I rise today to commend Sister Theresa Sullivan of Macon, GA, and her entire team for their dedication and commitment to serve those in need across Middle Georgia.

As Director of Daybreak Day Resource Center Macon, Sister Sullivan oversees the organization's mission to ensure that everyone has a place to call home and a stake in their community. Growing up on the North Side of Chicago, Sister Sullivan found a passion for volunteering as a member of the Daughters of Charity, dedicating her time to helping people experiencing mental illnesses. From housing placement, to food and transportation assistance and a free health clinic, Sister Sullivan brings members of the community together to help those experiencing homelessness receive vital services to help them overcome their current situation. Their partnerships with religious organizations, businesses, and

community leaders keep the mission alive to support people experiencing homelessness.

As Georgia's U.S. Senator, I recognize and commend Sister Theresa Sullivan and her team for their dedication and service to the Macon community.●

TRIBUTE TO EVELYN "MIMI" WOODSON

• Mr. OSSOFF. Madam President, I rise today to commend Ms. Evelyn "Mimi" Woodson for her lifetime of public service on behalf of her beloved Latino community and her constituents in Columbus, GA.

A native of Puerto Rico, Councilor Woodson became the first Latina elected to office in Georgia and went on to serve on the Columbus Council for over 28 years. Councilor Woodson's public service career extends beyond her remarkable leadership on the Columbus City Council. For 15 years, she served our country honorably in the U.S. Army and was one of the last members of the Women's Army Corps.

The contributions of Georgia's Latino community have brought people across Georgia together to address some of the greatest challenges facing our State, and Councilor Woodson's career is a testament that positive change is possible if you believe in yourself and open doors of opportunity for others.

As Georgia's U.S. Senator, I recognize and commend Councilor Evelyn "Mimi" Woodson for her dedication to Georgia and the Columbus community.●

RECOGNIZING NORTH CAROLINA HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS

• Mr. TILLIS. Madam President, I rise today to honor 57 students in North Carolina for their commendable decision to enlist in the U.S. Armed Forces. Of these 57, 31 have elected to join the U.S. Army: Andre Hall, Angie Lopez, Antonio Graham, Chicoria McKeithen, Corbin Thompson, Corwin Pedersen, Daniel Spear, Emily Vera, Emma Steward, Eric Bravo, Ervin Martin, Evan Wesolowski, Gordon Castleberry, Jacob Martin, Jaheim Wade, Jayden Romani-Alamo, Jazyre Clark, John Pippin, Johnathan Atherton, Jonathon Taylor, Joshua Arnette, Joshua Sims, Julia Perez, Landen Nelson, Mauricio Vera-Brito, Nicholas Brewington, Nimrod Castillo, Omarion McCune, Warren Avery, Xavier Mathis, and Zachary Viburs. Fourteen have elected to join the U.S. Navy: Angelina Allen, Madison Thomas, Micah'Ra Granum, Teigen Passage, Indigo Scott, Nakiya Burch, Eric Jones, Kaylee Neff, Elizabeth McNeill, Phillip Vincent, Gustavo Guevara, John Hitchcock, Naja Brown, and Brianna Bryant. Four have elected to join the U.S. Air Force: Erykah Bordeaux, Mari Collins, Kasey Quick, and Mateo Ray. One has elected to join the United States Marine Corps: Daylon

Lewis. One has elected to join the North Carolina Army National Guard: Oscar Soto Flores. Six have elected to join the Army Reserve: Cristal Ventura, Dillon Knight, Jayden Romani-Alamo, Jimella Ameyaw, Landen Nelson, and Raul Fuentes-Garcia.

All 56 students will be recognized today, April 17, at the 2023 Our Country Salutes High School Enlistee Recognition Ceremony in Fayetteville, NC. These North Carolinians represent the very best of America, and they should rest assured that they are backed with the full support of the Senate as well as the American people.

Their decision to serve our country is extremely admirable. I want to personally thank these graduating seniors for the courage and honor that they have shown by volunteering to defend our Nation. We owe them, along with all members of the U.S. Armed Forces, an immeasurable amount of appreciation.●

TRIBUTE TO JASON GUYTON

• Mr. TUBERVILLE. Madam President, this month, I am proud to recognize U.S. Army Veteran Jason Guyton of Toney, AL.

Some of Jason's favorite childhood memories were trying on his dad's Navy uniform and flipping through photo albums from his grandad's time in the Navy. Even as a young boy, he recognized the importance of their military service and admired their sacrifice.

After a successful wrestling career at Howard University, where he became the first freshman in school history to compete for a NCAA Division I Championship, Jason decided to follow in his dad and grandad's footsteps. But instead of joining the Navy, Jason enlisted in the U.S. Army Reserves as a chemical operations specialist, while also keeping his day job as an operations manager at West Corporation. During his time in the Reserves, Jason was deployed to Operation Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom, where he ensured sites were safe from nuclear chemicals and biological threats.

Like many veterans, the challenges of serving our country did not end after Jason's 12 years in the military. He experienced several personal setbacks, causing him to fall on hard times financially and become homeless. But thanks to his military training and support from veterans' groups, Jason overcame his situation and channeled his experience into a career in financial services.

Now, Jason serves as a member experience advocate for Avadian Credit Union at its Huntsville location. He is very open about his struggles because he wants other veterans to know that they, too, can overcome any challenges they face after their military service.

Additionally, Jason is very active in Madison County, where he is involved in several local outreach efforts. Although he is not an Alabama native,

after finding out Huntsville was the home of the U.S. Space and Rocket Center through an Internet search, Jason decided he wanted to call Madison County home. So he moved to the area nearly 30 years ago, and has been giving back ever since.

He uses his talents to coach wrestling for students between ages 5 and 12, serving as a positive influence for hundreds of athletes whom he has mentored throughout the years. Jason says his greatest success is watching those he has coached compete at a higher level.

And his influence doesn't end with being a coach. Jason's son, Tre, also decided to join the Navy and become a fourth-generation servicemember in the Guyton family. Jason's story is an example of overcoming hardship and using it to help others, and we salute his service to the Madison County community.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Ms. Kelly, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

In executive session the Presiding officer laid before the Senate messages from President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The messages received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE RECEIVED DURING ADJOURNMENT

ENROLLED JOINT RESOLUTIONS SIGNED

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 3, 2023, the following enrolled joint resolutions, previously signed by the Speaker of the House, were signed on April 3, 2023, during the adjournment of the Senate, by the Acting President pro tempore (Mr. PETERS).

H.J. Res. 7. Joint Resolution relating to a national emergency declared by the President on March 13, 2020.

H.J. Res. 27. Joint resolution 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'".

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 4:47 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that pursuant to section 104(c) of title I, division T of the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2021 (Public Law 116-260), and the order of the House of January 9, 2023, the Speaker appoints

the following individual on the part of the House of Representatives to the Smithsonian American Women's History Museum Council: Mrs. Martha Hill of Little Rock, Arkansas.

The message further announced that pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 6913, and the order of the House of January 9, 2023, the Speaker appoints the following Members on the part of the House of Representatives to the Congressional-Executive Commission on the People's Republic of China: Ms. WEXTON of Virginia, Ms. WILD of Pennsylvania, and Ms. SALINAS of Oregon.

The message also announced that pursuant to the National Foundation on the Arts and Humanities Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 955(b) note), the Minority Leader reappoints the following Member of the House of Representatives to the National Council on the Arts: Ms. CHELLIE PINGREE of Maine.

The message further announced that pursuant to 2 U.S.C. 2081, the Minority Leader reappoints the following Member to the United States Capitol Preservation Commission: The Honorable MARCY KAPTUR of Ohio.

The message also announced that pursuant to section 4 of the United States Semiquincentennial Commission Act of 2016 (Public Law 114-196), the Minority Leader appoints the following Members to the United States Semiquincentennial Commission: Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN of New Jersey, and Mr. EVANS of Pennsylvania.

The message further announced that pursuant to section 4703(b) of the Barry Goldwater Scholarship and Excellence in Education Act (20 U.S.C. 4703), the Minority Leader appoints the following Member of the House of Representatives to the board of Trustees of the Barry Goldwater Scholarship and Excellence in Education Foundation: Mr. JOHN B. LARSON of Connecticut.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Ms. KLOBUCHAR, from the Committee on Rules and Administration:

Special Report entitled "Review of Legislative Activity during the 117th Congress" (Rept. No. 118-8).

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. BALDWIN (for herself, Mr. BRAUN, Mr. BROWN, and Mr. VANCE):

S. 1165. A bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to allow States to make medical assistance available to inmates during the 30-day period preceding their release; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. RUBIO (for himself, Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. DAINES, Mr. CRAMER, and Mr. BRAUN):

S. 1166. A bill to require the Comptroller General of the United States to submit a report on the public health mitigation mes-

saging and guidance of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mrs. MURRAY:

S. 1167. A bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to allow additional funds to be provided under the airport improvement program for certain noise mitigation projects, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. BRAUN (for himself and Mr. Kaine):

S. 1168. A bill to amend title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965 to provide program eligibility for distance education programs offered by foreign institutions of higher education; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. KENNEDY (for himself and Mr. VAN HOLLEN):

S. 1169. A bill to amend the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to address disclosures by directors, officers, and principal stockholders of foreign private issuers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. CORNYN (for himself, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. MURPHY, and Mr. GRAHAM):

S. 1170. A bill to reauthorize and update the Project Safe Childhood program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. MERKLEY (for himself, Mr. BROWN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. KING, Mr. SANDERS, Ms. STABENOW, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. CASEY, Mr. WELCH, Mr. LUJÁN, Mr. FETTERMAN, Ms. HIRONO, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. TESTER, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. Kaine, and Mr. BLUMENTHAL):

S. 1171. A bill to amend chapter 131 of title 5, United States Code, to prevent Members of Congress and their spouses and dependent children from trading stocks and owning 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. PETERS (for himself, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. CARDIN, Mrs. SHAHEEN, and Mr. SCOTT of Florida):

S. Res. 158. A resolution condemning the deportation of children from Ukraine to the Russian Federation and the forcible transfer of children within territories of Ukraine that are temporarily occupied by Russian forces; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 39

At the request of Mr. SCOTT of Florida, the name of the Senator from Utah (Mr. LEE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 39, a bill to amend the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 to modify work requirements under the supplemental nutrition assistance program, and for other purposes.

S. 89

At the request of Mr. BRAUN, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr.

VANCE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 89, a bill to provide that Members of Congress may not receive pay after October 1 of any fiscal year in which Congress has not approved a concurrent resolution on the budget and passed the regular appropriations bills.

S. 132

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 132, a bill to require a pilot program on activities under the pre-separation transition process of members of the Armed Forces for a reduction in suicide among veterans, and for other purposes.

S. 133

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the names of the Senator from Montana (Mr. DAINES) and the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET) were added as cosponsors of S. 133, a bill to extend the National Alzheimer's Project.

S. 134

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the names of the Senator from Montana (Mr. DAINES) and the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET) were added as cosponsors of S. 134, a bill to require an annual budget estimate for the initiatives of the National Institutes of Health pursuant to reports and recommendations made under the National Alzheimer's Project Act.

S. 173

At the request of Mr. BLUMENTHAL, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 173, a bill to amend chapter 44 of title 18, United States Code, to require the safe storage of firearms, and for other purposes.

S. 323

At the request of Ms. HIRONO, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. WELCH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 323, a bill to ensure the privacy of pregnancy termination or loss information under the HIPAA privacy regulations and the HITECH Act.

S. 359

At the request of Mr. WHITEHOUSE, the names of the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. SCHATZ), the Senator from California (Mr. PADILLA), the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN), the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN) and the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) were added as cosponsors of S. 359, a bill to amend title 28, United States Code, to provide for a code of conduct for justices of the Supreme Court of the United States, and for other purposes.

S. 375

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the name of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 375, a bill to simplify the grant process for nonurbanized areas, and for other purposes.

S. 391

At the request of Mr. BOOZMAN, the name of the Senator from Alabama (Mr. TUBERVILLE) was added as a cosponsor 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. 416

At the request of Mr. WICKER, the names of the Senator from Florida (Mr. SCOTT), the Senator from Arizona (Mr. KELLY), the Senator from Iowa (Mr. GRASSLEY) and the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. MANCHIN) were added as cosponsors of S. 416, a bill to designate the Russian-based mercenary Wagner Group as a foreign terrorist organization, and for other purposes.

S. 546

At the request of Mrs. FISCHER, the names of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS) and the Senator from Nevada (Ms. ROSEN) were added as cosponsors of S. 546, a bill to amend the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to authorize law enforcement agencies to use COPS grants for recruitment activities, and for other purposes.

S. 547

At the request of Mr. WHITEHOUSE, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. WARNOCK) was added as a cosponsor of S. 547, a bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal, collectively, to the First Rhode Island Regiment, in recognition of their dedicated service during the Revolutionary War.

S. 552

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the name of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. Kaine) was added as a cosponsor of S. 552, a bill to extend duty-free treatment provided with respect to imports from Haiti under the Caribbean Basin Economic Recovery Act.

S. 596

At the request of Mr. Kaine, the names of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. CARPER), the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN), the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS), the Senator from Illinois (Ms. DUCKWORTH) and the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) were added as cosponsors of S. 596, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to make employers of spouses of military personnel eligible for the work opportunity credit.

S. 622

At the request of Mrs. MURRAY, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 622, a bill to improve services provided by the Department of Veterans Affairs for veteran families, and for other purposes.

S. 626

At the request of Ms. STABENOW, the names of the Senator from Montana (Mr. DAINES), the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ), the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CRAMER) and the Senator from Delaware (Mr. CARPER) were added as cosponsors of S. 626, a bill to recommend that the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation test

the effect of a dementia care management model, and for other purposes.

S. 647

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. OSSOFF) 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. 649

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the names of the Senator from West Virginia (Mrs. CAPITO) and the Senator from Georgia (Mr. OSSOFF) were added as cosponsors 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. 707

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. WELCH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 707, a bill to amend the Animal Welfare Act to allow for the retirement of certain animals used in Federal research, and for other purposes.

S. 791

At the request of Mr. JOHNSON, the name of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. HOEVEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 791, a bill to increase access to agency guidance documents.

S. 844

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. SMITH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 844, a bill to authorize the declaration of a hazardous train event, and for other purposes.

S. 882

At the request of Mr. WARNOCK, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 882, a bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to clarify the use of certain taxes and revenues.

S. 981

At the request of Mr. JOHNSON, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. SMITH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 981, a bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to define the term natural cheese.

S. 1034

At the request of Ms. LUMMIS, the name of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CRAMER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1034, a bill to amend title 23, United States Code, to establish a competitive grant program for projects for commercial motor vehicle parking, and for other purposes.

S. 1068

At the request of Mr. CRUZ, the names of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER) and the Senator from

North Dakota (Mr. CRAMER) were added as cosponsors of S. 1068, a bill to ensure that State and local law enforcement officers are permitted to cooperate with Federal officials to protect our communities from violent criminals and suspected terrorists who are illegally present in the United States.

S. 1111

At the request of Mrs. CAPITO, the names of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN), the Senator from Arizona (Ms. SINEMA) and the Senator from Wyoming (Ms. LUMMIS) were added as cosponsors of S. 1111, a bill to enhance United States civil nuclear leadership, support the licensing of advanced nuclear technologies, strengthen the domestic nuclear energy fuel cycle and supply chain, and improve the regulation of nuclear energy, and for other purposes.

S. 1116

At the request of Mr. BLUMENTHAL, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. WELCH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1116, a bill to prohibit firearms dealers from selling a firearm prior to the completion of a background check.

S.J. RES. 22

At the request of Mr. CASSIDY, the names of the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) and the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. RICKETTS) were added as cosponsors of S.J. Res. 22, a joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Department of Education relating to “Waivers and Modifications of Federal Student Loans”.

S.J. RES. 23

At the request of Ms. LUMMIS, the names of the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. CASSIDY) and the Senator from Nebraska (Mrs. FISCHER) were added as cosponsors of S.J. Res. 23, a joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the National Marine Fisheries Service relating to “Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Regulations for Listing Endangered and Threatened Species and Designating Critical Habitat”.

S. RES. 115

At the request of Mr. TILLIS, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mr. HAWLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 115, a resolution supporting the goals and ideals of “Countering International Parental Child Abduction Month” and expressing the sense of the Senate that Congress should raise awareness of the harm caused by international parental child abduction.

S. RES. 145

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the name of the Senator from Iowa (Mr. GRASSLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 145, a resolution calling for the immediate release of Russian opposition leader Vladimir Kara-Murza, who was unjustly detained on April 11, 2022.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 158—CONDAMNING THE DEPORTATION OF CHILDREN FROM UKRAINE TO THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION AND THE FORCIBLE TRANSFER OF CHILDREN WITHIN TERRITORIES OF UKRAINE THAT ARE TEMPORARILY OCCUPIED BY RUSSIAN FORCES

Mr. PETERS (for himself, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. CARDIN, Mrs. SHAHEEN, and Mr. SCOTT of Florida) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 158

Whereas, on January 12, 1951, the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide (commonly known as the “Genocide Convention”), of which the Russian Federation is a signatory, came into effect;

Whereas, on February 24, 2022, the Russian Federation launched an illegal and unprovoked further invasion of Ukraine;

Whereas, on March 22, 2022, the Ukrainian Foreign Ministry announced that the Russian military had forcefully and illegally kidnapped 2,389 Ukrainian children from temporarily occupied areas of Ukraine;

Whereas forcibly transferring children of one group to another group is a violation of Article II(e) of the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide, adopted and opened for signature in 1948 and entered into force in 1951 (commonly known as the “Genocide Convention”);

Whereas the unlawful deportation or transfer of people constitutes a breach of Article 147 of the Convention (IV) relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, done at Geneva August 12, 1949 (commonly referred to as the “Fourth Geneva Convention”);

Whereas, Maria Lvova-Belova, Children’s Rights Commissioner for the President of Russia, admitted to kidnapping Ukrainian children and facilitating forced adoptions to Russian families;

Whereas Ukrainian authorities have stated that a number of the kidnapped Ukrainian children have families who remain in Ukraine, but have been separated due to the Russian invasion;

Whereas, on May 30, 2022, the President of the Russian Federation, Vladimir Putin, signed a decree simplifying the procedure of obtaining Russian citizenship for Ukrainian orphans and children without parental care, thereby expediting the process of illegal adoption of deported Ukrainian children by Russian families;

Whereas, on June 2, 2022, Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy stated that 200,000 children are among the Ukrainians who have been forcefully resettled in Russia;

Whereas on June 16, 2022, Russian authorities announced that children born in occupied Ukrainian territories after the February 24, 2022, invasion will be deemed Russian citizens;

Whereas, on July 11, 2022, United Nations Secretary General António Guterres ordered an investigation into the deaths and injuries of Ukrainian children;

Whereas, on July 13, 2022, Secretary of State Antony J. Blinken issued a statement calling upon Russia to “immediately halt its systemic filtration operations in Ukraine”, which have caused the disappearance, deten-

tion, or forcible deportation of between 900,000 and 1,600,000 Ukrainians (approximately 260,000 of whom are children);

Whereas, on December 5, 2022, Ukrainian Parliament Commissioner for Human Rights, Dmytro Lubinets, announced that at least 2,800,000 Ukrainians have been deported to Russia;

Whereas on March 17, 2023, the International Criminal Court issued warrants of arrest, relating to the war crimes described in subsections (a)(vii) and (b)(viii) of section 2 of article 8 of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, for—

(1) Vladimir Putin, for—

(A) the unlawful deportation of population (children); and

(B) the unlawful transfer of population (children) from occupied areas of Ukraine to the Russian Federation; and

(2) Maria Lvova-Belova, Presidential Commissioner for Children’s Rights in Russia, for—

(A) the unlawful deportation of population (children); and

(B) the unlawful transfer of population (children) from occupied areas of Ukraine to the Russian Federation; and

Whereas, as of March 27, 2023, the official platform “Children of War”, which was created by the Ministry of Reintegration and the National Information Bureau on behalf of the Office of the President of Ukraine reported that—

(1) at least 465 Ukrainian children have been killed and 942 Ukrainian children have been wounded since Russia’s renewed invasion of Ukraine began; and

(2) there has been 16,207 verified cases of Ukrainian children being deported to Russia out of a possible 744,000 cases: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) holds the Government of the Russian Federation, under the leadership of Vladimir Putin, responsible for the wrongful and illegal kidnapping of children from Ukraine and officially condemns these actions in the strongest terms;

(2) declares that the facilitation of illegal adoptions is contrary to Russia’s obligations under the Genocide Convention and amounts to genocide;

(3) claims that the Russian Federation is attempting to wipe out a generation of Ukrainian children, thereby crippling Ukraine’s ability to nurture the next generation of Ukrainian citizens and leaders and to rebuild their country after Russia’s unprovoked war, with the purpose of demolishing Ukraine’s unique language, culture, history, and identity; and

(4) asserts that the invasion of Ukraine by the Russian Federation has significantly increased the risks of children being exposed to human trafficking and exploitation, child labor, gender-based violence, hunger, injury, trauma, deprivation of education and shelter, and death.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 68. Mr. HAGERTY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 870, 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; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 69. Mr. HAGERTY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 870, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 70. Mr. HAGERTY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the

bill S. 870, *supra*; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 71. Mr. HAGERTY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 870, *supra*; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 72. Mr. HAGERTY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 870, *supra*; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 73. Mr. SCHUMER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 870, *supra*; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 74. Mr. SCHUMER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 870, *supra*; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 75. Mr. SCHUMER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 870, *supra*; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 76. Mr. SCHUMER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 870, *supra*; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 77. Mr. SCHUMER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 870, *supra*; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 78. Mr. SCHUMER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 870, *supra*; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 79. Mr. PAUL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 870, *supra*; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 80. Mr. LEE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 870, *supra*; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 81. Mr. SCOTT of Florida submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 870, *supra*; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 82. Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself and Mr. CRAMER) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 870, *supra*; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 83. Mr. McCONNELL (for Mr. SULLIVAN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by Mr. McConnell to the bill S. 870, *supra*; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 84. Mr. SCHUMER (for Ms. CORTEZ MASTO) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by Mr. Schumer to the bill S. 870, *supra*; which was ordered to lie on the table.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 68. Mr. HAGERTY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 870, 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; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of the bill, add the following:
SEC. 8. MANDATORY USE OF E-VERIFY.

The Federal Fire Prevention and Control Act of 1974 (15 U.S.C. 2201 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“SEC. 39. MANDATORY USE OF E-VERIFY.

“No funds authorized under this Act may be awarded to an eligible entity unless such entity—

“(1) has enrolled in the E-Verify Program described in section 403(a) of the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996 (division C of Public Law 104-208; 8 U.S.C. 1324a note); and

“(2) is in full compliance with all of the procedures described in such section relating to hiring workers for employment in the United States.”.

SA 69. Mr. HAGERTY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 870, 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; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ____ . STATE HOMELAND SECURITY GRANTS.

Section 2004(e)(1)(A) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 605(e)(1)(A)) is amended—

- (1) in clause (i), by striking “2008” and inserting “2024”;
- (2) in clause (ii)—
 - (A) by striking “0.365” and inserting “0.385”; and
 - (B) by striking “2009” and inserting “2025”;
- (3) in clause (iii)—
 - (A) by striking “0.36” and inserting “0.395”; and
 - (B) by striking “2010” and inserting “2026”;
- (4) in clause (iv)—
 - (A) by striking “0.355” and inserting “0.405”; and
 - (B) by striking “2011” and inserting “2027”; and
- (5) in clause (v)—
 - (A) by striking “0.35” and inserting “0.415”; and
 - (B) by striking “2012 and in each fiscal year thereafter” and inserting “2028”.

SA 70. Mr. HAGERTY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 870, 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; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ____ . URBAN AREA SECURITY INITIATIVE.

Section 2003 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 604) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(f) REDUCTION IN CALCULATED AWARD.—A grant awarded to a high-risk area under this section in a fiscal year shall be reduced by 50 percent of the funds that remain unobligated for that high-risk area in any previous fiscal year.”.

SA 71. Mr. HAGERTY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 870, 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; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ____ . LIMITATION ON USE OF GRANT FUNDS TO PURCHASE ELECTRIC VEHICLES WITH CERTAIN BATTERIES.

No Federal assistance may be provided under the Federal Fire Prevention and Control Act of 1974 (15 U.S.C. 2201 et seq.) to an eligible recipient or subrecipient to purchase an electric fire department or public safety

vehicle if the primary battery of that electric vehicle is made in China.

SA 72. Mr. HAGERTY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 870, 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; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ____ . EMERGENCY FOOD AND SHELTER PROGRAM REORGANIZATION.

(a) EMERGENCY FOOD AND SHELTER PROGRAM NATIONAL BOARD.

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Section 301 of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11331) is amended—

- (A) by striking subsection (b) and inserting the following:
 - (B) **MEMBERS.**
 - (1) **IN GENERAL.**—The National Board shall consist of—
 - (A) the Director;
 - (B) 2 members appointed by the Director in accordance with paragraph (2);
 - (C) 1 member appointed by the Secretary of Homeland Security;
 - (D) 1 member appointed by the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development;
 - (E) 1 member appointed by the Secretary of Agriculture; and
 - (F) 1 member appointed by the Director of the Office of Management and Budget.

(2) APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP.

(A) **IN GENERAL.**—In appointing the members described in paragraph (1)(B), the Director shall select from applications of individuals seeking to serve as a member on the National Board.

(B) CRITERIA.—In selecting applications of individuals under subparagraph (A), the Director shall select the 2 most qualified individuals who—

(i) have not less than 10 years of experience working on public policy relating to housing and homelessness; and

(ii) are not from the same geographic region of the United States.

(3) CONFLICTS OF INTEREST.—An individual may not serve as a member of the National Board if, during the 5-year period preceding the first day of service on the National Board, the individual was an employee of an organization, or an affiliate of an organization, that, during the preceding 5 fiscal years, received funding under this title.

(4) REVOLVING DOOR.—During the 2-year period following the final day of service of an individual as a member of the National Board, the individual may not serve as an employee of an organization, or an affiliate of an organization, that, during a fiscal year during which the individual served as a member of the National Board, received funding under this title.

(5) TERM LIMIT.—An individual may not serve as a member of the National Board for a period of more than 2 years.”; and

(B) by striking subsection (e).

(2) CURRENT NATIONAL BOARD MEMBERS.—With respect to an individual serving as a member of the Emergency Food and Shelter Program National Board established under section 301 of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11331) as of the date of enactment of this Act, for the purpose of section 301(b)(5) of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act of that Act, as amended by this Act, the individual shall be deemed to have begun service on the Board on the date of enactment of this Act.

(b) **LOCAL BOARDS.**—Section 302 of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act

(42 U.S.C. 11332) is amended by striking subsection (a) and inserting the following:

“(a) ESTABLISHMENT.

“(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Each locality designated by the National Board shall constitute a local board for the purpose of determining how program funds allotted to the locality will be distributed. The local board shall consist, to the extent practicable, of—

“(A) agencies of State and local governments that serve functions similar to the functions of the Department of Homeland Security, the Department of Housing and Urban Development, the Department of Agriculture, and the Office of Management and Budget;

“(B) the mayor or other appropriate heads of government; and

“(C) representatives of nonprofit organizations that aid individuals and families who are experiencing, or are at risk of experiencing, hunger or homelessness.

“(2) PROGRAM FUNDS FOR RESERVATIONS.—Each local board administering program funds for a locality within which is located a reservation (as such term is defined in section 3 of the Indian Financing Act of 1974 (25 U.S.C. 1452), or a portion thereof, shall include a board member who is a member of an Indian tribe (as such term is defined in section 102(a) of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C. 5302(a))). The chairperson of the local board shall be elected by a majority of the members of the local board. Local boards are encouraged to expand participation of other private nonprofit organizations on the local board.”.

SA 73. Mr. SCHUMER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 870, 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; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 1, line 1, strike “5 days” and insert “6 days”.

SA 74. Mr. SCHUMER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 870, 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; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end add the following:

SEC. EFFECTIVE DATE.

This Act shall take effect on the date that is 1 day after the date of enactment of this Act.

SA 75. Mr. SCHUMER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 870, 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; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 1, line 3, strike “1 day” and insert “2 days”.

SA 76. Mr. SCHUMER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 870, 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; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 1, line 1, strike “2 days” and insert “3 days”.

SA 77. Mr. SCHUMER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 870, 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; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end add the following:

SEC. EFFECTIVE DATE.

This Act shall take effect on the date that is 4 day after the date of enactment of this Act.

SA 78. Mr. SCHUMER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 870, 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; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 1, line 3, strike “4 days” and insert “5 days”.

SA 79. Mr. PAUL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 870, 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; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. _____. PROHIBITION ON AWARD OF FEDERAL FUNDS.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—A fire service shall be ineligible to receive any Federal funds made available under this Act and the amendments made by this Act if the fire service dismissed or discharged from employment any individual based solely on—

(1) the failure of the individual to obey an order to receive a vaccine for COVID-19; or

(2) the exercise by the individual of any rights protected under the First Amendment to the Constitution of the United States to speak against the implementation of any mandate to receive a vaccine for COVID-19.

(b) **EXCEPTION.**—The prohibition in subsection (a) shall not apply if the fire service has offered reinstatement to all individuals dismissed or discharged based solely on a reason described in paragraph (1) or (2) of that subsection to the position and rank held by the individual on the date of the dismissal or discharge with full back pay calculated from the date of the dismissal or discharge.

(c) **FIRE SERVICE DEFINED.**—The term “fire service” has the meaning given that term in section 4 of the Federal Fire Prevention and Control Act of 1974 (15 U.S.C. 2203).

SA 80. Mr. LEE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 870, 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;

which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. _____. STATE AND TRIBAL USE OF CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF FUEL BREAKS IN FORESTS AND OTHER WILDLAND VEGETATION.

Section 40806 of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (16 U.S.C. 6592b) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(g) STATE AND TRIBAL PROJECT DELIVERY PROGRAMS.—

“(1) **IN GENERAL.**—On request of a State or an Indian Tribe, the Secretary concerned shall enter into an agreement (which may be in the form of a memorandum of understanding) with the State or Indian Tribe, under which the Secretary concerned assigns, and the State or Indian Tribe assumes, the responsibilities of the Secretary concerned with respect to—

“(A) 1 or more projects under this section using the categorical exclusion established by subsection (b), including—

“(i) environmental review, consultation, and any other action required under any Federal environmental law with respect to the review or approval of a project, including the preparation of a supporting decision memorandum in accordance with subsection (b); and

“(ii) carrying out the forest management activities described in subsection (c) on public lands or National Forest System land in the State or under the jurisdiction of the Indian Tribe, as applicable; or

“(B) any other project on public lands or National Forest System land in the State or under the jurisdiction of the Indian Tribe, as applicable, using any other categorical exclusion that the Secretary concerned determines to be appropriate for use by the State or Indian Tribe, as applicable, to protect communities from wildfire.

“(2) **COLLABORATION.**—A State or an Indian Tribe may enter into an agreement under paragraph (1) in collaboration with a unit of local government, a private entity, or a community organization and associated contractors.

“(3) **REQUIREMENTS.**—

“(A) **IN GENERAL.**—A State or an Indian Tribe that assumes responsibilities under paragraph (1) shall be subject to the same procedural and substantive requirements as to which the Secretary concerned would be subject.

“(B) **RETENTION OF RESPONSIBILITIES.**—Any responsibility of the Secretary concerned that is not explicitly assigned to and assumed by a State or an Indian Tribe under an agreement under paragraph (1) shall remain the responsibility of the Secretary concerned.

“(C) **PROHIBITION.**—The Secretary concerned may not require a State or an Indian Tribe, as a condition on entering into an agreement under paragraph (1), to forgo any other means for carrying out the applicable project that is otherwise permissible under applicable law.

“(D) **VERIFICATION OF RESOURCES.**—As a condition on entering into an agreement under paragraph (1), the Secretary concerned may require a State or an Indian Tribe to verify that the State or Indian Tribe has the financial and personnel resources necessary to carry out the responsibilities described in that paragraph.

“(4) **AGREEMENTS.**—An agreement under paragraph (1) shall—

“(A) be executed by the Governor or the top-ranking official of the State or Indian Tribe that is charged with responsibility for the applicable project;

“(B) be in such form as the Secretary concerned may prescribe;

“(C) provide that the State or Indian Tribe—

“(i) agrees to assume all or part of the responsibilities of the Secretary concerned;

“(ii) expressly consents to accept the jurisdiction of the Federal courts for the compliance, discharge, and enforcement of any responsibility of the Secretary concerned assumed by the State or Indian Tribe;

“(iii) certifies that State or Tribal laws (including regulations) are in effect—

“(I) authorizes the State or Indian Tribe to take the actions necessary to carry out the responsibilities being assumed; and

“(II) provide that any decision regarding the public availability of a document under those State or Tribal laws is reviewable by a court of competent jurisdiction; and

“(iv) agrees to maintain the financial and personnel resources necessary to carry out the responsibilities being assumed;

“(D) require the State or Indian Tribe to provide to the Secretary concerned any information that the Secretary concerned reasonably considers necessary to ensure that the State or Indian Tribe is adequately carrying out the responsibilities assigned to the State or Indian Tribe;

“(E) have a term of not more than 5 years; and

“(F) be renewable.

“(5) **JUDICIAL REVIEW.**—

“(A) **IN GENERAL.**—The district courts of the United States shall have exclusive jurisdiction over any civil action against a State or an Indian Tribe for a failure to carry out any responsibility assigned to and assumed by the State or Indian Tribe under an agreement under paragraph (1).

“(B) **LEGAL STANDARDS AND REQUIREMENTS.**—A civil action described in subparagraph (A) shall be governed by the legal standards and requirements that would apply if the civil action were against the Secretary concerned had the Secretary concerned taken the relevant actions.

“(C) **INTERVENTION.**—The Secretary concerned may intervene in any civil action described in subparagraph (A).

“(6) **STATE OR TRIBAL RESPONSIBILITY AND LIABILITY.**—A State or an Indian Tribe that assumes responsibilities under an agreement under paragraph (1) shall be—

“(A) solely responsible for carrying out the responsibilities; and

“(B) solely liable for any action or failure to take an action in carrying out those responsibilities.

“(7) **TERMINATION.**—

“(A) **IN GENERAL.**—A State or an Indian Tribe may terminate an agreement entered into by the State or Indian Tribe under paragraph (1), at any time, by submitting to the Secretary concerned a notice not later than the date that is 90 days before the date of termination.

“(B) **TERMS AND CONDITIONS.**—A termination under subparagraph (A) shall be subject to such terms and conditions as the Secretary concerned may provide.

“(8) **EDUCATION AND OTHER INITIATIVES.**—The Secretary concerned, in cooperation with representatives of State and Tribal officials, may carry out education, training, peer-exchange, and other initiatives, as appropriate—

“(A) to assist States and Indian Tribes in developing the capacity to carry out projects under this subsection; and

“(B) to promote information-sharing and collaboration among States and Indian Tribes that are carrying out projects under this subsection.”

SA 81. Mr. SCOTT of Florida submitted an amendment intended to be

proposed by him to the bill S. 870, 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; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ____ . TRANSFER OF UNOBLIGATED COVID FUNDS.

(a) **COVERED FUNDS.**—The term “covered funds” means amounts made available under—

(1) the Coronavirus Relief Fund established under section 601 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 801); and

(2) the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund programs established under section 602 or 603 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 802, 803).

(b) **IDENTIFICATION OF FUNDS TO TRANSFER.**—Not later than 30 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the Treasury shall identify unobligated covered funds, which shall be transferred to the Administrator of the United States Fire Administration under subsection (c).

(c) **TRANSFER.**—Effective on the date that is 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the unobligated covered funds identified by the Secretary of the Treasury under subsection (b) shall be transferred to and merged with other amounts made available to the Administrator of the United States Fire Administration to carry out section 17(g)(1)(N) of the Federal Fire Prevention and Control Act of 1974 (15 U.S.C. 2216(g)(1)(N)).

(d) **AVAILABILITY AND USE.**—Amounts transferred under subsection (c) shall remain available until expended.

SA 82. Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself and Mr. CRAMER) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 870, 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; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ____ . PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICER BENEFITS FOR EXPOSURE-RELATED CANCERS.

(a) **SHORT TITLE.**—This section may be cited as the “Honoring Our Fallen Heroes Act of 2023”.

(b) CANCER-RELATED DEATHS.—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Section 1201 of title I of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (34 U.S.C. 10281) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(p) EXPOSURE-RELATED CANCERS.—

“(1) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:

“(A) CARCINOGEN.—The term ‘carcinogen’ means a known or suspected carcinogen, as defined by the International Agency for Research on Cancer, that is reasonably linked to an exposure-related cancer.

“(B) DIRECTOR.—The term ‘Director’ means the Director of the Bureau.

“(C) EXPOSURE-RELATED CANCER.—The term ‘exposure-related cancer’ means—

“(i) bladder cancer;

“(ii) brain cancer;

“(iii) breast cancer;

“(iv) cervical cancer;

“(v) colon cancer;

“(vi) colorectal cancer;

“(vii) esophagus cancer;

“(viii) kidney cancer;

“(ix) leukemia;

“(x) lung cancer;

“(xi) malignant melanoma;

“(xii) mesothelioma;

“(xiii) multiple myeloma;

“(xiv) non-Hodgkins lymphoma;

“(xv) ovarian cancer;

“(xvi) prostate cancer;

“(xvii) skin cancer;

“(xviii) stomach cancer;

“(xix) testicular cancer;

“(xx) thyroid cancer;

“(xxi) any form of cancer that is considered a WTC-related health condition under section 3312(a) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 300mm-22(a)); and

“(xxii) any other form of cancer that the Bureau may determine appropriate in accordance with paragraph (3).

“(2) PERSONAL INJURY SUSTAINED IN THE LINE OF DUTY.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subparagraph (B), as determined by the Bureau, the death or permanent and total disability of a public safety officer due to an exposure-related cancer shall be presumed to constitute a personal injury within the meaning of subsection (a), sustained in the line of duty by the officer and directly and proximately resulting in death or permanent and total disability, if—

“(i) the public safety officer was exposed to or in contact with heat, radiation, or a carcinogen that is linked to an exposure-related cancer while in the course of the line of duty;

“(ii) the public safety officer began serving as a public safety officer not later than 5 years before the date of the diagnosis of the public safety officer with an exposure-related cancer;

“(iii) the public safety officer was diagnosed with an exposure-related cancer not later than 15 years after the last date of active service as a public safety officer of the public safety officer; and

“(iv) the exposure-related cancer directly and proximately results in the death or permanent and total disability of the public safety officer.

“(B) EXCEPTION.—The presumption under subparagraph (A) shall not apply to the death or permanent and total disability of a public safety officer due to an exposure-related cancer if competent medical evidence establishes that the exposure-related cancer was unrelated to the exposure or contact described in subparagraph (A)(i).

“(3) ADDITIONAL EXPOSURE-RELATED CANCERS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The Director shall—

“(i) periodically review the definition of ‘exposure-related cancer’ under paragraph (1); and

“(ii) add a type of exposure-related cancer to the definition by rule, upon a showing by a petitioner or on the Director’s own determination, in accordance with this paragraph.

“(B) BASIS FOR DETERMINATION.—The Director shall add a type of exposure-related cancer to the definition of ‘exposure-related cancer’ under paragraph (1) upon a showing by a petitioner or the Director’s own determination, based on the weight of the best available scientific evidence, that there is a significant risk to public safety officers engaged in public safety activities of developing the type of exposure-related cancer.

“(C) AVAILABLE EXPERTISE.—In determining significant risk for the purpose of subparagraph (B), the Director may accept as authoritative and may rely upon recommendations, risk assessments, and scientific studies by the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, the National Toxicology Program, the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine, and the International Agency for Research on Cancer.

“(D) PETITIONS TO ADD TO THE LIST OF EXPOSURE-RELATED CANCERS.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—Any person may petition the Director to add a type of exposure-related cancer to the definition of ‘exposure-related cancer’ under paragraph (1).

“(ii) CONTENT OF PETITION.—A petition under clause (i) shall provide information to show that there is sufficient evidence, based on the weight of the best available scientific evidence, of significant risk to public safety officers engaged in public safety activities of developing such exposure-related cancer from their employment.

“(iii) TIMELY AND SUBSTANTIVE DECISIONS.—Not later than 180 days after receipt of a petition under this subparagraph, the Director shall grant or deny the petition by publishing in the Federal Register a written explanation of the reasons for the Director’s decision. The Director may not deny a petition solely on the basis of competing priorities, inadequate resources, or insufficient time for review.

“(iv) NOTIFICATION TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 30 days after making any decision to approve or deny a petition under this subparagraph, the Director shall notify the Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate and the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives of the decision.”.

“(2) APPLICABILITY.—The amendment made by paragraph (1) shall apply in the case of any public safety officer who died or became permanently and totally disabled on or after January 1, 2023, as a result of an exposure-related cancer.

“(c) TECHNICAL AMENDMENTS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 3 of the Safeguarding America’s First Responders Act of 2020 (34 U.S.C. 10281 note) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(d) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term ‘line of duty action’ includes any action in which a public safety officer engages at the direction of the agency served by the public safety officer.”.

“(2) APPLICABILITY.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The amendment made by paragraph (1) shall apply in the case of any public safety officer who died on or after January 1, 2020.

“(B) TIME FOR FILING CLAIM.—Section 32.12(a)(1) of title 28, Code of Federal Regulations, shall not apply to a claimant who otherwise qualifies for support pursuant to the amendment made by paragraph (1).

SA 83. Mr. MCCONNELL (for Mr. SULLIVAN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by Mr. McConnell to the bill S. 870, 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; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ____ . ELIGIBLE USE FOR GRANT FUNDS.

Section 33(c)(3) of the Federal Fire Prevention and Control Act of 1974 (15 U.S.C. 2229(c)(3)) is amended—

(1) by redesignating subparagraphs (K) through (N) as subparagraphs (L) through (O), respectively; and

(2) by inserting after subparagraph (J) the following:

“(K) To construct in communities with not more than 10,000 individuals fire stations, fire training facilities, and other facilities to protect the health and safety of firefighting personnel.”.

SA 84. Mr. SCHUMER (for Ms. CORTEZ MASTO) submitted an amendment

intended to be proposed by Mr. Schumer to the bill S. 870, 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; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. _____. INCLUSION OF SMOKE IN THE DEFINITION OF DISASTER.

Section 3(k)(2) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 632(k)(2)) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (B), by striking “and” at the end;

(2) in subparagraph (C), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

“(D) smoke.”

PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the following interns from my office be granted floor privileges for the remainder of the Congress: Makayla Rae Ross and Jacob Tipton.

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

APPOINTMENT

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair, on behalf of the Republican Leader, pursuant to Public Law 117-263, announces the appointment of the following individual to serve as member of the Commission on Reform and Modernization of the Department of State: the Honorable BILL HAGERTY of Tennessee.

ORDERS FOR TUESDAY, APRIL 18, 2023

Ms. STABENOW. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it stand adjourned until 10 a.m. on Tuesday, April 18; 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 to resume consideration of the Plumb nomination postclosure; further, at 11:30 a.m., the Senate vote on confirmation of the nomination; that the Senate recess following the cloture vote on the Solomon nomination until 2:15 p.m. to allow for the weekly caucus meetings; further, that if cloture has been invoked on the Solomon nomination, all postclosure time be considered expired at 2:15 p.m. and the Senate vote on confirmation of the nomination; finally, that if any nominations are confirmed, the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table and the President be immediately notified of the Senate’s action.

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

**ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 10 A.M.
TOMORROW**

Ms. STABENOW. If there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask that it stand adjourned under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 6:28 p.m., adjourned until Tuesday, April 18, 2023, at 10 a.m.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate:

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

LISA PETERSON, OF VIRGINIA, A CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF MINISTER-COUNSELOR, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE REPUBLIC OF BURUNDI.

THE JUDICIARY

ANA DE ALBA, OF CALIFORNIA, TO BE UNITED STATES CIRCUIT JUDGE FOR THE NINTH CIRCUIT, VICE PAUL J. WATFORD, RESIGNING.

IRMA CARRILLO RAMIREZ, OF TEXAS, TO BE UNITED STATES CIRCUIT JUDGE FOR THE FIFTH CIRCUIT, VICE GREGG JEFFREY COSTA, RESIGNED.

IN THE AIR FORCE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be brigadier general

COL. BRIAN R. MOORE

IN THE NAVY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT AS SURGEON GENERAL OF THE NAVY UNDER TITLE 10 U.S.C., SECTION 8077:

To be rear admiral (lower half)

REAR ADM. (LH) DARIN K. VIA

IN THE AIR FORCE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be major

ANDREW K. BERKEY
BRANDON WOODS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant colonel

JACQUELYN P. SMITH

IN THE ARMY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be colonel

MICHAEL T. RITTENHOUSE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY MEDICAL SERVICE CORPS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 624 AND 7064:

To be major

CHET M. KORENSKY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be major

ANTHONY L. GHEZZI

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be colonel

ABRAHAM N. OSBORN

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be colonel

AMANDA E. HARRINGTON

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be colonel

LEE W. DOGGETT

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant colonel

MATTHEW ACOSTA
ANTHONY A. AKRAMI
JOHN L. ALBERT
BRIAN E. ALEXANDER
JOSEPH M. ALEXANDER
TREVOR D. ALEXANDER
CHAZ E. ALLEN
EDGARDO J. ALVAREZ
CAMERON C. ANDERSON
DANIEL J. ARNOLD
ANDREW J. ARTIS
TIMOTHY A. ASHCRAFT
MATTHEW W. ASMUS, JR.
ARCADIO AVALOS
DIANA J. AXAYMAC
SHAUN M. BAILEY
COLIN P. BAIR
GRANT R. BARGE
NATHAN J. BARLOW
CHRISTOPHER A. BARNETT
PATRICK A. BARONE
ANDREW M. BARTLETT
JONATHAN J. BATT
RYAN A. BAUM
JOSEPH M. BAUMANN
DOUGLAS D. BAZIL
CHRISTOPHER M. BEACH
GARY A. BEAUMONT, JR.
DAVID L. BECKER, JR.
LISA M. BECKER
CHRISTOPHER R. BECKWITH
ALEXANDER J. BEDARD
CHRISTOPHER M. BEHM
JOSHUA R. BELL
JENNIFER M. BELLAMY
JORDAN M. BELLAMY
CURT J. BELOHLAVEK
PETER V. BIER
WALTER J. BINER
BRYAN J. BLACKBURN
JAMES H. BLACKBURN
JEREMY J. BLASCAK
MATTHEW T. BOISE
KEVIN W. BOLDT
MATTHEW C. BOUDRO
TONY D. BOWERS
JOHN T. BRASHER
VIRGINIA R. BRICKNER
BENJAMIN R. BRINGHURST
DEREK P. BROWN
KYLE T. BROWN
NICHOLAS B. BROWNING
INGRID F. BRUNING
SPENSER H. BRUNING
THOMAS T. BULLER
CHARLES J. BURKARDT
VINCENT F. BURLAZZI
KYLE V. BURNS
MARCELLE R. BURRONI
ELLISEUS J. BUSUEGO
FREDERICK J. CARR, JR.
JAMES R. CARROLL
NATHANIEL T. CARTER
SAM H. CASELLA
JEFFERY B. CASHON
ALAN C. CAUSEY
KEVIN R. CHAMBERLAIN
KENNETH T. CHAPLIN
DANIEL K. CHAVES
JOSHUA T. CHRISTIAN
DAVID R. CHRISTMAS
LINDA K. CHUNG
BRYAN A. CIABOTTE
DUANE W. CLARK
MATTHEW K. CLARK
SAMUEL B. CLARK
MATTHEW R. CLAWSON
JONATHAN R. COCHRAN
LOGAN M. COLE
ANDREW M. COLEMAN
NICOLE M. COLLINS
SHAUN A. COLLINS
AUSTIN G. COMMONS
SHAWN M. COOK
JEFFREY P. COX
TIMOTHY D. COX
CAMERON S. CRAIG
MICHAEL A. CRYER
JUSTIN L. CUNNINGHAM
SCOTT T. DAWE
JOSHUA J. DAWSON
STEPHEN L. DETERDING
ROBERT D. DETIENNE
JORDAN A. DILENA
MATTHEW M. DOBYNS
JOHN J. DONOVAN
ANTHONY J. DOUGLASS
STEPHEN N. DOYLE
WILLIAM J. DOYLE
NICHOLAS W. DRAKE
JUSTIN M. DUCOTE
JOSHUA J. DURHAM
DUSTIN L. EGGLESTON
JOHN M. EISENLOHR
BRANDON J. ESSIET
ROBERT J. ETHERIDGE
ANTHONY W. EVANS
MICHAEL J. EVANS
HOWARD E. FALLS
ANTHONY S. FATULA
RYAN P. FEENEY
JOSHUA W. FENDER
STEPHEN J. FENNESSY
COMADOR M. FERGUSON III
TIMOTHY S. FERGUSON

STEPHEN L. FICCHI
 MATTHEW S. FINNIE
 CARY J. FITZPATRICK
 SCOTT W. FIXMER
 THOMAS C. FLANNIGAN
 ERIC G. FLOOD
 JOHN C. FLOYD
 JARED T. FLURRY
 NIKOLAS M. FOLGERT
 COLIN J. FOOTE
 CARL M. FORTE
 NICOLAS J. FOUGNER
 NICHOLAS R. FRAZIER
 WILLIAM T. FREAKLEY
 DANIEL D. FRECHETTE
 RODNEY C. FREEMAN
 KYLIE J. FRIESSEN
 PETER J. FRISCHHOLZ
 JEFFERY M. FRITZ
 PETER T. FRITZ
 JOSEPH D. FRITZE
 BRETT D. FULLER
 ELLIOTT J. GARRETT
 MATTHEW W. GARRICK
 RICHARD C. GASPERINI
 HEATHER GEORGE
 TIDE D. GILE
 BRADLEY D. GILL
 BRANDON B. GILLES
 RUSSELL B. GILLILAND
 SERGE GLUSHENKO
 MICHAEL M. GOGLIA
 TORSTEN GOJOWSKY
 PETER GOMEZ
 BRADLEY J. GOODYEAR
 GEORGE T. GORDON, JR.
 RYAN E. GOULET
 JOHN M. GRANT
 SEAN A. GREVIOUS
 WAYNE E. GRIFFIN
 NICOLE M. GRIFFITH
 ZACHARY E. GRIFFITHS
 SCOTT M. GRIMSEY
 DONOVAN D. GROH
 SEAN R. GRUBOFSKI
 GUILLERMO J. GUANDIQUE
 THOMAS J. GUGLIELMI
 HEATHER M. GUIDRY
 DANIEL L. HAN
 SCOTT M. HARAN
 LOUIS B. HARRINGTON
 PETER S. HARRINGTON
 DANIEL T. HARRISON
 STEPHANIE A. HARTLEY
 ALAN P. HASTINGS
 JOSHUA M. HAYNES
 SEAN D. HENLEY
 BRIAN E. HERNANDEZ
 JEREMY L. HERRON
 JOSHUA M. HERZOG
 JONATHAN E. HICKS
 MATTHEW A. HILL
 WILLIAM M. HILL
 CHRISTIAN L. HOEMPLER
 STEVE R. HOLDEN
 GREGORY C. HOLOWINA
 WILLIAM T. HORAN
 JARRELL O. HORSLEY
 RYAN S. HORTON
 MARIE J. HOUGH
 PATRICK C. HOWLETT
 BIMI H. HOXHA
 AARON R. HRABOVSKY
 TIMOTHY J. HUMPHRIES
 JUSTIN T. HUNTER
 NICHOLAS G. HUSINKO
 BRADLEY D. HUTCHISON
 BRANTON J. IRBY
 KARMALITA L. IRLMEIER
 TREVOR S. JACKSON
 JASON L. JACOBS
 EDWARD A. JARRETT
 MOISES JIMENEZ
 DEVONNE R. JOHNSON
 ISAAC D. JOHNSON
 TARIK T. JONES
 NICHOLAS E. KALITKA
 NICHOLAS J. KANE
 JOSHUA T. KELLY
 JOSEPH S. KENDALL
 IAN P. KENT
 TIMOTHY M. KIBBE
 JEFFREY A. KILLIAN
 JIMMIT F. KING
 JONATHAN D. KINGSLEY
 ANTHONY J. KIVLEHAN
 LISA M. KLEKOWSKI
 JOHN J. KLINE
 CURTIS T. KNIE
 GREGORY J. KOZLOWSKI
 FRANK J. KRAUT
 STEVEN W. KRIPPEL
 JASON R. KRUCK
 WILLIAM T. L. KUEBLER
 KARL M. KUECHENMEISTER
 WESTLY T. LAFITTE
 CLEMENT LAM
 ALAN W. LANCASTER
 ABBY E. LANNI
 JARED C. LARPENTEUR
 WILLIAM W. LASSITER IV
 MICHAEL L. LEIJA
 JOHN C. LEISENBERG
 MATTHEW J. LENSING
 JASON R. LEUNGVANHASSEL
 RICHARD G. LEWIS
 WILLIAM J. LEWIS

TIMOTHY B. LIGHT
 CALEB M. LING
 PAUL R. LLOVIO
 JONATHAN F. LOGAN
 NATHAN C. LOKKER
 BRADFORD H. LONG
 NICHOLAS J. LORUSSO
 MICHAEL G. LOWEFARMER
 MICHAEL B. LUNDEBY
 JOHN S. MADDOX
 CHRISTOPHER D. MAES
 SHAWN A. MAINS
 TODD A. MAINWARING
 GILBERTO L. MALAVE
 DANIEL J. MALIK
 JESSICA N. MARKS
 DEAN G. MARSHALL
 JOSHUA S. MARTIN
 JORDAN D. MARTINELLI
 ANDREW D. MARUCCI
 JAMES H. MASON
 ROBERT A. MASZAROSE
 JOSHUA C. MATTHEWS
 JARED R. MAXWELL
 JOHN M. MAYER
 WILLIAM C. MAYVILLE
 KEVIN R. MCCABE
 IAN J. MCKENZIE
 ANDREW J. MCKINLEY
 WILLIAM B. MCMURRAY
 DANIEL P. MEDFORD
 STEPHANIE E. MELTON
 TAYLOR S. MERRITT
 HALEY B. MIDDLEBROOK
 ZACHARY P. MILLER
 ANDREW C. MITCHELL
 MICHAEL H. MOBBS
 REGINALD MOISE
 ANDREW R. MORGAN
 ROBERT W. MORRIS
 ZACHARY L. MORRIS
 ALISSA K. MORRISON
 KEVIN W. MOTT
 JOHN T. MULLANY
 ALEXANDER G. MULLIN
 JEFF W. MUNSTER
 MICHAEL L. MUSKUS
 MICHAEL D. MYERS
 SEAN M. NAVIN
 BENJAMIN B. NEELEY
 DANIEL R. NEFF
 DAVID J. NELSON
 JOSHUA O. NEWBROUGH
 JARED W. NICHOLS
 MICHAEL T. NICHOLSON
 KRISTINA A. NIEMEYER
 KAI R. NISHIMOTO
 ANTONIO L. NIXON
 ADAM G. NORDIN
 DAVID C. NORWOOD
 MUNIR NOUREDDINE
 SCOTT A. NUSOM
 MICHAEL K. OH
 KEVIN E. OHARA
 MICHAEL D. OLIVEIRA
 COLIN B. OTOOLE
 WYATT C. OTTMAR
 ROBERT L. OZBURN
 EVAN B. PALMER
 EUGENE Y. PARK
 EDWARD J. PARRY
 JAY D. PARSONS
 BRANDON E. PASKO
 JONATHAN C. D. PATTEN
 JAMES M. PECK
 DOUGLAS B. PELLETIER
 MATTHEW W. PEREZ
 SCOTT R. PERKINS
 KERNEY M. S. PERLIK
 JONATHAN V. PETERSON
 CHRISTOPHER V. PETRANCOSTA
 JON K. PHILLIPS
 CHASE A. PITTMAN
 NATHAN K. PLAYER
 MICHAEL S. POLING
 KENNETH R. POSPISIL
 ROBERT A. POUGH
 MICHAEL R. PRATHER
 TRAVIS E. PRIDE
 MICHAEL D. PRITCHARD
 BRANDEN L. QUINTANA
 ZACHARY S. QUINTANA
 DALLAS L. RAINES
 JAMES E. RAJCHEL
 EDER C. RAMIREZ
 JEFFREY W. REESE
 RONALD R. RENEAU, JR.
 BRIAN H. REYNOLDS
 RITCHIE L. RHODES, JR.
 EVELYN P. RHYNEDANCE
 JEFFREY M. RIGNEY
 NICHOLAS A. RINALDI
 JUAN F. RIVERA
 JUAN C. RIZOLENIS
 ANDREW D. ROBINSON
 JAMES R. ROBINSON
 RYAN E. RODRIGUEZ
 IVAN RODRIGUEZHUERTAS
 THOMAS B. ROEDER
 BRETT W. ROEDERER
 JONATHAN D. ROLAND
 STEVEN C. ROSE
 JAY S. ROSEN
 ANDRE D. RUFF
 JUSTIN A. RUHOLL
 MANUEL L. RUIZ
 CHRISTOPHER L. RUSSELL

BLAKE T. SAFKO
 NICHOLAS A. SALIMBENE
 MARK L. SALVATI
 CONNOR R. SANDERS
 JOSEPH D. SANDERS
 STEVEN J. SAXION
 JOSIAH D. SCHLESSMAN
 DONALD A. SCHMIDT
 DAVID N. SCHNAAK
 TYLER S. SCHOELLHORN
 STEPHEN F. SCHUYLER
 SHAWN S. SCOTT
 MARK T. SEARLES
 BRANDON A. SHAH
 MICHAEL J. SHAY
 KEVIN M. SHOUSE
 JOSHUA M. SIDER
 MICHAEL L. SIM
 MICHAEL L. SIMMONS
 MATTHEW R. SIMPSON
 TAMMY L. SLOULIN
 ANDREW L. SMITH
 BENJAMIN J. SMITH
 BRIAN C. SMITH
 CHRISTIAN M. SNYDER
 RYAN C. SOMMER
 STEVEN R. SPALDING
 MEGHAN E. STARR
 BRANDON F. STAUB
 EDWARD G. STEBBINS
 ANDREW J. STEVENS
 THOMAS W. STEVENSON
 MATTHEW R. STOCKTON
 SARAH P. STOCKTON
 CHRIS F. STOINOFF
 SEAN E. STROH
 GREG A. SUGUITAN
 JOEL M. SULLIVAN
 RYAN D. SWISHER
 DANIEL J. TABACCHI
 SEAN T. TAGUBA
 MICHAEL C. TAYLOR
 MERRITT W. THOMAS
 WALTER D. THOMAS
 KYLE A. THOMASON
 BRANDON M. THOMPSON
 KYLE J. THOMPSON
 ROBERT B. THOMPSON
 JUSTIN P. THORKILDSEN
 JEB K. TOWNSEND
 THANG Q. TRAN
 JOSHUA M. TRULOCK
 WILLIAM J. TURNER
 ROBERT W. TUTTLE
 JOSHUA A. VANEPPS
 MICHAEL C. VEGLUCCI
 ELIZABETH S. VERARDO
 MARK A. VIDOTTO
 KYLE B. VONDERHEIDE
 EDDIE D. WALKER, JR.
 MICHAEL P. WALLACE
 JASON T. WALSH
 GLENN R. WALTON
 PHILIP R. WARD
 KURT R. WASILEWSKI
 KEITH T. WEAVER III
 JEREMIAH J. WEBB
 BRANDON M. WESS
 RYAN G. WHIPPLE
 MATTHEW R. WHITE
 JASON R. WIECZOREK
 TREVOR E. WILLIAMS
 ROBERT H. WILSON
 BRIAN W. WINTER
 JOSHUA J. WITTINGTON
 JOHN F. WLASNIEWSKI
 MASEY V. WOLFE
 DANIEL C. WOLGEMUTH
 JEFFERY A. WOLLENMAN
 ALEX J. WRAY
 MATTHEW A. WRIGHT
 GREGORY X. WYNN
 ROBERT A. YAGGI III
 WILLIAM M. YANG
 RYAN M. YAUN
 DANIEL M. YORK
 JOHN L. YOUNG
 TRAVIS H. YOUNG
 JOSEPH H. YURISICH
 DERRICK J. ZANTT
 D012872
 D016682
 D016693
 D015065
 D015671
 D013156
 D013244
 D012989
 D013217
 D013105
 D015291
 D016201
 D013617
 D017172
 D016452
 D016452
 D017190
 D013031
 D016133
 D015987
 D013239
 D017109
 D013492
 D015290
 D016554
 D016876

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant colonel

MARK P. ADAMS	CORY D. FAISON	RYAN L. MABRY
AWAJ A. M. AL	JUAN P. FELICIANO	CHRISTOPHER R. MADYDA
DANIEL ALEMANY	MAGDA D. FELIZ	JOSHUA A. MAGNUSSON
ADAM R. ALEXANDER	KURT L. FINDLAY	JUSTIN M. MAGULA
CURTIS J. ALLEN	CHRISTOPHER B. FISHER	CANDRA K. MAITA
JACQUELINE M. ALLEN	DAVID M. FLAHERTY	ALEX D. MANIER
MARC J. ALLERDT	DANIEL J. FLYNN	BERLINE MARCELIN
ROBERT F. ALSFELDER	TRAVIS J. FONDRK	ELIZABETH M. MARCUCCI
KEVIN T. ANDERSEN	JONATHAN A. FORONDA	CHARLES L. MARSHALL
TIMOTHY E. ARAS	COLBY Q. FREY	BENJAMIN L. MARTIN
THOMAS J. ARMSTRONG	DONALD J. FRISCO	JAMES R. MARTIN
WILLIAM A. ATTWELL	JOHN M. FURR	JOEL A. MARTINEZ
WILLIAM R. AVERA	SEAN M. FUTCH	JOSHUA A. MAYER
CHRISTOPHER J. BAHR	MICHAEL J. GAIN	LUKE G. MAZGAJ
AUSTIN C. BAKER	LEAH M. GANONI	DANIEL E. MCCAREY
ANTHONY R. BAMBA	CHRISTIAN A. GARNER	JOSEPH E. MCCARTHY
RICHARD T. BARKER	TIANNE R. GARNER	BRITTANY E. MCCROAN
ROBERT E. BARNETT	GARRETT T. GATZEMEYER	KYLE D. MCELVEEN
MICHAEL P. BARR, JR.	SARAH M. GERSTEIN	CHRISTOPHER A. MCFARLAND
KYLIE D. BARRETT	CHRISTOPHER P. GILBERT	RODERICK R. MCGRAW
HOWARD J. BARROW III	BENJAMIN M. GLASGALL	SEAN F. MCKNIGHT
JOHN A. C. BAYSE	ROBIN J. GLEBES	DAVID G. MCLEAN
RANDY J. BECK	AMANDA M. GOLDMAN	IAN C. MCLEOD
MATTHEW J. BEIGH	MARY J. GOLDSTEIN	MATTHEW E. MCMILLAN
RUTH BERGLIN	JOHN F. GOULD	JACK E. MCMURROUGH, JR.
MARJANA E. BIDWELL	KEVIN A. GOULDING	DANIEL M. MCNAMARA
ANTHONY R. BLACKBURN	KEITH G. GREER	ORLANDO M. MEDINA
TODD W. BLANCHETTE	DANIEL A. GREGORIO	KEITH A. MERILLAT
MATTHEW S. BLUMBERG	JAMES Q. GROSSMAN	CLAYTON C. MERKLEY
JEREMY P. BOVAN	DAVID A. GROVES	MATTHEW J. MERRILL
JACOB A. BOWEN	JAMES W. GUGLIELMI	ALEXANDER J. MEYER
JAMES C. BOWEN	ERIC A. HAAS	CHRISTOPHER J. MHAL
MARK S. BOYCHAK	DONALD S. HACKETT	CHRISTINE A. MILLER
BRIAN D. BOYLES	KENNETH W. HAHN	MICHAEL W. MILLER
CHRISTOPHER B. BRADLEY	ALEXANDER D. HAIN	CURTIS K. MILLION
MICHAEL C. BRADWICK	JOHN G. HALBERT	ROLAND P. MINEZ
GRANT S. BRAMLETT	JOHN R. P. HALL	JACOB A. MIRALDI
GARREN M. BREMER	DENNIS M. HALLERAN	DAVID MOLINANUNEZ
RICHARD R. BRENNAN	THOMAS M. HALVERSON	ERICK A. MONTALLA
CHAD K. BRINTON	BRIAN G. HARDIN	STEVEN K. MORELLI
TANYA N. BRYANT	STEPHEN N. HARDWICK	MATTHEW F. MORGAN
BRIAN S. BURNS	DREW P. HARGRAVES	JOSHUA F. MORRIS
LARON C. BYBEE	STEPHEN M. HARMON	KEVIN L. MORRIS
JESSICA C. CADDELL	MARK D. HARRIS	MARK J. MORRISON
JEREMY E. CALDWELL	SCOTT B. HARRIS	ROBERT J. MORSE
STEPHEN H. CALDWELL	JAMES S. HARVIE	ROBERT T. MOUNTAIN
SEAN J. CALLEJASPRINGER	NICOLE L. HASH	THOR A. MUÑOZ
JOSHUA A. CAMPBELL	MARYORIE E. HEGARD	JAMES A. NARDELLI
WILLIAM B. CAMPBELL	TANNER S. HELMERS	CURTIS B. NELSON
WILLIAM C. CAMPBELL	MICHAEL R. HENRIQUES	RICHARD N. NICHOLS
DAVID P. CANADAY	LUKE P. HIGH	SCOTT M. NOLAND
CHRISTOPHER J. CAPASSO	MICHAEL J. HILL	DAVID A. NORTON
RANDALL T. CARROLL	NORMA A. HILL	ZACHARY A. NOVITSKE
JARED A. CARTER	MATTHEW G. HIPP	LAUREN R. NOWAK
RONALD A. CARTER	NICHOLAS J. HITT	TONY S. NUBER
RANDALL CEDILLOS	LUCAS J. HOFFMANN	DANIEL J. OCONNOR
JERRY W. CHAMPION	STEVEN C. HOJNICKI	OLA I. OGUNLOLA
MICHAEL R. CHANDLER	JOHN L. HOLLAND	AARON W. OLIVER
ELIAS M. CHELALA	KEVIN D. HOLLOWAY	RYAN N. OLIVER
RICHARD S. CHERSICLA	CYNTHIA R. HOLUTA	NICHOLAS P. OLSON
SEAN S. CHO	EDWARD S. HOOGLAND	TRAVIS K. OSCARSON
YOUNG CHOI	DANIEL L. HOPKINS	VIREAK C. OUCH
RORI J. CHRISCOJANKER	MICHAEL D. HRSUSKA	CLIPTON R. PALMORE
WHITNEY L. CISSELL	STEPHANIE E. HUEBNER	NICHOLAS T. PANTIN
DAVID M. CLARKE	WILLIAM J. HUERTH	PETRA PAPAVASILEIOU
ROSETTE A. CLARKEMORTON	DARIN K. HUNTER	CHRISTIAN C. PARDO
SIMON H. CLAYCOMB	MICHAEL W. HUNTINGTON	MICHAEL J. PARISO
ADAM L. CLONINGER	PEYTON C. HURLEY	JASON PARK
JARED B. COHEN	JOHN B. HUSSAIN	AMANDA L. PARKER
JOHN M. COLE	RYAN W. HUTSON	CHRISTOPHER J. PARKER
NGOZI E. COLLINS	JEFFREY A. HYSLOP	ANTHONY N. PARSAI
CHRISTOPHER J. COLYER	JAMES G. JACOBS	JULIAN L. PARSONS
JAMES M. COMSTOCK	JESSAMYN R. JEMPSON	MATTHEW R. PATRONIK
DAVID L. COOK	JOSHUA M. JOHNSON	JASON E. PATTERSON
JOHN S. COOK	MICHAEL R. JOHNSON	JOSEPH C. PAULEY
REBECCA J. COOPER	CHAZ R. JORDAN	ANDREW E. PEKAREK
JASON A. COUTURE	IRA M. JORDAN	AARON M. PETERS
DAVID H. COWAN	VERONICA D. JORDAN	LARRY B. PHELPS, JR.
ERIN N. COX	CHIDIEBERE U. KAMALU	FOREST J. PIERCE
TRAVIS L. COX	NATHANIEL M. KAMINSKI	NOLAN W. PIERCE
TOBY CRANDALL	JACOB D. KEATING	JAMES D. PLEUSS
MICHELLE L. CROWE	THANE A. KELLER	ANDREW F. PLUCKER
DIANA CRUZ	LEIGH C. KENNEDY	LARESHIA D. POE
JOHN D. CUMBIE	ROBERT S. KENNEDY	MICHAEL A. POLLOCK
JASON D. CUMIFORD	RYAN E. KERTIS	SAMANTHA A. PORTER
JOSEPH T. CURNOW	JOHN K. KIM	JAMES C. POWERS
BRENDAN M. CURRAN	JOHN S. KIM	MATTHEW E. POWERS
MICHAEL L. DANIELS	PATRICK Y. KIM	MARNI E. PRENELL
AARON C. DARENSBURG	JOHN F. KING	SPENCER D. PROPPST
NATHAN A. DAVIES	RACHEL E. KINNAS	ANDREW R. PRUNTY
JOHN R. DAVIS	FRANK R. KIRBYSON III	JENNIFER L. PURSER
JESSICA I. DAWSON	CHRISTINA J. KNIGHT	MARK S. QUINT
NICHOLAS M. DAWSON	KEITH A. KOZAL	DAVID S. QUINTY
CAMERON P. DEAN	JOSHUA J. KRAUSE	GARY W. RAINER
RYAN R. DEMARCO	JARED W. KRUGER	JOEL M. RAINES
KENNETH W. DEMARS	JAMES S. KWOUN	JOHN M. RAJCH
TIMOTHY A. DEVINE	RYAN T. LACEY	JOHN P. READ
CHARLIE V. DIETZ	AMEAA A. LAGO	DANIEL S. RICHARD
CHRISTOPHER O. DORSEY	SHAWNTA N. LAMPKIN	CLAYTON P. RICHARDSON
ANTHONY M. DRELLA	BEAUX B. LANE	ROBERT D. RICKETTS
PATRICK J. DUBOIS	HAROLD M. LARSEN	CESAR H. ROJAS III
DANIEL P. DUPLESSIS	JACOB W. LAWRENCE	BRIAN H. ROOT
JENNIFER E. DYRCZ	NICHOLAS L. LEE	NICHOLAS A. ROTHWELL
SHERWOOD A. EARLE III	JULIE A. LEGGETT	SEAN C. RUDDY
DENNIS J. EDWARDS	BRIAN J. LENZMEIER	GREGORY A. SABLON
RICHARD W. ELLSWORTH	DOMINICK L. LEVAN	ANTONIO M. SALINAS
SEBASTIAN R. ENGELS	JASON P. LEVAY	DANIEL J. SAMOTIS
DOUGLAS J. ENSMINGER	MARC S. LEVITT	ALEXANDER M. SCHADE
ERIK FAGERGREN	SERGEI V. LEVOKHIN	BRADLEY R. SCHMITT
DAVID M. FAHS	JOSHUA S. LILEY	CARL A. SCHROEDER
ANDREW J. FAIR	ADRIAN L. LIPTROT II	JONATHAN W. SCHWARZ

JACOB E. SHAHA
 JASON T. SHARRITT
 JONATHAN E. SHAW
 RICHARD E. SHAWGER
 DREW D. SHEPLER
 OLUBUSOLA A. SHOKUNBI
 TIMOTHY F. SIMMONSJUSTICZ
 DEREK D. SMITH
 JOSHUA A. SNYDER
 JOHNNY W. SOKOLOSKY
 CHARLES M. SPEARS
 JAMES D. SPILLMAN
 JOEL W. SPRINGSTEAD
 DANIEL J. STACK
 DAVID B. STAMPS
 MALLORY L. STEPHENSON
 RYAN T. STEPHENSON
 ERIN A. STEVENS
 JOHN R. STMARIE
 JEREMY T. STRAUGHTER
 JASON E. STUCK
 ERIC M. STURZINGER
 TAMMI L. SUMMERS
 WILLIAM G. SWAFFORD
 WINFIELD P. SWANTON
 BENJAMIN E. SWEENEY
 RICHARD I. TANG
 JOHN A. TERMINATO
 GABRIELA S. THOMPSON
 FOSTER S. THORPE
 ALBERT J. TIMMRECK
 ANGEL L. TOMKO
 NATHANIEL TUCKER, JR.
 KEVIN W. TURNBLOM
 TRAVIS L. TYLER
 CHARLES A. UPSHAW
 BRIAN H. VAENI
 PABLO A. VALERIN
 CHRISTOPHER C. VANDERBURG
 BRETT S. VANFOSSON
 BRIAN N. VEGA
 STEPHEN C. VONJETT
 MATTHEW R. WEBB
 JAKE R. WEBER
 JENNA L. WELCHLEN
 SCOTT W. WESTCOTT
 DAVID C. WHITE
 JEREMY S. WHITE
 SCOTT A. WIDENER
 MICHAEL L. WILDA
 DEREK R. WILSON
 STEFAN K. WILSON
 ANDREW L. WONG
 CAMERON A. WRIGHT
 CHRISTINA M. WRIGHT
 MATTHEW A. WRIGHT
 SANG M. YIM
 JIHOON YOO
 DOUGLAS S. YOON
 TOR M. ZALESKI
 DANNY Z. ZHU
 ERIKA L. ZIMMERMANN
 G010445
 G010609
 G010442
 D016750
 D014314
 D013065
 D013099
 G010267
 G010399
 D018008
 G010616
 G010630
 D016696
 G010551
 D015086
 G010352
 G010388
 G010632
 G010664
 D012581
 D017009
 D015973
 G010809
 G010278
 D016118
 D016116

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant colonel

ALEXANDER ACHEAMPONG
 JACLYN A. ADAMS
 JOHN D. AITKEN
 ROBERT L. ALI
 SADAT ALLHASAN
 PAUL D. AMIS
 CHRISTOPHER J. ANDERSON
 JERRY O. ANDES II
 JACOB Z. BAKER
 CRAIG M. BANNER
 JAMES L. BARLOWE
 ESTELA M. BARRIOS
 YANIA BATES
 TIMOTHY J. BEECHER
 BRADLEY R. BENJAMIN
 MICHAEL D. BENNETT
 NICHOLAS B. BINGHAM
 BENJAMIN E. BIRTLES
 TODD A. BLACK
 RICHARD E. BOBO
 CESAR BONILLA
 RHONDA M. BOOTH
 NICHOLE L. BRAXTON

BRIAN BRENNAN
 JAMES A. BROADIE
 JASON A. BROWN
 MATTHEW L. BROWN
 SITARA E. BUCKNER
 PHILLIP E. BURRIS
 BRENDEN B. BURSON
 BRIAN J. BURTON
 ANNIE L. BUTLER
 DARIEN L. BUTLER
 JOHNATHAN L. BUTLER
 MBUKOYO O. BUTLER
 SAMUEL G. BUTLER
 MEGAN C. CAIN
 COREY D. CAMPBELL
 ELIZABETH F. CANTRELL
 MATTHEW M. CAPPS
 NICHOLAS J. CARELAS
 JOHN M. CARRIA
 MICHAEL J. CARROLL
 THOMAS W. CAYIA
 DANIEL W. CHANDLER
 MICHAEL W. CHUNG
 NICHOLAS W. CIMLER
 SHERON L. COLLINS
 CALEB S. CONANT
 SARAH D. CORDOVA
 DANIELLE K. CORK
 RAYEN A. CORNELIUS
 RYAN C. CORNELLDECHERT
 DEWEY A. COURNEY
 CHRISTINA H. CRITTENDEN
 JOHN P. CROSS
 JOSEPH D. DACUS
 THOMAS M. DANNENBERG
 JESSICA D. DAVILA
 CHARLES N. DAVIS, JR.
 JEFFREY W. DAVIS II
 BRIDGET I. DAY
 TIMOTHY P. DEMERATH
 LEKISA M. DEMPSEY
 JONATHAN M. DENTON
 CHRISTOPHER R. DEVENPORT
 ADAM F. DIGIOVANNI
 RYAN T. DITTMER
 CAMDEN P. DONNELLY
 COMARO J. DOUGLASGARDNER
 CHARLES R. DRUCKER
 LINDSAY A. DUDLEY
 YOON G. DUNHAM
 ELIZABETH A. DZWONCZYK
 KIMARD D. EGLETON
 KINARD R. EGLETON
 KIMBERLY L. ELLENBURG
 ERIC J. ERICKSON
 MICHAEL C. FAGER
 SPENCER K. FARMER
 ROBERT A. FERTIG
 LACARIA M. FETZER
 GREKII Y. FIELDER
 CHRISTOPHER L. FIELDS
 AARON C. FOIST
 SETH R. FORT
 ELVIN J. FORTUNA
 BRANDON B. FRIDIA
 ANTONIO C. GARCIA
 MARCOS R. GARCIA
 TERENCE D. GASPICH
 SEAN T. GODFREY
 KAI A. GONSALVES
 NATHAN E. GONTARZ
 THOMAS R. GORMAN
 CARO V. GRAY
 CHRISTOPHER H. GRAY
 SAMUEL D. GREULICH
 JENNIFER O. GUERRA
 JEAN J. GWON
 EDWARD R. HALINSKI III
 MICAH J. HALL
 MARK R. HAMILTON
 LOUIS C. HARE
 PAULA J. HARRELL
 MILES T. HAURITZ
 PHILLIP D. HETTEBERG
 CHRISTOPHER H. HEUGHAN
 AARON L. HIATT
 JAMIE L. HICKMAN
 KEVIN A. HICKS
 EDWIN A. HOCKER
 PHILLIP M. HOFFMAN
 JOHN N. HOLCOMB
 JOSEPH H. HOLLISTER
 HAL W. HOOGSTRA
 JOSHUA P. HOOPER
 MATTHEW S. HOPCHAK
 DERREK T. HOPPER
 KENNETH T. HORTON
 JOHN T. HUCKABAY
 CHAD R. HUGGINS
 JEREMIAH M. HUNT
 JOHN A. HURD
 DONG Y. HYUN
 JOSEPH A. IANNITTI
 CRAIG M. IWEN
 FRANKIE J. JACKSON
 DEZERIE N. JEMMOTT
 MICHAEL R. JOHNSON
 NATHALIA J. JOHNSON
 ERIKA A. JORDAN
 BRYAN V. KELSO
 JULIE M. KENDRICK
 JOHNATHAN S. KENNEDY
 ERIK T. KIFUNE
 DAE Y. KIM
 THOMAS C. KIRKPATRICK
 MICAH J. KLEIN
 JEFFREY W. KOCIAN
 MICHAEL A. KRIVENSKY
 SIMEAMATIVA KRUSE
 WALTER E. KRUSE
 SHIVNESH S. KUMAR
 JACOB C. KUNZLER
 CHRISTOPHER T. LAMAR
 JASON R. LANGER
 STEPHEN C. LAWSON
 RYAN T. LEACH
 JAMES R. LEMLEY
 JULIA C. LENSING
 TANYA M. LEONARD
 JORDAN A. LESTER
 PATRICK A. LINFORD
 SCOTT A. LITTLE
 CHARLES H. LOVERUDE
 FAITH F. LOZANO
 DAVID A. LUKEFAHR
 DARRELL L. LYLES
 AARON S. MANN
 ROVI M. MARTIN
 JOSEFINA M. MARTINEZ
 JUAN G. MARTINEZ
 MICHAEL S. MAULDIN
 MARYKATHRYN M. MAXHEIMER
 MARK R. MAY
 RICKY J. MCARTHUR
 MICHELLELYNN F. MCDEVITT
 CURTIS M. MCDONALD
 JAMAIL R. MCCLOSE
 MICHAEL J. MCGOWAN
 JOSHUA S. MEADORE
 KRYSYAL A. MERCHAN
 JAMIE D. MICHEL
 BENJAMIN D. MILLER
 CAYATRA C. MILLER
 MATTHEW L. MILLER
 ROBERT W. MITCHELL II
 PAUL L. MOELLER, JR.
 CRYSTAL D. MOORE
 ARIANNA D. MORELL
 DAVID MORENO
 MATTHEW T. MOSTEIKO
 ELLEN G. MURRAY
 ROY J. NEIL, JR.
 ADRIAN L. NELSON
 STEPHEN M. NEPPL
 JOSHUA J. NEWBY
 KEVIN R. NICHOLAS
 KRISTOPHER D. NICHOLS
 JOHN P. NIKIFORAKIS
 BRIAN T. NOBLE
 CHRISTOPHER J. NOLL
 DANIEL V. NOSSE
 BENJAMIN J. OLSEN
 SEAN P. OMALLEY
 KIMBERLY M. ORDONEZ
 BRIAN J. ORLINO
 NILSON OROZCOOVIEDO
 CLINT C. PAJELA
 JASON PALATAS
 KYE E. PANNELL
 TANYA V. PAYNE
 DANIEL L. PECHACEK
 JOSHUA L. PEEPLES
 LINA V. PEREZ
 MICHAEL G. PESANO
 LOREN N. PETERSEN
 CHERQURIA L. PETERSON
 MATTHEW T. PETERSON
 GEORGE A. PIERCE
 KRISTEN D. PIETRASZ
 JEREMY R. PINSON
 TYNIKA E. N. PINTER
 RYAN M. PLEMMONS
 JUAN C. PRATTS
 MONIQUE M. PULLIN
 PATRICIA A. PUTNAM
 KHADINE R. QUASHIM
 JEREMY C. RAATZ
 SEAN C. RALEIGH
 JOHN P. RAWLINSON
 AARON S. REEDY
 MATTHEW P. REFF
 NATHANIEL A. RICE
 WAYNE D. RICHEY, JR.
 RICHARD J. RICKETTS IV
 MARIA E. RINALDI
 VERNELL L. RIXNER
 KERMAN A. RODRIGUEZ
 JADE C. ROOT
 CRYSTAL A. ROREBECK
 CLEFF M. SALADINO
 CARLOS M. SANFORD
 JUNG Y. SCHORR
 JEFFREY R. SEITZ
 ASHLEY R. SELLERS
 KORAK R. SIMMONS
 MICHAEL C. SIMS
 NEAL J. SIVULA
 MERCEDES B. SKIDMORE
 SAMANTHA L. SMAY
 CHARLES T. SOLAITA
 STEVEN M. SPIKER
 JAMES P. STAGGS
 LLOYD J. STERLING III
 LEWIS N. STEVENSON
 MICHAEL D. STEWART
 CHINYERE STURGHILL
 SHAWN S. TAJALLE
 RYAN W. TALLANT
 ERICK B. TAYLOR
 TONY T. TAYLOR
 ERIC J. TERRELL
 RONALD N. THENN
 ANDREW T. THOMAS
 MICHAEL B. THOMAS

MAGALY R. THURMAN
 DANIEL P. TONE
 JUSTIN D. TONELLI
 DAMIAN R. TONG
 MICHELLE E. UPDIKE
 MATTHEW R. UPRIGHT
 NATALIE S. UPWARD
 PEDRO VALDES
 CARLOS A. VALLE
 KURTIS P. VANALLEN
 JAMIE D. VESTAL
 ADAM C. VOGEL
 PENNY M. VOLINO
 JOHNATHAN M. WAGNER
 DARRYL A. WALKER
 MICAH A. WALKER
 STEVEN J. WALLACE
 KORNELIYA S. WATERS
 MICHAEL J. WATKINS
 VERNON E. WEBB
 DAVID A. WEINREICH
 BRANDON M. WEISS
 TERENCE J. WILKIN
 APOLLO W. WILLIAMS
 MALCOLM J. WILSON III
 RYAN M. WILSON
 LATORAY A. WOOD
 JOSHUA D. WOODRUFF
 BRADLEY A. WRIGHT
 KEVIN J. WRIGHT
 YAW D. YAKUBU
 EUNSEOK YOO
 MARK A. YORE
 CHARLES C. YORK III
 SHERITA L. YOUNG
 DREW ZABRISKIE
 BRADLEY A. ZIELINSKI
 D015262
 D013242
 D015581
 D017132
 D017010
 D016995
 D016101
 D014894
 D015262
 D015566

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT
 TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY
 UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant colonel

EMMANUEL T. ADENIRAN
 PATRICK A. BELL
 KYLE D. BORNE
 NICHOLAS A. BOYLE
 JASON E. CADY
 JUSTICE L. CASTILLO
 JUSTIN M. CORBETT
 MICHAEL H. CRAIN
 BRANDON R. DEMERSKELLER
 DAVID ELMO II
 KYLE N. FRAZER
 MARVIN GORGAS
 ISAAC J. GREGORY
 CHASE A. HASBROUCK
 JUSTIN J. HAWKER
 JOHANNA M. HIPP
 STEPHEN M. HUDAK
 JOSEPH L. HUITT
 MATTHEW R. HUTCHISON
 JEFFREY T. JAO
 ELMER MENDOZA
 JONATHAN V. MUNSON
 RICHARD A. MYERS
 MICHAEL D. PATRICK
 DOMINIC M. PILERI
 STEVE E. POWELL
 MICHAEL D. QUIGG II
 STACY A. RADER
 JOSHUA RIVERA
 GREGORY R. SELPH
 MATTHEW G. SHERBURNE
 CHARLES E. SUSLOWICZ
 SETH T. VARAYON
 JACOB H. YOUTMANS
 D015933

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT
 TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY
 MEDICAL CORPS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 624
 AND 7064:

To be lieutenant colonel

HARRY T. AUBIN
 DANIEL W. BAILEY
 BRIAN C. BENSON
 GEORGE E. BLACK IV
 BARTON L. BLACKORBY
 JOHN F. BONNES
 ZACHARY C. BOOMS
 ALAINA M. BREELIN
 KEVIN M. BRODERICK
 SEAN C. BRUGMAN
 RYAN V. B. BURKHART
 ASHLEY D. CESAR
 EDWARD T. CHANG
 MICHAEL S. CLEMENS
 BRANDON M. COLE
 RICHARD D. DETHERIDGE
 JEREMY W. DOCEKAL
 EDWARD A. DOLOMISIEWICZ
 JOHN C. DUNN
 SCOTT P. ENDICOTT
 JAMES J. ERNST
 MARTIN O. EVANS II

PHILIP G. EYE
 JOSEPH J. FANTONY
 DOUGLAS M. FARMER
 BRIAN E. FOSTER
 IAN W. FOWLER
 JONATHAN P. FRANCIS
 BRENTON R. FRANKLIN
 THOMAS C. FRAWLEY
 WILLIAM B. GAMBLE II
 BROOKE L. GRAY
 JULIA GREENE
 LUCAS L. GROVES
 NEIL R. HALONEN
 GREGORY J. HAMILTON
 WILLIAM E. HARNER
 KENNETH A. HEIDA, JR.
 ANNELIES T. HICKERSON
 ANDREW W. HILL
 JEFFREY D. HOFFMANN
 DOUGLAS R. HOGOBOOM
 STEVEN R. HOLE
 DOMINIQUE S. HOLLEY
 SARAH M. HOLMEN
 MATTHEW D. HOLTKAMP
 CAITLIN M. HOWARD
 MICHELLE L. HUANG
 RICHARD K. HURLEY, JR.
 NATHAN K. JANSEN
 JOHN B. JENNETTE
 KARSTEN G. JENNINGS
 KAROLINE R. JOHNSON
 STEFAN G. KAZACOS
 MARION C. KEEHN
 MATTHEW H. KEMM
 JOHN W. KIRCHER
 KEVIN R. KNIERY
 JEANNIE A. G. KRICK
 DANE K. KURATSU
 JAMES M. KYLE
 PAUL J. LANIER
 FORD M. LANNAN
 AMANDA J. LASKA
 DOUGLAS Y. C. LEE
 KATHERINE M. LEONARD
 ADRIANNA N. LONG
 JOHANNA G. H. MAROWSKIE
 JENNIFER H. MASSEL
 KIMBERLEY A. MAXWELL
 JOHN G. MCCARTHY
 IAN S. MCDOUGALL
 ALLEN A. MEHR
 ALEX S. MILLER
 ELIZABETH A. MILLER
 GORDON MOK
 ROBERT M. MOORE
 MATTHEW W. MORRISSEY
 KATHRYN B. MUIR
 MELISSA A. MYERS
 JASON J. NAM
 JELAUN K. NEWSOME
 MARY A. NOEL
 CHRISTOPHER O. OCHIENG
 DAVID T. PADRO
 GRACE E. PARK
 PHUNG D. PHAN
 JONATHAN E. PICKETT
 SARAH B. PLACEK
 BRIAN C. POMERANTZ
 HEATHER S. POMERANTZ
 ROBERT A. POWELL
 TYLER A. POWELL
 RYAN L. PRENTICE
 RICHARD L. PURCELL
 FRANK J. RAGUKONIS, JR.
 JASON L. REED
 BENJAMIN C. ROBERTS
 ANNA N. ROMAGNOLI
 CESAR J. ROSA
 JASON E. ROSTEDT
 EAN R. SABERSKI
 CAROLYN A. SALTER
 JOHN S. SAUR
 KAYE E. SEDARSKY
 BRIAN J. SHIOZAWA
 BRIAN D. SINDELAR
 KYLE K. SOKOL
 GREGORY J. STEVENS
 JAYNE R. STEVENS
 GEORGE W. STONE
 ADAM G. STREET
 SCOTT SULLIVAN
 JACOB A. SWANN
 CHRISTOPHER M. TARNEY
 DAVID J. TENNENT
 CONNIE L. THOMAS
 REI D. THOMAS
 RICHARD L. THOMAS
 ANTHONY M. TOLISANO
 ERIN L. TOMPKINS
 MELISSA M. VANDELLEN
 KARLA M. VEGACOLON
 JENNIFER L. VIERA
 ALANA M. WADE
 LIN C. WANG
 AUBRI M. WATERS
 SEBASTIAN K. WELSH
 PAUL J. WETSTEIN
 SARA M. WILSON
 JONATHAN T. WINGATE
 BRIAN C. YBARBO
 DAVID H. YUN
 JASON M. ZACK
 BOVEY Z. ZHU
 D016621

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT
 TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY

DENTAL CORPS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 624
 AND 7064:

To be lieutenant colonel

JOSHUA A. AKERS
 GAMAL A. BAKER
 RISHARD M. BANKS
 JARED D. BEAM
 AUTUMN L. BECKER
 DANIEL D. BECKER
 WILLIAM J. BELKNAP
 APRIL P. BUMPERS
 ALBERT W. CHENG
 ROSS K. COOK
 PAUL M. GOFORTH
 STEVEN E. HANDEL
 STEPHANIE L. HELMUS
 JOSHUA G. HYATT
 BRANDON H. JONES
 MELISSA M. JOY
 CORI M. MCCLATCHY
 HILLARY J. MCCORMACK
 PARTH MEWAR
 MITCHELL J. L. OLIVER
 KONY PARK
 FARZAN L. POURANFAR
 JARRED L. PRICE
 JOSHUA L. ROCKWOOD
 SHAKASHA L. SCRUGGS WILLIAMS
 BRIAN P. SPENCE
 BRENT A. TALBOT
 JOSHUA R. WALDRON
 SHENICE L. WILLIAMS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT
 TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY
 MEDICAL CORPS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 624
 AND 7064:

To be major

ALEXANDRA M. ADAMS
 MICHAEL B. ADAMS
 NATHALIA ALBARRACIN
 JENDY L. AMELIO
 STEPHANIE M. ANGEL
 VALYNN M. ANTOINE
 CANDUS N. ANTOLIN
 REN M. ARIZUMI
 RICHARD S. ARRIVIELLO
 CHELSEA E. AUSMAN
 GINA T. BAAKLINI
 JINYONG BAE
 COOPER M. BARBER
 SAMUEL I. BARTLETT
 NATHAN P. BASTIEN
 CHARLES D. BEHNFIELD
 GARRETT S. BENDEL
 ANDREW C. BENZ
 MARK W. M. BETTEN
 CYRUS P. BHADHA
 JESSICA H. BICHER
 RYAN J. BICKLEY
 ANDREW R. BIELLO
 LEIGHANN A. BLACK
 SAM W. BLAIR
 BRIAN V. BLAZOVIC
 HALWARD M. J. BLEGEN IV
 JOHN G. BLICKLE
 LAURA A. BORRUSO
 JACOB A. BRAUN
 MIRIAM L. BRAZER
 RACHEL E. BRIDWELL
 ANTHONY R. BRITTON
 ALLISON BROZENA
 LUCAS A. BRYANT
 ISABEL M. BUEHLER
 MATTHEW M. BYRNE
 ELIZABETH J. CAMPBELL
 ROSS C. CANDELORE
 PETER E. CARR
 SAMANTHA M. CARSON
 JOSEPH A. CAVALLARO
 ALEXANDER J. CHAMPION
 ASHLEY L. Y. CHINN
 DANIEL H. W. CHO
 LEA S. CHOI
 KAITLYNN A. CHRISTIANSEN
 ARIEL A. CHUNG
 MAEGHAN L. CIAMPA
 RYAN M. COFFEY
 ELISABETH O. COFFIN
 DANIEL J. COGNETTI
 FREEMAN J. CONDON
 CHRISTIAN C. CONLON
 TYLOR D. CONNOR
 JULIETTE M. CONTE
 LISA M. CONTE
 SEAN R. COSTELLO
 ELENA M. CRECELIUS
 CRAIG A. CROMER
 CHRISTIAN A. CRUZ
 KENNETH J. CULLANDER
 DANIELLE L. CUMMINGS
 BRIAN N. DAHL
 DOROTHY R. DANIEL
 LEVI B. DAUGHERTY
 MEGAN R. DAVIC
 ELIZABETH M. DAVIS
 JOSHUA W. DAVIS
 SHELBY L. DEAN
 HEIDI L. DEARBORN
 MICHEAL C. DEARBORN
 HASAN U. M. DIMAYUGA
 DEREK B. DOUGLAS
 AUSTON D. ECKERT
 ORIANA V. ELLIS
 DANIELLE M. ELLZHEY

SAMUEL S. FAIRBANKS
 AUSTIN B. FARES
 MARIA A. P. FARMER
 CRYSTAL J. FORMAN
 JACE J. P. FRANKO
 LANDON S. FROST
 CHRISTINA S. FULLMER
 RICARDO J. GALINDO
 ROBERT A. GASSER III
 BENJAMIN J. GENCO
 KIMBERLY A. GERLING
 JOHN D. GESELMAN
 RYAN C. GIFFORDHOLLINGSWORTH
 ANDREW M. GLENN
 ERIN E. GORTON
 MICHAEL H. GOTSCHELL, JR.
 NATASHA N. A. GOUEY
 BRITTNEY S. GRAHAM
 MATTHEW W. GRAY
 JEFFREY D. GRIFFIS
 ERICA M. GRIMM
 JAMES B. HARAN
 BRYCE L. HARMON
 TYLER B. HARP
 LAUREN R. HEGGERS
 SPENCER K. HEGGERS
 ANDREA N. HEIER
 JENNIFER M. HEIN
 COLIN A. HENDERSON
 JOHN L. HIRT
 NICHOLAS T. HODGEMAN
 ADA HOFFMAN
 ERIC D. HOLWEG
 ISAIAH M. HORTON
 CHERYL W. C. HUANG
 KEVIN P. HUDSON
 TYLER J. HUMMEL
 KILEY F. HUNKLER
 MATTHEW T. HUNTER
 NATALIE R. HUSA
 ISAAC M. INGERSOLL
 KELLY M. IVINSKEEFE
 ANDREW R. JACOBSON
 ALEXANDER R. JENKINS
 STEVEN D. JETTE
 SARAH Y. JIANG
 CONSTANCE L. JOEL
 ANDREW M. JOHNSON
 JACQUELINE L. JONES
 KATRINA T. JONES
 TENEISHA S. JORDAN
 KATHERINE M. JOSEPH
 BRETT W. KAPLAN
 CARL L. KAY
 ANDREW J. KEAM
 ELIZABETH H. KETCHUM
 WILLIAM A. KETCHUM
 CHARLES J. KIDD
 OSKAR F. KIGELMAN
 BENJAMIN P. KIGHT
 KELSEA R. KILLIN
 DAVID S. KIM
 JASON S. KIM
 SCOTT H. KIM
 ADAM J. KISLING
 KYLE J. KLAHS
 GEORGE KONTOGIANNIS
 ZACHARY A. KOPelman
 KYLER S. KOZACEK
 JAMES KWON
 NEIL P. LARSON
 MATTHEW R. LAVOIE
 RHIANNON E. LEDGERWOOD
 MICHALA A. LEE
 OLIVER J. LEE
 BRANDON J. LEIGHTON
 DANIELLE M. LEVY
 SASHA L. LIGHTFOOT
 MITCHELL A. LION
 AMY C. LIU
 CHARLES M. LLEWELLYN
 FORREST J. LONGWAY
 ANDREW J. LOPEZ
 LAUREN W. LOVE
 KRISTEN M. LOVIO
 DEREK S. LOVE
 THOMAS B. LYNCH
 KOMRON I. MACLEAN
 ASHA J. MADA
 ANTHONY J. MAGEE, JR.
 ALEXANDRA M. MAHONEY
 ALEXANDRA M. MALLORY
 JOHN P. MALONE
 VICTORIA M. MANK
 RYAN J. MATHESON
 VICTORIA A. MAXON
 DOUGLAS D. MAY
 PATRICK M. MCCARTHY
 KEANE E. MCCULLUM
 ERIN M. MCELHONE
 KEVIN P. MCCOVERN
 KEENAN M. MC LAUGHLIN
 KEVIN A. MCLEAN
 ZACHARY D. MCRAE
 KETAN MEHTA
 DANIEL R. MERRILL
 JACLYN A. MESCHER
 PATRICK K. MESCHER
 STEPHEN E. MEYERS
 NATHANIEL W. MILLER
 MATTHEW S. MISCH
 ANDREW J. MISHLER
 AARON P. MONTGOMERY
 AGNES S. MONTGOMERY
 JEFFREY W. MOON
 JAMES C. MOONEY
 WILLIAM J. MOORE III

SENTHIL M. MUDALIAR
 MEGHAN K. MUNISTERI
 TIMOTHY P. MURPHY
 DANE H. NERAD
 KRISTI NGO
 LANCE E. NISSELY
 NICHOLAS A. NOVELLA
 VICTORIA J. O'BRIEN
 EMILY L. OFSTUN
 THOMAS A. OHARA
 KATHLEEN E. OLEARY
 ALLYSON M. OWENS
 ROBERT W. OWENS
 RICHARD B. PACE
 KEVIN C. PAK
 SOHAM B. PARikh
 EMILY L. PARSONS
 JAGATKUMAR A. PATEL
 RONAK B. PATEL
 RONIL PATEL
 MADISON L. B. PAUL
 ALEC J. PAWLKIEWICZ
 TIMOTHY M. PERDUE
 THOMAS A. PETERSON
 THOMAS J. PETERSON
 MICHAEL M. A. POLMEAR
 RYAN W. POLSTON
 MICHAEL E. PORAMBO
 MICHAEL R. POVLOW
 ROBERT T. POWERS
 HARKARAN S. RANA
 JOSHUA D. READ
 DONALD J. REES
 RENUKA S. REES
 TREVOR J. REITZ
 DANIEL J. RENFER
 PHOEBE E. RILEY
 THOMAS W. RINEY
 KELSEY E. ROBINSON
 HANNAH R. ROSE
 SAMANTHA J. ROWE
 ZACHARY S. RUBIN
 PATRICK K. RUSHFORD
 TYLER J. RUSSELL
 HANNAH G. RUSSIN
 DONALD S. SALMON
 STEPHANIE A. SATCHELL
 ERICA M. SAVARESE
 JOHN P. SCANALIATO
 BRANDON T. SCHWARTZ
 SEAN E. SCOTT
 SANTOSH SHANMUGA
 ALEX L. SHAPIRO
 NATHANIEL L. SHAPIRO
 KELLY H. SHAY
 COLIN B. SHEFFIELD
 STEPHANIE K. SKELLY
 ADAM C. SMITH
 JEREMY A. SMITH
 MELISSA J. SMITH
 RITA I. SNYDER
 MICHAEL A. SOLER
 ASHLEY N. SOPPE
 STEVEN K. SPARKS
 JOSHUA R. SPIRNAK
 RYAN P. STECK
 ANDREA STEPHENSON
 ALEXANDER R. STODDARD
 CHRISTINE M. STRANGE
 ALAN P. SUN
 KYLE E. SUNSHEIN
 JOSHUA W. L. SY
 STEPHEN U. TAYLOR
 TIFFANY Y. T. TAYLOR
 CONNOR S. THRUN
 LISA C. TOWNSEND
 MICHAEL S. TRACEY
 AARON J. TRAUTMANN
 ANDREA R. TRENT
 JULIAN S. TRENT
 ZARANA B. TRIVEDI
 THOMAS E. ULMER
 HEATHER VALENZUELA
 JONATHAN D. VIGNALI
 LILIAN VILAR
 KELLY M. VO
 MICHAEL M. VU
 JEFFREY L. WAKE
 TYLER R. WALKER
 QING WANG
 NATHAN R. WEISS
 MICHAEL J. WILLCOX
 MATTHIAS L. WILLIAMS
 CHRISTOPHER D. WILLIS
 ANDREW S. WILSON
 HANS M. WINEBRENNER
 JORDAN W. WINEGAR
 HAYDEN H. WISELY
 BLAKE R. WOLFE
 CORTNEY N. WOLFLEY
 MICHAEL J. YANOSCHIK
 NICHOLAS D. YURKO
 BRIAN H. ZALNERAITIS
 BOBBY Z. ZHANG
 MICHAEL D. ZIMMERMAN
 BRITTNEE N. ZMUDA
 D016620

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT
 TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY
 DENTAL CORPS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 624
 AND 7064:

To be major

ANDREA C. BAEDER
 NATHAN V. BROOKS
 ANTHONY J. BUONO

KYLE J. BURKARDT
 JEFFERY CHEN
 AUSTIN CHENG
 NOAH M. CHRISTOPHER
 PAUL N. CHUNG
 DUSTIN J. DAVIS
 JONATHAN J. DISMUKE
 CORNELIA M. DUFFIN
 TRENT P. ELLIS
 ROSS B. EMERICK
 HANEOL EOM
 MATTHEW H. FIRESTONE
 JENNIFER L. FULL
 JESSIE E. GREGG
 JEREMY HILL
 HEE S. JANG
 CHANG W. JUNG
 RYAN S. K. KANG
 HEESUNG S. KIM
 ALEX T. KITCHIN
 MEE H. K. KWAK
 DANIEL S. W. KWON
 KYLE V. LEACH
 QUINN A. LEAR
 SOOKYON L. LEE
 CHARLES L. LEWIS
 JULIA Y. LIM
 ALDRENE I. MANASAN
 CARSEN R. MCDANIEL
 STEVEN W. MCDANIEL
 GREGORY J. MEIGHEN
 PRESTON M. MELHAUSER
 BAILEY P. MOORHEADBEARDSLEY
 CHANEL Q. MOSES
 INJAMAMUL L. NILOY
 DUSTIN T. NYGARD
 BENJAMIN F. OTTOSON
 JOO H. PARK
 LATIFAH S. PORTER
 NICHOLAS S. REECE
 MICHAEL J. RETHMAN
 JOSHUA D. ROGERS
 EDWARD A. RYNKOWSKY
 ANDREW S. RYSER
 NOLAN T. SANDERS
 JOHN K. SASINE
 AWBREY M. SEALS
 GARRETT S. SEYMORE
 ALEXANDER J. SONG
 LOWELL D. STANFORD
 KASEY W. TEA
 ETHAN E. TINDALL
 PHUONG N. TRAN
 JOHN R. WILSON
 BRIGHAM B. H. YANG
 WON K. YANG
 JOANNA Y. J. YIM
 PETER S. YOON

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT
 TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY
 UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be colonel

ELI S. ADAMS
 JASON N. ADLER
 ERIC B. ALEXANDER
 SAMUEL R. ALLEN
 ADAM W. ARMSTRONG
 ANDREW P. ASWELL
 SCOTTY M. AUTIN
 MATTHEW P. BAIDEME
 JOHN M. BAKER
 JOSEPH C. BELL
 RICHARD R. BELL
 JOSHUA M. BETTY
 DUSTIN A. BLAIR
 PATRICK D. BLANKENSHIP
 KWAME O. BOATENG
 ADAM R. BOCK
 BRYAN J. BONNEMA
 JOHN B. BRADLEY
 CHARLES J. BROWN
 MARK L. BROWN, JR.
 ANTHONY H. BRUNNER
 MARK E. BUSH
 JOHN W. CAMPBELL
 ALLAN B. CARROLL
 CHRISTOPHER J. CARTER
 WALTER S. CHALKLEY
 MATTHEW B. CHASE
 WILLIAM B. CHASTAIN
 RICHARD T. CHILDERS
 BRADY R. CLARK
 GEOFFREY J. COLE
 MATTHEW J. COLE
 KING E. COOPER, JR.
 FRANCISCO A. CORTEZ III
 CRAIG S. COTNER
 MICHAEL J. COTOVSKY
 ADA L. COTTO
 CHRIS G. COUNTOURIOTIS
 DAVID W. DAKE
 BRIDGET E. DALZIEL
 RANJINI T. DANARAJ
 ERIK A. DAVIS
 JOHN R. DAVIS, JR.
 MATTHEW C. DAWSON
 KEVIN M. EASTER
 SHARON ENGELMEIER
 MICHAEL E. ERLANDSON
 ROBERT L. EYMAN
 ROBERT R. FAIREL, JR.
 BENJAMIN J. FERGUSON
 MICHAEL K. FLURY
 CHRISTOPHER E. FOWLER
 CAMERON G. GALLAGHER

TIMOTHY R. GARLAND
 CRAIG A. GIANCATERINO
 ROBERT M. M. GICHERT
 JEREMIAH A. GIPSON
 JOSHUA G. GLONEK
 PAUL D. GODSON
 JESSICA D. GOFFENA
 JENNIFER L. GOTIE
 MICHAEL H. GOURGUES
 RICHARD Z. GROEN
 MICHAEL C. HAITH
 JEFFREY S. HAN
 JOSEPH L. HANDKE
 ROBERT B. HARLESS
 DAVID D. HENDERSON
 TODD R. HERTLING
 JOHNATHAN W. HESTER
 JONATHAN T. HOLM
 DAVID T. HOLSTEAD
 BRIAN R. HORVATH
 MATTHEW J. INGLIS
 ARTHUR E. JIMENEZ
 JAMES O. JOHNSON
 NATHANIEL E. JOSLYN
 PATRICK H. KAIN
 CHRISTOPHER R. KANE
 MARK A. KATZ
 MATTHEW R. KELLEY
 JOHN R. KIRCHGESSNER
 ANDREW J. KULAS
 THOMAS E. LAMB
 JOHN D. LEITNER
 DENISE R. LITTLE
 CLAY J. LIVINGSTON
 BRIAN T. LOONEY
 MICHAEL A. LUECKEMAN
 WILLIAM D. MARSHALL
 MATTHEW C. MASON
 FRANK F. MAXWELL
 RANDY L. MCCLENDON
 KIRSTEN S. MCFARLAND
 PAUL M. MCMANUS
 ERIC MEGERDOOMIAN
 SAMUEL A. MEYER
 RINGO L. MIDLES
 MATTHEW R. MINEAR
 NATHAN N. MINOTT
 CHRISTOPHER V. MORO
 JOHN L. MORROW
 DERRICK D. MURRAY
 RUSTIN H. NECESSARY
 SEAN K. NOLAN
 MICHAEL W. ODONNELL
 EUGENE W. PALKA
 BRIAN D. PANARO
 JEFFREY L. PAULUS
 MICHAEL S. PENN
 TODD L. POINDEXTER
 RICHARD A. POLEN
 JONATHAN F. POST
 JUSTIN M. PRITCHARD
 RYAN J. PURSEL
 MATTHEW F. QUINN
 DONALD K. REED
 WALTER A. REED IV
 DUKU W. REIM
 MARLON S. RINGO
 BEAU G. ROLLIE
 NICHOLAS D. RYAN
 VICTOR S. SALYER
 BRIAN A. SANSON
 RYAN J. SCOTT
 JEREMY O. SECREST
 NICHOLAS C. SINCLAIR
 JAMES M. SNOWDEN
 MICHAEL V. SOYKA
 JAMES T. STARTZELL
 KRISTIN E. STEINBRECHER
 PATRICK T. STONE
 VAUGHN D. STRONG, JR.
 TODD S. SUNDAY
 NICHOLAS R. TALBOT
 RICHARD P. TETA
 JOHN C. TISSERAND
 WENDY R. TOKACH
 TODD M. TOMPKINS
 TAD T. TSUNEYOSHI
 PHILLIP J. VALENTI
 MATTHEW R. VANGILDER
 SETH W. WACKER
 CHRISTOPHER E. WALSH
 ROGER A. WANG, JR.
 PHILLIP S. WARREN
 DAVID A. WEBB
 BRIAN H. WEIGHTMAN
 KEVIN G. WERRY, JR.
 JACOB E. WHITE
 KEITH R. WILLIAMS
 JASON M. WINGEART
 LUKE A. WITTMER
 JERRY L. WOOD, JR.
 LILLIAN I. I. WOODINGTON
 ADAM WOYTOWICH
 JONATHAN T. YASUDA
 PETER C. ZAPPOLA, JR.
 MICHAEL E. ZIEGELHOFER
 D012625
 D010545
 D017210
 D017156
 D017075
 D012711
 D012613

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT
 TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY
 UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be colonel

DREW Q. ABELL
 JONATHAN M. ADAMS
 ROBERT N. ADAMS
 JERRID K. ALLEN
 IVAN M. ALVARADO
 JAY T. BAO
 SEAN A. BARBARAS
 ERHAN BEDESTANI
 JASON M. BELKNAP
 DAVID M. BESKOW
 RAYMOND W. BLAINE
 WILSON C. BLYTHE, JR.
 CHRISTOPHER O. BOWERS
 JAMES L. BREDEMAN
 WILLIAM D. BRICE
 PAUL A. BUBLIS II
 MICHAEL J. BURNS
 DAVID W. BUTLER
 EBONY N. CALHOUN
 ROBERT H. CALLAHAN
 KYLE I. CAMPBELL
 GABRIEL CAMPUZANO
 WILLIAM H. CARROLL
 ROGER A. CARVAJAL
 JASON J. CHOI
 CRAIG A. CHRISTIAN
 NANCY E. CLAUSS
 KACI H. COLE
 NATHAN M. COLVIN
 SETH T. COTTRELL
 EDWARD L. COX
 MATTHEW A. CRAWFORD
 CATHERINE B. CROMBE
 MEGHAN L. CUMPSTON
 JEFFREY A. DAYTON
 CHRISTOPHER P. DEAN
 JONATHAN L. DELOACH
 RICHARD S. DEMPSEY
 BRENT B. DODD
 RYAN M. DONALD
 NICOLE L. DOWNS
 WILLIAM R. DUNCAN
 JEFFREY R. DUPLANTIS
 RODERICK M. DWYER
 JEREMY W. EASLEY
 JOEL P. ELLISON
 JOEL G. ELSTON
 ISAAC J. FABER
 EDWARD A. FIGUEROA
 MICHAEL FLEISCHMANN
 CHRISTOPHER FUHRMAN
 RASHAD J. FULCHER
 MAXWELL E. FULDAUER
 ROBERT J. GABLE
 MICHAEL M. GACHERU
 ELLIS GALES, JR.
 VICTOR J. GONZALEZORTIZ
 ELLIS Z. GORDON
 NICHOLAS E. GREGOIRE
 ROBERT T. GREINER
 TODD J. HARKRADER
 GLENROY HASKINS
 DARTANION J. HAYWARD
 JACQUELINE L. HEARNE
 SHANNA M. HENDRIX
 JAMES P. L. HOLZGREFE
 STACY M. HOPWOOD
 CHRISTOPHER C. JOHNES
 KENTON E. JUSTICE
 SCOTT M. KATALENICH
 GARRETT J. KAYE
 TERENCE M. KELLEY
 JOHN A. KENDALL
 JASON P. KENDZIERSKI
 LOGAN J. KERSCHNER
 CHRISTOPHER E. KETZ
 JOSHUA S. KHOURY
 DANIEL K. KILGORE
 ROSS S. KINKEAD
 CHRISTOPHER R. KLIWER
 MATTHEW A. KOHLER
 JEFFREY J. KORNBLUTH
 SUNNY C. S. KUEHL
 ADDISON F. LADIERO
 ERIK R. LARSEN
 STEVEN E. LEWENTOWICZ
 RANDALL A. LINNEMANN
 MELVIN E. LOWE
 WILLIAM A. MACUGAY
 SEAN M. MADDEN
 JOSEPH E. MALONE
 TRAVIS J. MAPLES
 BRAD C. MCCOY
 JAY G. MCGEE
 JEREMY A. MCHUGH
 ROBERT C. MCVAY
 NICHOLAS D. MILKOVICH
 EVA M. MILLARE
 KEITH B. MILLER
 MATTHEW G. MILLER
 ROBERT G. MITCHELL
 FRANCIS X. MURPHY
 CASEY L. C. NAPUTI
 ADAM K. NESTOR
 GLIDDEN NIEVES
 AMOS Y. OH
 MARCUS D. ONEAL
 EGAN L. OREILLY
 RYAN C. OREILLY
 DETRICK L. OUSBY
 ROBERT B. PADGETT
 SCOTT A. PATTON
 ALEXIS A. PEEKE
 KATHRYN K. PEGUES
 ANDREW V. PESATURE

TIMOTHY N. PETERMAN
 STEPHAN J. PIKNER
 DEREK K. PING
 SCOTT C. POLASEK
 ANDREW S. PRUETT
 GUADALUPE RESENDEZ, JR.
 HOWARD G. RICE
 MARY A. RICKS
 NATHAN A. RIEDEL
 JOSHUA L. RODRIGUEZ
 GAMALIEL ROSA
 GILBERTO RUIZ
 ROBERTREL A. SACHI
 EDDIE N. SANCHEZ
 JASON S. SHINN
 MATTHEW D. SHIRLEY
 MATTHEW R. SHOWN
 CASEY D. SHUFF
 BRIAN D. SLOSMAN
 SCOTT J. SMITH
 TROY D. SMITH
 DANIEL J. SQUYRES
 TYLER J. STANDISH
 JAMES K. STARLING
 TRAVIS R. THEBEAU
 SPENCER T. TIMMONS
 ROBERT H. TOPPER, JR.
 JOHN D. TURNER
 MATTHEW P. UPPERMANN
 TAMARA B. VANHOSEPAL
 BRANDON L. VANORDEN
 MALLORY A. WAMPLER
 ALEXANDRA E. WEISKOPF
 MICKEY M. WEST
 DUANE M. WILLIAMS
 JASON S. WIMBERLY
 STEVEN W. WOJDAKOWSKI
 GRAHAM D. WOOD
 JOSEPH B. WOOLSEY
 TIMOTHY J. WYANT
 KYLE R. YATES
 D016129
 D017217
 G010139
 D010381
 D010957
 G010339

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT
 TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY
 UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be colonel

ROMAINE M. AGUON
 MATTHEW T. AMSDELL
 SAUL A. ARROYO
 FIDEL ARVELO
 BRIAN H. ASTWOOD
 AARON J. BECKER
 WILLIAM R. BENNETT
 WENDY E. BOLTON
 JASON P. BOOK
 BENJAMIN D. BORING
 CURTIS D. BOWE
 ERIC A. BROOKS
 JAMARCUS A. BROOKS
 KEVIN R. BURGESS
 CHRISTOPHER L. CAMPHOR
 ANGEL M. CARDENAS
 RANDOLPH S. CARPENTER
 RIAN M. CARTER
 THOMAS A. CARVER
 HWAJIN CLARK
 MARK J. CLEARY
 HUGH H. COLEMAN III
 JOHN E. COOPER
 ROBERT D. COPE
 PHILIP D. CORDARO
 ISAAC V. CUTHBERTSON
 ROSA V. DELAGARZA
 SUSAN M. DEPIESSTYER
 DEREK J. DIBELLO
 CHARLES M. DIGGS
 DAMIAN E. DOUGLAS
 ZORAIDA I. ESCOBAR
 DAVID P. FLEMING
 SARAH L. FORSTER
 ALAN R. FOWLER
 ERIN H. FRAZIER
 SAMANTHA J. FRAZIER
 CHRISTOPHER C. GETTER
 ROBERT I. GRAY
 DANILO A. GREEN
 JONATHAN R. GREGORY
 DION HALL
 CHRISTOPHER HARVEY, SR.
 ARON T. HAUQUITZ
 ROBERT J. HEATHERLY
 BRANDON J. HILL
 LINWOOD R. HILTON
 MICHAEL D. HOPKINS
 SHEILA L. HOWELL
 SONIA I. HUERTAS
 INA S. JACKSON
 HARLEY P. JENNINGS
 NICOLE L. JEPSEN
 TROY S. JOHNSON
 ANDREW R. JOHNSTON
 TYRONE JONES, JR.
 ROBERT F. JORDAN
 BRIAN B. KIBITLEWSKI
 TURMEL A. KINDRED
 JASON M. KNAPP
 VIRGINIA A. KNORR
 ANDREW J. KOCSIS
 TERRANCE L. KRATZ III
 JAMES E. KYLE

CALEB A. LEWIS
 MICHAEL P. LILES
 KEVIN M. LINZEY
 JONATHAN D. LIPSCOMB
 OYYIF K. LOGAN
 BETHE L. LUTHER
 ELOY MARTINEZ
 BRADLEY M. MAY
 JAMES M. MCGEE
 CARPER H. McMILLAN
 MICHAEL A. MIGNANO
 REBECCA MILKOWSKIGERDELMAN
 KARMA A. MILLER
 MICHAEL J. MILLER
 STEPHANIE M. MOSS
 PHUONG H. NGUYEN
 HADIYA E. ONEAL
 CARLOS C. OQUENDO
 CHRISTOPHER T. ORLOWSKI
 JOHN P. OSULLIVAN
 STEPHEN A. POLACEK
 PHILIP S. RAUMBERGER
 CHRISTOPHER M. RICHARDSON
 PEDRO J. ROSARIO
 EDWARD R. RUNYAN
 CHARLES M. SEABERRY
 JOHN D. SEITZ
 SCOTT L. SHAFFER
 JAMISON R. SMITH
 ALAN L. STEPHENS
 CHRISTOPHER R. STEWART
 DAVID L. TAYLOR, JR.
 AARON C. TELLER
 SHANNON N. THOMPSON
 RICKEY J. TORRES
 BRIAN M. TRAVIS
 JOSHUA M. WALTER
 OLIN L. WALTERS
 CHAD B. WATTS
 WILLIAM G. WEAVER
 KEMAU A. WHITTINGTON
 OLRIC R. WILKINS II
 LISBON J. WILLIAMS, JR.
 EDWARD K. WOO
 EDWARD M. WOODALL
 CHRISTOPHER C. WURST

TRACY L. YATES
 D017105

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT
 TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY
 UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be colonel

MICHAEL L. ARNER

KIRK J. DANIELS

ADAM J. DYKSTRA

CARL L. FRIEDRICH

RICHARD A. GALEANO

JUSTIN M. HORGAN

COREY G. MCCOY

RYAN M. NACIN

TAMISHA R. NORRIS

JONATHAN S. RITTENBERG

JASON R. SABOVICH

TIMOTHY J. SIKORA

STEVEN R. SIMMONS, JR.

RYAN G. TATE

JAMES N. TURNER

MARK M. YEARY

IN THE NAVY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT
 IN THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE REGULAR NAVY
 UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 531 AND 716:

To be lieutenant commander

MATTHEW A. BUBNIS

IN THE AIR FORCE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT
 AS SENIOR MILITARY ACQUISITION ADVISOR IN THE
 GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION
 1725(A):

To be colonel

BRIAN J. BOHENEK

IN THE NAVY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT
 TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY
 UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be captain

JAMES O. SAMMAN

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT
 TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY
 UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant commander

ANDREW R. FLORA

JORDAN J. FOLEY

IN THE SPACE FORCE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT
 IN THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE REGULAR SPACE
 FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 531 AND 716:

To be colonel

MICAH R. KELLEY

ERICA M. MITCHELL

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT
 IN THE GRADES INDICATED IN THE REGULAR SPACE
 FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 531 AND 716:

To be lieutenant colonel

ERICA J. BALFOUR

To be major

JAMES R. TURNER

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT
 IN THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE REGULAR SPACE
 FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 531 AND 716:

To be colonel

CRAIG E. FRANK

THE FOLLOWING NAMED INDIVIDUALS FOR APPOINT-
 MENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE REGULAR
 SPACE FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 531:

To be lieutenant colonel

MAROUANE BALMAKHTAR

DANIEL J. LEVINSON

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HAPPY 100TH BIRTHDAY THOMAS FEARRINGTON

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 17, 2023

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of all South Carolinians, I am grateful to wish World War II veteran, Mr. Thomas Fearrington, a Happy 100th Birthday.

Thomas Fearrington was born on April 18th, 1923, in Greenville, Mississippi. In 1940, Tom graduated from Valdese High School in North Carolina and enrolled in North Carolina State University's civilian military training program. In 1943, the program was cancelled, and Tom was sent to basic training at Camp Wheeler near Macon, Georgia and Camp Blanding in Starke, Florida.

In 1944, Tom was sent to Europe where he was assigned to the 101st Airborne, 327th Glider Infantry Regiment, Second Battalion, Easy Company. He was a part of the first wave of gliders in Operation Market Garden. After landing in Son, Netherlands, Tom fought across Hell's Highway for seventy-five days until the battle ended and his unit was sent back to France.

After arriving in France, Tom's unit made their way to Bastogne, Belgium. The 327th Glider Infantry Regiment greatly defended the city during the Battle of Bulge from December 16, 1944 to January 25, 1945. Tom served in Europe until the war ended and was awarded the Bronze Star for his great service to the United States. After the war, Tom completed his degree at N.C. State University and moved with his wife, Doris, to Columbia, South Carolina, where he still resides.

Today, I honor Mr. Thomas Fearrington for his service to the American people and wish him a Happy 100th Birthday and the best in his future endeavors.

RAISING AWARENESS FOR BARTH SYNDROME BY PROPOSING APRIL 5, 2023 TO BE KNOWN AS "BARTH SYNDROME AWARENESS DAY"

HON. RALPH NORMAN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 17, 2023

Mr. NORMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to support raising awareness for Barth Syndrome by proposing April 5, 2023 to be known as "Barth Syndrome Awareness Day".

Barth Syndrome is a life-threatening ultra-rare disease that effects around 150 individuals within the U.S. In particular, I want to highlight the work of Shelley Bowen who is a constituent of South Carolina, and her amazing work as the founder and former Chair of the Barth Syndrome Foundation, which she started in 2000.

Shelly's activism was born out of necessity when her two sons, Evan and Michael, were diagnosed with heart failure. Shelley spent every spare moment in search of a diagnosis and in 1990, she finally received some answers. Her tireless work and dedication to raise awareness, provide support, and search for a cure has been incredibly profound and admirable.

Please join me in thanking Shelly for her efforts in raising awareness for Barth Syndrome and for founding the Barth Syndrome Foundation.

RECOGNIZING RED LODGE AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SHERRY WEAVER FOR HER DEDICATION TO THE RED LODGE COMMUNITY

HON. MATTHEW M. ROSENDALE, SR.

OF MONTANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 17, 2023

Mr. ROSENDALE. Mr. Speaker, in June 2022, massive floods washed over southern Montana, temporarily displacing thousands of residents in the town of Red Lodge and the surrounding community. The devastation was immense and left many families concerned about the future of their community.

But while natural disasters have ravaged Red Lodge and the wider Carbon County area, the people are infinitely stronger than the struggles they face.

On March 21, 2023, citizens of Red Lodge gathered for what was supposed to be a birthday celebration. Instead, attendees surprised Red Lodge Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Sherry Weamer with a standing ovation and thanked her for leading the town's businesses during this challenging time.

Red Lodge lies at the northern entrance of Yellowstone National Park, and the town's economy relies heavily on tourist traffic. The extensive flooding and subsequent closure of the park's entrance have left the economy reeling as business leaders struggle to secure new customers. But thanks to Sherry Weamer's dedicated leadership, the town has persevered.

Sherry led the Red Lodge Chamber of Commerce during one of the most difficult periods of the area's history. Her tireless work and unwavering dedication have helped rejuvenate the town's businesses and preserved its spirit.

Sherry stood firm through all these challenges and helped her neighbors find their footing. It's safe to say that nothing, not even a 500-year flood event, can stop Sherry Weamer. On behalf of all Montanans, I want to thank Sherry for her ceaseless work rebuilding the community, and it is my privilege to recognize her in the U.S. House of Representatives.

HONORING PAUL PARREIRA, SR.

HON. JOHN S. DUARTE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 17, 2023

Mr. DUARTE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Paul Parreira, Sr.'s lifelong service to Merced County and the great state of California. Merced County is a rich agricultural region, providing the world nutritious, healthy, and safe food. We have celebrated our agricultural heritage, our youth, education, and region since 1890, first as the Miller-Lux Picnic; with our celebrations evolving into the Merced County Spring Fair.

Thanks to the tireless work of the Merced County Spring Fair's Board of Directors and volunteers, the Fair has seen countless years of success. I would like to honor one specific volunteer, Paul Parreira, Sr.

Mr. Parreira has worked tirelessly as a volunteer for many years, serving wherever needed and sharing his time, talent, and treasure. His talents were noted by past District 5 Country Supervisor, Jerry O'Banion, who in 1994 appointed Mr. Parreira to serve on the Merced County Spring Fair Board of Directors.

From 1994 to 2019, Mr. Parreira served on the Merced County Spring Fair Board of Directors in all capacities, including thrice as Board President. During Mr. Parreira's tenure, the Spring Fair doubled attendance revenue, grew attendance by 100 percent, and grew youth age participation by 250 percent.

In tandem with other community leaders, Mr. Parreira founded the Heritage Foundation, an agricultural scholarship program, as well as "Because We Care," an organization providing anonymous financial support to 4-H and FFA youth.

A graduate of the California Agriculture Leadership Program, Mr. Parreira has remained a steadfast leader in California's agriculture industry. Mr. Parreira's roles include Board Member of the California Agriculture Leadership Foundation, Vice Chair of the California Department of Food and Agriculture Feed Inspection Advisory Board, Vice Chair of the Almond Board of California's Biomass Working Group, Chair of the Almond Alliance of California's Co-Products Committee, and President of the Exchange Contractors Political Action Committee.

Thanks to Mr. Parreira's dedication to California's agriculture community, he has been named Grand Marshall of the 2023 Merced County Spring Fair.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in recognizing Paul Parreira, Sr.'s lifelong service to the Merced County Spring Fair, his community involvement, leadership, commitment to youth and education, as well as Agriculture advocacy.

● 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.

HONORING COACH JOHN VICTOR PERRY

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 17, 2023

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with Congressman JARED HUFFMAN, to honor Coach John Victor Perry for his service to young athletes as a dedicated little league baseball coach for over 50 years for Westside Little League in Santa Rosa, California.

Perry has supported little league players in 1,182 games and led them to 713 victories. From 1980 through 1988 and over the course of 143 games, Mr. Perry also coached little league senior teams. Throughout those seasons, hundreds of young athletes have benefitted from Mr. Perry's leadership.

Aside from his teams' victories, he is very proud that two of his players, Aaron Willis and Kailee Diaz Randall, went on to earn National Little League Good Sport Awards. Both of his players' names are now displayed on a plaque at the National Little League Museum in Williamsport. It is noteworthy that Westside Little League remains the only little league in the Nation to have two of its players honored with this award.

Aside from teaching baseball fundamentals, Mr. Perry makes it a point to educate his players on the importance of hard work, public service, and the history of baseball. He has devoted his time to maintaining the baseball fields for the leagues. Moreover, Mr. Perry instructs his players to thank their parents in writing for their permission to play on the team, and he snips roses for the players to present to their mothers on Mother's Day.

Mr. Speaker, it is evident that Coach John Victor Perry has been a tireless volunteer and outstanding role model for the young athletes of Santa Rosa, California for half a century. Therefore, it is fitting and proper that we honor him here today.

HONORING CHARLES EDWARD CLARK, SR.

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 17, 2023

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a loving husband, dedicated father, doting grandfather, seasoned executive, benevolent public servant and dear family friend of long standing to my wife, Vivian, and me—Charles Edward Clark, Sr. Sadly, Charles transitioned from this life on March 27, 2023. On April 17, 2023, a memorial service celebrating his remarkable life was held at 11:00 a.m. in Columbus, Georgia at St. Luke United Methodist Church.

Charles Clark was born in Vienna, Georgia on August 26, 1939, to the union of Elbert and Elzada Clark. The oldest son of 11 children, his early education was in the Dooly County, Georgia School System. He went on to matriculate at Clark College (now Clark Atlanta University) in Atlanta where he became a member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. and earned a B.A. Degree in Business Administra-

tion in 1962. He proudly served his country in the United States Army during the Vietnam Era, rising to the rank of Corporal before receiving his Honorable Discharge.

Charles returned to Atlanta and went to work at the Urban League, beginning what would become a long and extraordinary career in government and community service. At the Urban League, he met the love of his life, Lilian "Bunk" McClung, daughter of former Columbus Mayor Pro Tem, A.J. and Mrs. Helen McClung. They were married in 1966 and to this blessed union were born two children: Charles "Chuck" Clark, Jr. and Candace Clark (Trinchieri).

Charles believed in education and demanded excellence from himself at every stage of his professional career. Hence, while working full time at the Urban League, he earned his law degree from the Woodrow Wilson College of Law in Atlanta in 1971. He began federal executive employment at the Office of Economic Opportunity regional office in Atlanta, moved to the Social Security Administration, then went on to earn a Master's Degree in Public Administration in 1973 from Stanford University in Palo Alto, California. He then returned to Atlanta to be Regional Director for Volunteers In Service To America (VISTA) and simultaneously earned a Master's in Organizational Psychology and Administration in 1976 from West Georgia College in Carrollton, Georgia.

Also in 1976, when his wife, Bunk, went to Washington, D.C. as part of the Jimmy Carter Presidential Transition Team, Charles became Special Assistant to Veterans Affairs Administrator and future U.S. Senator Max Cleland. He served in several positions in the VA, to include: Assistant Administrator, Office of Personnel and Labor Relations; Assistant for the Office of Human Goals; and Special Assistant to the Deputy Chief Medical Director. Charles later served as Associate Medical Director at VA Medical Centers in Reno, Nevada, San Francisco and Palo Alto, California. Because of his exceptional service, Charles received The Meritorious Executive Presidential Rank Award from the Department in 1995.

Upon retirement from the VA, Charles and Bunk moved back to Bunk's hometown of Columbus, Georgia where he served as Senior Vice President of Columbus Regional Healthcare System, Vice President of Columbus Regional Medical Foundation and Executive Director of Junior Achievement. In addition, Charles was active in community service, volunteering his time in several charitable organizations and was an active member of Saint Luke United Methodist Church.

In 2015, Charles was diagnosed with Alzheimer's. He used this challenge as an opportunity, becoming a staunch supporter of the Alzheimer's Association of Columbus and he led "The Annual Walk to End Alzheimer's" before moving to Sherman Oaks, California to live with his daughter, Candace, and her family.

It has been said that: "Service is the rent we pay for the space we 'occupy on this earth". Charles Clark paid his rent and paid it well. He gave his time, talents and treasure to so many social and civic organizations. George Washington Carver once said: "How far you go in life depends on your being tender with the young, compassionate with the aged, sympathetic with the striving and tolerant of the weak and the strong. Because

some day you will have been all of these". Charles Clark lived those words.

On a personal note, Charles was my friend. He was my supporter. He even served as my extraordinary campaign manager in 2008. He accomplished so much in his life. But, none of this would have been possible without the grace of God and the love and support of his wife of 57 years, Bunk; his children, Chuck and Candace; and a host of friends and family who will miss him dearly.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join my wife, Vivian, and me, along with the more than 765,000 people of the 2nd Congressional District of Georgia in honoring the life and legacy of Mr. Charles Edward Clark, Sr. and in extending our deepest sympathies to his family, friends, and all who mourn his loss. We pray that they will be consoled and comforted by an abiding faith and the Holy Spirit in the days, weeks, and months ahead.

CELEBRATING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF RUSSELL STOVER CHOCOLATES

HON. EMANUEL CLEAVER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 17, 2023

Mr. CLEAVER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 100th anniversary of Russell Stover Chocolates, a beloved American company that has become synonymous with quality and tradition. Founded in 1923 by Russell and Clara Stover, this Kansas City-based business has been delighting taste buds and warming hearts for generations. On this special occasion, let us take a moment to reflect on the last one hundred years.

The history of Russell Stover Chocolates began in Denver, Colorado, when Russell and Clara Stover began making candy in their bungalow home. The newfound company, originally employing just seven individuals, was first known as Mrs. Stover's Bungalow Candies. Within one year, the Stovers were operating five stores in Denver along with locations in Kansas City, Missouri, Lincoln, Nebraska, Omaha, Nebraska, and St. Louis, Missouri. In 1928, with business rapidly expanding, the Stovers opened their first factory in Kansas City, where all company operations would be moved in 1932. Committed to using only the finest ingredients in their exquisite confections, Russell Stover was already setting the standard for excellence in the chocolate world.

Business continued to grow in 1934, when the Stovers opened a drive-in store, ice cream parlor, and ice cream factory in Kansas City. Nine years later, in 1943, Russell Stover led the Committee for the National Confectioners Association in Washington, DC, the same year that the company officially changed its name to Russell Stover Candies.

While Russell and Clara Stover passed away in 1954 and 1975, respectively, the chocolate company they had built from scratch honored their memory by continuing to bring joy and sweetness to millions of Americans. Having grown to one of the largest and most respected candy makers in the United States, with chocolates sold in thousands of stores nationwide, Russell Stover acquired Whitman's Candies in 1993. The following year,

the company received further attention when a box of Russell Stover chocolates was featured in the Academy Award-winning film *Forrest Gump*, in which the title character quotes his mother as having said, “life is like a box of chocolates, you never know what you’re gonna get.” Offering a piece of candy to a stranger sitting next to him on a park bench, *Forrest Gump* declared, “I could eat about a million and a half of these,” and viewers around the world agreed with the sentiment.

In 1998, Russell Stover launched a line of sugar free chocolates and quickly became the leading producer of sugar free candies in the United States. In 2002, Russell Stover was recognized for having the best-tasting toffee, chocolate covered cherries, fudge, truffles, nut bars, and sugar-free chocolates when the company was awarded six Gold Taste Awards by the prestigious American Culinary Institute. Wanting to ensure that all people could enjoy their delicacies, Russell Stover launched product lines for consumers with diabetes and those leading low-carb lifestyles in the early 2000s.

In 2014, Lindt & Sprungli—a manufacturer of premium chocolates worldwide—acquired Russell Stover Chocolates and Whitman’s Candies. Since then, the company has remained dedicated to its founding principles of quality and craftsmanship, ensuring that each piece of candy is a testament to the Stovers’ commitment to excellence.

On behalf of the 118th Congress, I would like to extend my warmest congratulations to Russell Stover Chocolates for having reached their centennial anniversary. Hand-crafting the finest chocolates in the heart of America, Russell Stover is an American success story worth celebrating on this historic milestone. Here’s to another hundred years of delicious chocolates and sweet memories.

HONORING BUCHANAN MILES

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 17, 2023

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Buchanan Miles for being named Vacaville Unified School District 2022–2023 Teacher of the Year.

Mr. Miles has been a teacher at Hemlock Elementary School for 21 years. Throughout the duration of his impressive career, Mr. Miles has taught kindergarten and grades fourth through sixth. He spends his free time before and after school lending a helping hand around campus. He is always one of the first teachers to arrive in the morning, and one of the last teachers to leave. Mr. Miles prioritizes and finds joy in connecting and building relationships with students and their families.

Mr. Miles is intent on creating a positive school culture. For Hemlock’s Harvest Festival, Mr. Miles hosts a yearly haunted house that is extremely popular with students and families with the proceeds going towards field trips for his students. He also runs Hemlock’s student council and assists the students with campaigning and speeches so they can share their vision with the student body. He loves

encouraging and supporting students to run for student government because of his strong belief in the need to empower students. Mr. Miles also places a high priority on building relationships with staff and faculty by organizing the staffs monthly luncheons.

Mr. Miles’ commitment to public service extends beyond Hemlock. Before becoming a teacher, Mr. Miles served his country in the Air Force. He continued to serve as a reservist while teaching for the first few years of his tenure with Vacaville Unified School District. He now shares his expertise by coaching the Color Guard for Vacaville High School, as well as three other high schools in the surrounding area. This year, he helped guide Vacaville High School to the bronze medal at the National Color Guard competition.

Mr. Speaker, teachers of Mr. Miles’ caliber are an exceptional asset to the students and families they serve. Therefore, it is fitting and proper that we honor him here today.

CONGRATULATING THE PACE FAMILY AND BROOKHAVEN MONUMENT COMPANY ON 75 YEARS OF SUCCESS

HON. MICHAEL GUEST

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 17, 2023

Mr. GUEST. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 75th year of distinguished service by a small business in the Third Congressional District of Mississippi—Brookhaven Monument Company. This also marks the 45th year that Mr. Dave Pace and the Pace family have operated the business.

Since 1947, Brookhaven Monument has served families throughout the state with honesty and empathy. Like so many other small businesses in Mississippi, Brookhaven Monument is family owned, creates jobs for its community, and provides exceptional service to its customers. Brookhaven Monument and Dave Pace have been a constant presence in Brookhaven and Southwest Mississippi. I commend them for their years of service and join with my fellow Mississippians in wishing them many more years of success.

RECOGNIZING PURPLE UP DAY AT BOURNE INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL

HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 17, 2023

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Bourne Intermediate School as the students celebrate Purple Up Day on April 15th during the Month of the Military Child.

April was first named the Month of the Military Child in 1986 by former Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger to recognize military children and the social and emotional challenges they face with frequent moves, starting at new schools, and having their parents deployed. Military families often move every 2 to 3 years, which can greatly impact children.

Combining the colors of all the service branches, Purple Up Day is the day during the month of April to wear purple and show support for the 1.6 million children with a parent serving in the military. This day allows us to celebrate and honor military children and the sacrifice they make for our country. With Joint Base Cape Cod located in the ninth district, many students in our community understand the challenges and sacrifices that come along with having a parent serve in the military.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor military children at Bourne Intermediate School and across our country. I ask that my colleagues join me in recognizing the resilience and strength that military children demonstrate each day as their parents serve our country.

HONORING ANITA KELLY

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 17, 2023

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Anita Kelly who is Vacaville Unified School District 2022–2023 Classified Employee of the Year.

Ms. Kelly has served as a dedicated and compassionate employee at Jepson Middle School counseling department for several years. Throughout her time at Jepson Middle School, Ms. Kelly’s range of skills and expertise have been a tremendous asset to students, teachers, and the school. Ms. Kelly’s institutional memory and talents are essential to keeping Jepson Middle School running smoothly. She goes above and beyond to assist others and helps teachers remain informed about their students in order to serve the student body and their parents more effectively.

Ms. Kelly is known to welcome new students and parents with a warm and inviting smile. Ms. Kelly’s role in translating for Spanish speaking students and parents allow all members of their school community to feel valued and connected.

Ms. Kelly also helps foster youth and students who are without a home to feel more comfortable and supported. Ms. Kelly prioritizes checking in with students and their families regularly, while monitoring their grades and progress to encourage student success.

Last year, Ms. Kelly supported the management of the virtual speech program to ensure that students could successfully access the resource. Even this year, she still maintains information for teachers involved in managing the virtual speech program. Ms. Kelly’s ability to effectively manage data provides the school with important information, including attendance and grades. This informs the school’s leadership about the work of the students and is crucial to guiding the school’s administration on which students may benefit from the school’s intervention program. For these reasons, she is an indispensable part of Jepson’s counseling department.

Mr. Speaker, employees of Ms. Kelly’s caliber are an exceptional asset to the students and families they serve. Therefore, it is fitting and proper that we honor her here today.

HONORING THE LIFE OF EDGAR T. PICKETT, JR.

HON. C. SCOTT FRANKLIN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 17, 2023

Mr. C. SCOTT FRANKLIN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Edgar T. Pickett, Jr. a servant and guardian of our Lakeland community who passed away peacefully with family by his side on April 6th. Edgar served our community for nearly 30 years as an officer with the Lakeland Police Department. He was a trailblazer in many ways, both as one of the Department's first black officers and as a pioneer in the field of forensics.

Edgar began his law enforcement career in 1954 at a time when segregation was still in effect in America. He persevered through many challenges, including when he was shot in the line of duty responding to a call in 1964. After surviving his ordeal, Edgar went on to become one of Polk County's first black detectives. In this new role, Edgar distinguished himself as a remarkable investigator. He taught himself fingerprinting, photography, evidence collection and how to identify bullets from evidence left at crime scenes. He converted his home kitchen into a dark room to develop his film and learned to develop photos professionally with the help of Duane Perkins' photography shop.

Edgar's remarkable skill set earned him a certification in forensic science and he became a fingerprint technician in 1973. He studied at the American Institute of Applied Sciences in Chicago and became a plain-clothes detective specializing in fingerprinting. Edgar would go on to develop Lakeland Police Department's first fingerprint filing system and worked with the FBI in 1980 to identify a local suspect threatening to assassinate President Jimmy Carter.

After nearly 30 years, Edgar retired in 1983 and continued consulting for various law enforcement agencies across Florida. In 2019, he returned to Lakeland Police Department to close a 38-year old cold case murder investigation he once worked on as a detective. The Lakeland Police Department named its fingerprinting lab after Edgar in honor of his diligent and nationally-recognized work.

He will be deeply missed by his family, his fellow officers and our community. On behalf of the 18th Congressional District of Florida, I thank Edgar T. Pickett, Jr. for his service and sacrifice. We will be forever grateful.

HONORING BRIAN LALINE

HON. NICOLE MALLIOTAKIS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 17, 2023

Ms. MALLIOTAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Brian Laline. Born on Staten Island, New York, married to Carol with three children: Christopher, Peter, and Kelly Anne and five granddaughters Olivia, Madeleine, Elle, Mila, and Katherine. Mr. Laline graduated from New Dorp High School and went on to receive his Bachelors in English at LaSalle University as well as a master's degree in education from Wagner College.

Mr. Laline taught High School English in Philadelphia before coming to the Advance as a reporter in 1972. He served various capacities as copy editor before being named editor in 1992. In 2015, Mr. Laline achieved executive editor at the Staten Island Advance.

Currently, Mr. Laline is an active member of the community, taking on roles such as Chairman of the Board of Directors at the St. George Restoration, Inc. where he received the "Georgie Award." Additionally, he served as Secretary of the Board of Trustees at the Snug Harbor Cultural Center and Botanical Garden. He is also a member of the Board of Directors for the College of Staten Island Foundation and Secretary of the Museum of Maritime Navigation and Communication. Previously he was a participant on several boards and organizations important to the Staten Island community such as the YMCA, Meals on Wheels, and Boy Scouts of America. He was also a founding member of The Italian Cultural Center at Casa Belvedere.

Proving to be an outstanding member of our district, Mr. Laline has been awarded many recognitions for his work both in education and in the community. These include several distinguished service awards from organizations such as The American Red Cross, the Center for Migration Studies, and the Boy Scouts of America. He has been recognized by the Juvenile Diabetes Foundation, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, the American Heart Association, the Zoologist Society, and the Rotary Foundation of Rotary International. Mr. Laline has also received the Community Resource Award, the Safe Harbor Award from the Society for Children and Families, the College of Staten Island Dolphin Award, the Teddy Award from the Teddy Atlas Foundation, the Richard M. Silberstein Award from Staten Island Mental Health, United Activities Unlimited Community Service Award, the Community Service Award from the Mission of the Immaculate Virgin, and the Community Service award from the Staten Island Board of Realtors.

Mr. Laline has been an exemplary member of the Staten Island community and leads by his example of volunteerism and constant acts of giving back. His lifelong love of education and career in editing has been supplemental to his dedication to volunteering and to these charities. Mr. Laline is the epitome of a New Yorker, constantly giving back to the neighborhood and continuing to champion for the streets that raised him.

I am proud to be honoring Mr. Laline and thanking him for all he has done for Staten Island.

HONORING PAST CHIEF AND CURRENT ASSISTANT CHIEF JON BARRETT

HON. BRANDON WILLIAMS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 17, 2023

Mr. WILLIAMS of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Past Chief and Current Assistant Chief Jon Barrett on attending his 10,000th alarm with the Cicero Volunteer Fire Department.

Chief Barrett grew up in a house across from Cicero Fire Station No. 1, he officially

joined the Cicero Volunteer Fire Department (CVFD) as a full member on August 1, 1996.

In the 27 years of his membership, Chief Barrett has held the firematic ranks of Captain, 2nd Assistant Chief, 1st Assistant Chief, Deputy Chief, and Chief of Fire. He has served as Vice President and President for the Corporation. Along with interior firefighter duties, he is a New York State Emergency Medical Technician Basic (EMT-B), and a New York State Fire Police Officer. He has served as the Cicero Fire District Building and Grounds Maintenance Employee and the Apparatus Maintenance Employee.

Chief Barrett has received the Onondaga County Volunteer Fireman's Association (OCVFA) Medal of Valor and Red Jacket Award, the Lt. Howard "Howie" Crowell Officer of the Year Award (2004), the Liberty Mutual Insurance Firemark Award, and the Central New York Emergency Medical Services (CNY EMS) Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) of the Year Award. On several occasions he has received the CVFD Top Responder award, Top Ten Responder award, Life Save award, and the Stork Pin for assisting in out-of-hospital births. Chief Barrett also serves as a member of the Firefighters Association of the State of New York (FASNY) on the Training Education Committee.

On December 23, 2022, Chief Barrett attended his 10,000th alarm since the CVFD started electronic alarm record keeping on January 1, 1998. His first alarm in that system was on January 2, 1998. In his nearly 27 years as a member, he has averaged over 373 alarms per year.

I commend Chief Jon Barrett for his dedication to protecting our community and congratulate him on his 10,000th alarm.

COMMEMORATING NATIONAL PEO WEEK

HON. ERIN HOUCHEIN

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 17, 2023

Mrs. HOUCHEIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate National PEO Week, which starts May 21 and ends May 27, 2023.

National PEO Week will celebrate the important contributions of the professional employer organization (PEO) industry, which provides payroll, employee benefits, compliance assistance, and HR services to hundreds of thousands of small and mid-sized businesses that employ more than 4 million people.

PEOs play a critical role in helping businesses survive and thrive, particularly during challenging times. In the dark days of the COVID pandemic, PEOs ensured that their clients stay afloat by securing PPP loans and loan forgiveness, managing employee leave, and applying for available tax credits. In fact, businesses that partner with a PEO were nearly 60 percent less likely to have permanently closed than those that did not use a PEO during the pandemic.

PEOs help small businesses improve productivity and profitability, focus on their core mission, and grow. Through a PEO, the employees of small businesses gain access to important employee benefits such as: 401(k) plans; health, dental, life, and other insurance; dependent care; other benefits they might not

typically receive as employees of a small company.

I can attest to the value of PEOs. Before coming to Congress, I worked for a PEO and saw firsthand the positive impact they had on small businesses in Indiana.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate the PEO industry for all they do to help our Nation's small businesses and their employees prosper.

HONORING MR. BERNARD E.
GROSSMAN

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 17, 2023

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, today I to honor the life of Mr. Bernard E. Grossman of Lexington, South Carolina, and offer my sympathy to his family.

I was honored to present Mr. Bernard E. Grossman with his Bronze Star Medal that he earned while serving as a Specialist Four in Phan Thiet, Vietnam on April 21, 1966. Mr. Grossman's platoon in Vietnam received heavy casualties from enemy fire. Specialist Grossman quickly took charge of the survivors, assisted the wounded, relayed the instructions of his platoon leader, and brought effective fire on the enemy positions. It was only after successful defeat of the enemy that he then informed his platoon leader of his wounds. We appreciate his great service and personal courage that was with the highest traditions of the military service. His valiant actions also reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the Army. I include in the RECORD the following obituary for Bernard E. Grossman:

Bernie Grossman, 77 of Lexington, SC passed away Thursday, March 30th peacefully at his home. Born in Rochester, New York, he worked over 35 years as an aerospace executive for Lockheed, Burbank, California, Fairchild Republic, Maryland and Long Island, and United Technology (United Space Booster), Cape Canaveral, Florida. His last position was with GE Middle River Aerospace running the trust reversal division where he retired in 2005. He served in Vietnam with the U.S. Army's 327th Infantry Brigade, 101st Airborne Division. He was awarded both the Purple Heart and the Bronze Star Metal for Valor.

He is survived by his loving wife of over 42 years Rosalind Grossman who he met and served with in the United Army Reserves at a Non-Commissioned Officer Academy as Instructors. He was an avid golfer and enjoyed traveling. Survivors also include his daughter, Jean Grossman, son, Michael Taylor, five grandchildren and one great-grandson all of California. Sister, Leah Ganoe and brother Samuel Grossman both of New York as well as numerous nieces, nephews from their blended family. There will be a celebration of life service 12 PM, Saturday, April 15th at Christian Life Church, 2700 Bush River Drive, Columbia, SC 29210. The family will hold visitation prior to the service from 11-11:45 AM In lieu of flowers, the family requests donation to: Harvest Hope Food Bank, P.O. Box 451, Columbia, SC 29202 in Bernie Grossman's name.

HONORING MINISTER ALFIE A.
JELKS

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 17, 2023

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a dedicated man of God, a selfless humanitarian, and a humble servant, Minister Alfie A. Jelks. Minister Jelks was honored at his annual event, The Soul of My Footprint Brunch Gala on April 15, 2023, in Columbus, Georgia.

The journey of Minister Alfie Jelks began with his birth on April 14, 1968, in Tuskegee, Alabama. Minister Jelks is a proud product of the Muscogee County School System, graduating from Kendrick High School in 1986. An avid learner, Minister Jelks also earned an Associate of Science Degree in 1995 from the Chattahoochee Community College. He also received a B.S. Degree in Theology from Troy University in 2005 and a Master of Divinity Degree in 2015 from Great Plains Baptist Divinity School. Building on his love of God and his country, Minister Jelks received his commission as a United States Army Reserve Chaplain in 2009.

In 2000, Minister Jelks began his humanitarian journey to Jinga, Uganda with and only one credit card and no personal ties to anyone there. From this initiative, The Soul of My Footprint was born. The Primary purpose of this initiative is the dissemination of provisional supplies of medicine, clothing, and basic care items for the people of Jinga, Uganda. Another mission of this wonderful organization is to provide scholarships to high school seniors who are philanthropic and plan to major in the fields of science, social services, education, theology, or non-profit work. Minister Jelks was moved by his faith to begin this ministry. His commitment to humankind has been based on Matthew 25 when Jesus said that He wanted to feed the hungry, clothe the naked and visit those that were in prison as the center of His ministry. Minister Jelks made subsequent trips to Uganda in 2001, 2007, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2019, 2021, and 2022. Through his continuous effort and labor of love, the Soul of My Footprint Hospital in conjunction with Cook Dental Care will open in the fall of 2023. Because of his gift of collaboration with many different organizations in Columbus, Georgia, over one thousand pairs of shoes have been donated to the people of Jinga.

As a man who is proud of his heritage, Minister Jelks opened Alfie's African Treasures, selling rare and unique African Artifacts and Greek Fraternal Paraphernalia. Always seeking ways to educate youth about their heritage, Minister Jelks established "Alfie's African Treasures Annual Cultural Show."

Minister Jelks has created many partnerships in the furtherance of his mission of cultural enhancement to include The Muscogee County School System, The Boys and Girls Clubs, Big Brother-Big Sisters of Columbus, The Wellness Center, Columbus State University African Student Organization, The Black History Museum, and The Anne Elizabeth Shepherd Home.

It has been said that, "The true person of success is not the person that climbs the ladder of this life with two hands but climbs the

ladder of this life with one hand and reaches back with the other." Minister Alfie Jelks has dedicated his life to the uplift of others by climbing the ladder of this life with "one hand and reaching back with the other."

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join my wife, Vivian and me, along with the 765,000 people of the 2nd Congressional District, in honoring Minister Alfie Jelks for his lifetime of service to God, his community and humankind. May God continue to rain down his richest blessings on this remarkable ministry. To God Be the Glory.

HONORING THE CAREER OF
ADMIRAL CECIL HANEY

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 17, 2023

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Admiral Cecil D. Haney for his distinguished 38-year career in the United States Navy. Admiral Haney blazed a trail as the first Black four-star submariner, the first Black Pacific Fleet commander, the first Black Strategic Command commander and the second Black four-star admiral in the history of the Navy.

Admiral Haney graduated from the United States Naval Academy in 1978. He holds a master's degree in Engineering Acoustics and System Technology from the Naval Post Graduate School and a master's degree in National Security Strategy from the National Defense University.

Admiral Haney received the Navy Distinguished Service Medal twice, the Defense Superior Service Medal three times, the Legion of Merit four times, the Navy Commendation Medal three times and the Navy Achievement Medal twice. Most recently, the United States Naval Academy Alumni Association honored him with the 2023 Distinguished Graduate Award.

Since his retirement from the Navy, in 2016, Admiral Haney has served in leadership roles for multiple organizations, including the Aerospace Corporation, General Dynamics, Tenet Healthcare and Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory. He is chairman of the Board of Directors for the Military Child Education Coalition. Admiral Haney has also served as a Blue and Gold Officer assisting applicants from predominantly underserved communities and currently serves as Naval Academy Foundation Board of Directors vice chairman. He is also on my Service Academy Selection Board.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to recognize Admiral Cecil Haney for his trailblazing career in the Navy and his incredible work in preparing the next generation of service members.

HONORING THE BRAVERY AND
SERVICE OF PRIVATE FIRST
CLASS JOHN J. KING

HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 17, 2023

Ms. STEFANIK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the service and recognize the bravery of

United States Army Private First Class John J. King.

John "JJ" King was born on March 22, 1920 in Troy, New York to Jennie and Herbert King. In 1940, at the age of 20, he enlisted in the United States Army. As a member of the Army's 36th Infantry Division during the Second World War, Private King was trained as a Rifleman and participated in campaigns across Europe, including the Naples-Foggia, Rhine-land, Rome-Arno, Sicily, and Southern France campaigns. After five years of active-duty service, Private King was honorably discharged in 1945 and returned home to Troy.

For his courageous service in combat, Private King was highly decorated. His recognitions include the American Defense Service Medal, the Bronze Star Medal, the European-African-Middle Eastern Service Medal with a Bronze Arrowhead, the Good Conduct Medal, and the Purple Heart.

Following his honorable discharge from the Army, Mr. King spent eight years working at the Allegheny Ludlum Steel Company. During that time, he continued his service to his community as an active member with both the Disabled American Veterans and the Civil Air Patrol. Mr. King was a devoted husband, son, and father; he regularly attended services at his local church and loved spending time with his wife, Josephine, and their three daughters. Sadly, in September of 1959, at the age of just 39, Mr. King passed away following a long decline in health. He was survived by his three children, five siblings, and his beloved wife.

Throughout his life, Mr. King showed exceptional dedication to his country, his community, and his family. On behalf of New York's 21st District, it is my honor to recognize the sacrifices and celebrate the courage of Private First Class John "JJ" King.

RECOGNIZING CONGREGATION KOL TIKVAH'S SISTERHOOD'S 25TH ANNUAL WOMAN OF VALOR HONOREE, DR. BARBARA WEINSTEIN

HON. JARED MOSKOWITZ

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 17, 2023

Mr. MOSKOWITZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Congregation Kol Tikvah's Sisterhood's 25th Annual Woman of Valor Honoree, Dr. Barbara Weinstein, and her significant contributions uplifting children and families in need in South Florida.

Barbara has dedicated her life to the support and enrichment of children. Following a career as a teacher, she joined Family Central as CEO in 1985. Since then, her mission has been to ensure South Florida's children are given a fair start in life. She has worked tirelessly to eliminate the increasingly long wait list for services, provide every family in need financial assistance with critical child-care services, and provide a support system for parents.

Barbara and her husband, the Honorable Peter Weinstein, have two sons, Andrew and Michael, and a daughter-in-law, Anne. She is the proud grandmother to Amanda, Matthew, and Daniella.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in celebrating Dr. Barbara Weinstein's outstanding contribu-

tions to the children and families of South Florida. She is truly an inspiration to us all, and we cannot thank her enough for committing her life's work to help so many in need.

RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE OF
GRAY BOBO

HON. RALPH NORMAN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 17, 2023

Mr. NORMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding service of Gray Bobo. Gray is a junior at Indian Land High School and currently serves as the President of the South Carolina Society of the Children of the American Revolution, the oldest patriotic youth organization in the Nation. Children of the American Revolution was founded in 1895 and trains civic-minded citizens, develops strong leaders, and promotes a love of our great Nation. As part of his role in the society, Gray participates in community service projects and learns about his American heritage. He also organized a state project called "Hanging on the Edge of Freedom" which supports learning about lesser-known battles and conflicts that took place in South Carolina during the American Revolutionary War.

Many of these lesser-known battles rallied support for the Patriot cause and served as important steppingstones to the Patriot victories that secured our Nation's independence. The courageous men who fought in these battles deserve to be remembered and recognized. Gray has been committed to raising awareness of Hanging Rock Battlefield Park with supporting its interpretive exhibits, leading efforts to clean up the grounds of existing graffiti, blazing hiking trails, and sharing the stories of the men who fought in battle.

Gray's leadership in the Children of the American Revolution organization and his dedication to this project has taught countless others about our rich history and the role South Carolina played in the American Revolution. He rightly believes one of the best ways we can maintain our freedom is by telling the stories of the conflicts, skirmishes, and battles in which our brave patriots first fought for independence. Gray is on track to raise \$25,000 for the project, including a \$10,000 competitive grant from the SC 250 commission.

On behalf of the 5th District of South Carolina, it is my most sincere pleasure to recognize Gray for his outstanding leadership and service to our state. I wish him the best of luck throughout his future endeavors, as I know he will continue to find great success in all that he does.

RECOGNIZING TERESITA BATAYOLA, 17-YEAR PRESIDENT AND CEO OF INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY HEALTH SERVICES

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 17, 2023

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Teresita Batayola for her

many years of service for International Community Health Services and to congratulate her on her retirement as ICHS President and CEO.

Teresita guided ICHS from only two neighborhood clinics to a regional health care network with eleven service sites. She also led ICHS through their COVID-19 pandemic response, navigating the implementation of testing sites and telehealth as well as vaccination. Her work has been instrumental in shaping ICHS into an organization that serves over 27,000 patients. Additionally, Teresita's community service is not limited to her work for ICHS. She has served as the Aging in PACE Washington Board President, was appointed by President Biden to the President's Advisory Commission on Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders, and has brought together local leaders to push back against anti-Asian hatred.

My staff and I have had the privilege of working with Teresita on many occasions. I recently joined Teresita for a tour of ICHS's International District Medical and Dental Clinic to see and discuss the work she and ICHS are doing for health care access and equity. I have also worked with Teresita to secure Community Project Funding for the AiPACE Adult Day Center and Clinic in Beacon Hill. As a leader and advocate for her community about healthcare and addressing social determinants of health, Teresita's work has benefited many, especially in refugee and immigrant communities.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Teresita Batayola for her career expanding healthcare access to diverse communities, and I wish her a happy retirement.

CONGRATULATING FEDEX FOR 50 YEARS IN MEMPHIS

HON. STEVE COHEN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 17, 2023

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Fred Smith and FedEx as we commemorate the 50th anniversary of the start of the company's operations in Memphis. Overnight delivery was the subject of an undergraduate term paper for Mr. Smith who notes that it earned an average grade. But he put the idea into Federal Express Corporation in Little Rock in 1971. On April 17, 1973, the company began operations in Memphis with 389 people and 14 planes and delivered 186 packages to 25 cities. Over the years, Federal Express became "FedEx" and became one of the largest and best known American-headquartered companies in the world. Many of my constituents, friends and colleagues go to work at its operations in Memphis every day, where it is the state's largest private employer. FedEx's work as a supporter of charities is legendary. It is a model for what a company can do for its community. I congratulate current and former FedEx team members and look forward to commemorating another 50 years—in Memphis.

CONGRATULATING **LISA LOCKHART OF CIRCLE, MONTANA FOR CAPTURING HER THIRD TITLE AT THE AMERICAN RODEO**

HON. MATTHEW M. ROSENDALE, SR.

OF MONTANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 17, 2023

Mr. ROSENDALE. Mr. Speaker, Montana rodeo competitors are the best in the world. In March 2023, Montana's own Lisa Lockhart demonstrated our state's rodeo prowess in front of 42,000 spectators at The American Rodeo, capturing her third national barrel racing title in the process.

Lisa attended high school in northeast Montana just up the road from my ranch in Glendive and displayed a natural talent for rodeo at an early age. Before joining the professional circuit, she distinguished herself as a student-athlete on the Montana State University rodeo team and raced on the family ranch with her two sisters.

Lisa dominates competitions nationwide, winning barrel racing competitions at the National Finals Rodeo in 2014 and 2016. But it wasn't until the founding of The American Rodeo in 2014 that her career really hit its stride.

Lisa made all of Montana proud when she brought home the inaugural barrel racing title at The American Rodeo. A feat only matched by her second victory the following year. Lisa's third victory this year solidifies her position as a barrel racing icon and serves as a reminder that she is an unrivaled talent in her sport.

All of Montana is grateful to Lisa for reaffirming our state's dominance in rodeo. Lisa's determination and grit will undoubtedly encourage many young Montanans to enter the arena and follow in her footsteps. I'll continue to watch her impressive career as she continues to cast a long shadow over rodeo.

I encourage everyone to join me in congratulating Lisa Lockhart for her third victory at The American Rodeo, and it is my privilege to acknowledge her achievements in the U.S. House of Representatives.

ALPHA KAPPA ALPHA SORORITY,
LAMBDA CHI OMEGA CHAPTER

HON. ED CASE

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 17, 2023

Mr. CASE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Lambda Chi Omega Chapter for its 45 years of dedication and commitment to the State of Hawaii and the Pacific Islands.

Founded on the campus of Howard University on January 15, 1908 in Washington, D.C., Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority is the oldest international Greek-letter service organization established by college-educated African American women, with over 300,000 members in over 1,000 chapters worldwide. Forty-five years ago, the women of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Lambda Chi Omega Chapter followed in their founders' footsteps to start a chapter in Hawaii.

Coined as the "First Chapter of the Pacific," Lambda Chi Omega established a legacy of leadership, service and community involvement that has significantly impacted the lives of the people of Hawaii. The vision, dedication and leadership of the founding members in establishing a legacy of sisterhood, scholarship and service continues to impact in Hawaii today.

The commitment to excellence and service by Lambda Chi Omega Chapter's founders is deeply rooted in the legacy of charter members Annie Briscoe, Sharon Brown, Dale Buffaloe, Bessie Crawford, Ella Edwards, Geraldine Hale, Barbara Hayman, Dorothy Henry, Barbara Jones, Sandi (Lakin) Sumbry, Lorene McLaurin, Georgette Moon, Ada Morgan, Virginia Payton, Lorna Peck, Donna Poindexter, Jane Sayles, Marjorie Singer, Edith Smith and Dennis Thompson.

Through their unwavering commitment to education, health, economic empowerment and social justice, the chapter's members have made an important difference in the lives of Hawaii's residents. In addition, their contribution to the community serves as a testament to the power of collective action and the positive impact that can be achieved when people come together for a common cause.

Additionally, we must pay tribute to Bettye Jo Harris, one of the chapter's pioneers and long-time community activist who has been a leading figure in the fight for civil rights and equality in Hawaii. Through her tireless work on behalf of all minorities, the underserved and the needy, she has spearheaded civil rights advances in Hawaii, and her contributions are worth commending here in the U.S. House of Representatives.

Today, I formally recognize the outstanding service and dedication of the members of the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Lambda Chi Omega Chapter. Let us all commend them for their tireless efforts and selfless commitment to making a positive impact in the lives of others, and let us all wish them continued success in all their endeavors.

RECOGNIZING CAPTAIN ADAN
"CHERRY" COVARRUBIAS

HON. DAVID G. VALADAO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 17, 2023

Mr. VALADAO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Captain Adan "Cherry" Covarrubias, the Commodore for Commander, Joint Strike Fighter Wing, at Naval Air Station Lemoore, on the occasion of his Change of Command and retirement. CAPT Covarrubias is a native of Buena Park, California, and received his Bachelor of Science degree in History from the United States Naval Academy in 1998. Two years later, in December 2000, he earned his Naval Aviator Wings of Gold. Over a Navy career spanning twenty-five years, CAPT Covarrubias has served his country with honor. During his first Fleet tour, he flew the F/A-18C Hornet with VFA-113 the "Stingers" at Naval Air Station Lemoore in California until 2005. During this tour, he deployed on board USS *Abraham Lincoln* with Carrier Air Wing Fourteen from 2002 to 2003, where he com-

pleted a 10-month combat deployment and flew combat missions during Operations SOUTHERN WATCH and ENDURING FREEDOM, and conducted opening night strikes during Operation IRAQI FREEDOM. In 2004 he completed a second deployment onboard USS *John C. Stennis* (CVN-74). CAPT Covarrubias completed several operational assignments, serving with VFA-125 the "Rough Raiders" in 2005 as an F/A-18 flight instructor; Carrier Air Wing Nine in 2007 as CAG landing signals officer and Assistant Operations Officer aboard USS *John C. Stennis* (CVN-74); and VFA-146 the "Blue Diamonds" in 2009 aboard USS *Ronald Reagan* (CVN-76). CAPT Covarrubias completed an assignment to the Joint Staff, J3 at the Pentagon where he served in the National Military Command Center from 2011 to 2013. He later was assigned to Navy Personnel Command in Millington, Tennessee where he managed all naval aviation manpower resourcing for commanders and below. CAPT Covarrubias commanded several strike fighter squadrons during his time in service. From 2014 to 2016, CAPT Covarrubias served as the executive officer and commanding officer of VFA-146 the "Blue Diamonds". During this tour he led the squadron to a successful transition from Legacy Hornets to Super Hornets, earning the coveted Carrier Air Wing Eleven Golden Wrench award, a top honor on the flight line. In 2018 he was assigned to Eglin Air Force Base to serve as the commanding officer of VFA-101 the "Grim Reapers" and led the deactivation efforts of the Navy's first F-35C Fleet Replacement Squadron. In 2019 CAPT Covarrubias returned to NAS Lemoore to take command of the Navy's F-35C Joint Strike Fighter training command, VFA-125 the "Rough Raiders". In 2020, CAPT Covarrubias was named Commodore of the Joint Strike Fighter Wing at NAS Lemoore, in command of all U.S. Navy F-35C squadrons. Under his leadership, a new \$100 million state-of-the-art aircraft hangar was opened in 2021 to house VFA-97 and VFA-147, the U.S. Navy's only F-35C fleet squadrons. CAPT Covarrubias also oversaw the U.S. Navy's first-ever forward deployment of the F-35C in 2021 with VFA-147 the "Argonauts" of Carrier Air Wing Two onboard USS *Carl Vinson*. CAPT Covarrubias earned several personal awards during his service including the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, four Meritorious Service Medals, three Air Medals (one with a combat "V"), four Navy Commendation Medals (one with a combat "V"), a Navy Achievement Medal, and various campaign, service, and unit awards. He has logged over 2,000 flight hours in the F-18 Legacy and Super Hornet as well as the F-35C. Not only is CAPT Covarrubias a highly decorated naval aviator, but he is also a fixture in the community—whether as a volunteer football coach for Sierra Pacific High School or serving on my office's Service Academy Nominations Board. CAPT Covarrubias exemplifies what it means to serve, and his dedication to our country is an inspiration to all Americans. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in celebrating and honoring Captain Adan "Cherry" Covarrubias during his Change of Command and for his years of service to our country.

HONORING BARBARA AND LOUIS PARREIRA

HON. JOHN S. DUARTE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 17, 2023

Mr. DUARTE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 20th anniversary of the Merced County Spring Fair's Little Hands Exhibit. Merced County is a rich agricultural region, providing the world nutritious, healthy, and safe food.

Merced County has celebrated our agricultural heritage, our youth, education, and our region since 1890, first as the Miller-Lux Picnic, evolving into the Merced County Spring Fair, one of the largest county fairs in California.

Merced County's success would not be possible without the tireless work of Barbara and Louis Parreira. For over 70 years, the Parreira's have volunteered their agricultural knowledge and know-how to educate our youth, establishing the Merced County Spring Fair Little Hands Interactive Exhibit with other community leaders.

Modeled after the Indiana State Fair's exhibit, the Little Hand Exhibit debuted in 2004, providing interactive, hands-on, agricultural experiences for children between the ages of 2 and 10.

Since its conception two decades ago, Little Hands has provided interactive learning experiences for over 15,000 children annually, with a total number of 300,000 unique experiences since its start in 2004.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in recognizing Barbara and Louis Parreira's efforts in starting Little Hands, their decades of volunteer work, and 20 years of agricultural education through the Little Hands' exhibit.

HONORING THE LIFE AND CAREER OF KEVIN HESCH

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 17, 2023

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sorrow and a heavy heart that I rise today to honor the impactful life and legacy of Mr. Kevin Hesch of Groton, Connecticut. Kevin tragically passed away at the heartbreaking young age of 39 on April 4, 2023, as the result of a motor vehicle accident. Mr. Speaker, as someone who knows his family, I can attest that they are good people, who are beloved by friends and coworkers. His passing is a tremendous loss for all who came into contact with the Hesch clan.

Kevin was a true blue southern New England success story. Born to loving parents Lori and Kurt Hesch of Groton, Kevin grew up in southeastern Connecticut. He attended Groton schools and graduated from Fitch High School in town before attending the UConn School of Business. After getting his degree, he followed his father's footsteps and began his stellar career at General Dynamics Electric Boat's Finance Department based in Groton, joining the ranks of our state's elite submarine ship-

yard and largest private employer. His contribution to Electric Boat's mission, to protect our Nation with unmatched undersea based deterrence, was unrivaled. The quality of his work was recognized with promotion after promotion, most recently with his designation as Manager of Finance.

It is worth sharing, Mr. Speaker, that Kevin had an even greater degree of loyalty to the roots he and his family had sewn together in their local community. Kevin met the love of his life, Heather, who he married in 2012. Together, they had brought into this world five children—Alexander, Mackenzie, William, Emilia and Abigail. Kevin's ability to be his own unique and loving character has already passed onto each of them. Though this is an arduous battle for the surviving family, we can find solace in his strength and dedication, which will ultimately pass the test of time through each and every one of them.

Mr. Speaker, Kevin was an outstanding individual. These tragedies are so harsh on a community, particularly considering all those that knew him from Fitch, UConn, Electric Boat, and his local community. We cannot hope to fill the void that is left in Kevin's place, which is why we are all the more thankful of how purposeful he was with his time and presence. His story and good-natured personality will surely live on through others. To further reflect the source of strength that he was before the local community, I ask that my colleagues join me in expressing our deepest condolences to his parents Lori and Kurt, his wife Heather, and his beautiful children at this time of sorrow.

COMMENDING THE STAFF AND STUDENTS AT CANYON RIDGE HIGH SCHOOL

HON. MICHAEL K. SIMPSON

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 17, 2023

Mr. SIMPSON. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to rise today alongside my esteemed colleagues, Senator MIKE CRAPO and Senator JAMES E. RISCH, to commend the students and staff of Canyon Ridge High School for their outstanding achievement in being named a National Banner School by Special Olympics. This recognition is a testament to the school's unwavering dedication to fostering a welcoming environment where all students, regardless of ability, are valued.

Canyon Ridge High School has demonstrated a commitment to excellence by meeting and surpassing the ten standards necessary to receive this prestigious award. Through the implementation of a three-component model, which includes Special Olympics Unified Sports, strong youth leadership, and whole school engagement, Canyon Ridge High School has truly set a high bar for education.

The school's commitment to Unified Sports, where students with and without intellectual disabilities play on the same team, is exceptional. From soccer in the fall, to basketball and bowling in the winter, and track and pickleball in the spring, these sports serve as a shining example of bringing people together.

Furthermore, Canyon Ridge High School's Student Council has shown outstanding lead-

ership by planning the 2022 Junior Prom, decorating the school for every holiday, planning assemblies, service projects, and other school-wide activities. The "Take the Lead" class, which allows students of all abilities to create a senior-like "passion project," is yet another example of the school's commitment to fostering leadership and empowerment among its students.

Finally, Canyon Ridge High School's whole school engagement efforts ensure that every student is part of the school's culture. From the "Pennies for Possibilities" service project to the school-wide assemblies that recognize the Unified Sports players and the "HAWK" Awards, all students are given the opportunity to feel valued and respected.

Mr. Speaker, I join my colleagues in commending the students and staff at Canyon Ridge High School for their tireless efforts in achieving this tremendous honor. They have truly set the standard for empowering education, and we are proud to recognize their achievement today.

OAK HILL 150TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. BRAD R. WENSTRUP

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 17, 2023

Mr. WENSTRUP. Mr. Speaker, I rise to celebrate the 150th Anniversary of the Village of Oak Hill, Ohio. Since its founding in 1873, the Village of Oak Hill has remained a pillar of Jackson County for nearly 2 centuries.

Six Welsh families found themselves stranded along the Ohio River in 1818, choosing to settle in the area Oak Hill was established in 1832 in the hopes that it could become the new Jackson County seat.

In the mid 1800s, the Village of Oak Hill became a Midwestern transportation hub, and included new switch railroad stations and new roads to connect the village to Portsmouth.

Throughout its storied history, the Village of Oak Hill thrived as a crossroads town, connecting people to new areas of the mid western region. I am honored to represent the Village of Oak Hill, an area of the state with such a rich history and strong community.

Again, I want to congratulate the Village of Oak Hill on celebrating its 150th Anniversary and recognize their historical significance in Southern Ohio. May they continue to prosper over the next 150 years.

HONORING MILJENKO "MIKE" GRGICH

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 17, 2023

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the founder of the Napa Valley's Grgich Hills Estate and the proclaimed "King of Chardonnay", Miljenko "Mike" Grgich as he and his family celebrate his milestone 100th birthday.

Mr. Grgich was born in 1923 in Croatia. He studied agronomy and chemistry at the University of Zagreb in Croatia, establishing himself as a talented student of his field and as

a bold critic of his home country's communist government. When Mr. Grgich was protesting the forced retirement of his professor, who spoke out against the Croatian government, he soon found out that he was also being monitored by the state's security forces. Upon this revelation, Mr. Grgich fled Croatia, migrating to Germany, and was eventually granted an American visa in 1958.

A year later, Mr. Grgich was hired at Beaulieu Vineyard as chief of quality control, effectively becoming one of Napa Valley's first quality control chemists. After years of being involved with other wineries, he broke ground on his own winery in 1977, which he named Grgich Hills. In 1996, nearly two decades after opening Grgich Hills, Mr. Grgich opened a small winery in his home nation of Croatia. This led to Mr. Grgich also having the opportunity to fulfill his academic goals, which he did by earning his master's degree in agronomy at the age of 74.

Because of his contributions to winemaking, Mr. Grgich was inducted into the Vinter Hall of Fame. Mr. Grgich is recognized to be among the first in California to use Millipore filters for wine, introducing the malolactic fermentation alongside world renowned Andre Tchelistcheff, utilizing oak barrels for proper aging, and developing French Wine commercial yeast. In 1976, Mr. Grgich participated in the Judgment of Paris wine tasting competition, resulting in the triumph of the 1973 Chardonnay he crafted for Napa Valley winery, Chateau Montelena. This victory helped Napa Valley to be recognized as a leader within the global wine community.

When people describe Mr. Grgich, they often mention his generous and loving personality. Mr. Grgich is known by our community to be a respected philanthropist who is dedicated to students. Mr. Grgich was instrumental in creating many scholarships: the Croatian Scholarship Fund in 1989, the Miljenko Grgich Wine Studies Scholarship in 2006, and the Miljenko "Mike" Grgich's American Dream Scholarship in 2014.

Mr. Speaker, it is fitting and proper that we recognize Miljenko "Mike" Grgich during his 100th birthday celebration and recognize the impact he has had for our community and many others.

TRIBUTE TO WARNER BROS. ENTERTAINMENT UPON THEIR 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 17, 2023

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 100th Anniversary of Warner Bros. Entertainment, Inc. headquartered in beautiful downtown Burbank, California.

Warner Bros. is a global leader in the creation, production, distribution, licensing and marketing of all forms of entertainment. As a Warner Bros. Discovery company, the Studio is home to one of the most successful collections of brands in the world with stories that stand the test of time, and is at the forefront of every aspect of the entertainment industry.

Warner Bros. began when the four Warner brothers—Albert, Sam, Harry and Jack L.—sons of Jewish immigrants from Poland, incor-

porated their fledgling movie company on April 4, 1923. In 1927, the release of "The Jazz Singer," the world's first feature film with synchronized dialog, singing sequences, music and effects, set a tone of creativity, courage, innovation and influence that would become synonymous with the name Warner Bros.

Today, Warner Bros. operates businesses in feature film, television, digital and home entertainment production and worldwide distribution, DVD and Blu-ray, animation, comic books, videogames, and product and brand licensing. The company's vast library, one of the most prestigious in the world, consists of more than 145,000 hours of programming, including 12,500 feature films and 2,400 television programs.

Since those early days, Warner Bros. has amassed an impressive legacy built on long-term relationships with many of the world's leading talent, and unwavering dedication to excellence. As the company celebrates its centennial throughout 2023, all of the Studio's businesses carry forth the mission started by the four Warner brothers—"celebrating every story."

I ask all Members of Congress to join me today in honoring Warner Bros. Entertainment Inc. for one hundred years of trailblazing achievements that have transformed entertainment and enriched the imagination of millions worldwide.

CELEBRATION OF STEVE SAWALICH, 2023 OLD KING COAL

HON. MIKE BOST

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 17, 2023

Mr. BOST. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Steve Sawalich of West Frankfort, Illinois, in recognition of his being crowned Old King Coal for 2023.

Started over 80 years ago, the Southern Illinois Old King Coal Festival celebrates the hard work of coal miners past and present, while highlighting the contributions the coal industry has made to our region.

Steve Sawalich, a former president of the Old King Coal Festival and a lifelong resident of West Frankfort, has a long history of service to his community. Not long after graduating high school, Mr. Sawalich began working in the Old Ben 21 Coal Mine in 1973, where he worked for 10 years.

Mr. Sawalich led the effort to create the first memorial to honor the 119 victims of the Orient No. 2 Mine Explosion of December 21, 1951. This new memorial was dedicated on July 4, 2020, in West Frankfort.

Mr. Sawalich recently retired after 40 years as a trusted hearing healthcare professional to thousands of our citizens, but he continues his service through volunteer work at the Starkey Hearing Foundation.

Mr. Sawalich is married to Camilla, and he has been blessed with two children, Brandon and Steven, and four grandchildren, Amelia, William, Jake, and Gianna.

This achievement is a fitting tribute for a man who has meant so much to so many. In fact, it was in large part through Mr. Sawalich's efforts that the Old King Coal Festival was revived in 2002; and he's a big reason it thrives today.

Please join me in recognizing Steve Sawalich, Old King Coal for 2023, and wish him continued success in strengthening his community for years to come.

HONORING SANTA ROSA JUNIOR COLLEGE AGRICULTURAL AND NATURAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 17, 2023

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Santa Rosa Junior College (SRJC) Agricultural and Natural Resources Department. SRJC is celebrating its 50th year of providing high-quality agricultural and natural resource education and certification opportunities in California's 4th Congressional District.

Founded in 1969 by professors John Edwards, Steve Olson, and Rich Thomas, the department has grown to serve approximately 2,700 students per year. Since its inception, the department has enabled 135,000 students to graduate with degrees and certifications in sustainable agriculture, animal science, natural resource conservation, agri-business, and viticulture. Many of those graduates have gone on to hold key leadership positions as college trustees, county department heads, owners of large agricultural enterprises, and board members of major commodity groups.

Since 1972, the department has operated Shone Farm, a 365-acre federal surplus property that was transformed into a hands-on learning laboratory for agriculture and natural resource students. The Shone Farm Foundation, the nonprofit operator of the Shone Farm Winery, grows 90-acres of premium wine grapes that are then sold to many North Coast wineries. Shone Farm recently became the center of operations for the SRJC's new Fire Resilient Training program which prepares student interns to combat wildfires in California and the country. Shone Farm has also been honored twice by the California Agricultural Teacher's Association as the top community college agriculture department in the state of California.

By producing such knowledgeable and experienced graduates in the field of agriculture, SRJC's programs have helped to strengthen our community's vibrant economy. Many of our business leaders in agriculture continue to donate and partner with the SRJC Foundation's Friends of SRJC Agriculture program. This program has raised millions of dollars for new farm improvements, department programs, and student scholarships.

Mr. Speaker, though their 50th anniversary celebration was delayed by the COVID pandemic, the Santa Rosa Junior College Agricultural and Natural Resources Department deserves to be commemorated for its impact on our district. Therefore, it is fitting and proper that we honor their half-century of work here today.

APPRECIATING PROSECUTOR
BENJAMIN FERENCZ

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 17, 2023

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, today I am grateful to honor the life of Prosecutor Benjamin Ferencz and offer my sympathy to his family. I along with Congresswoman Lois FRANKEL, co-led H.R. 6015, the Benjamin Berell Ferencz Congressional Gold Medal Act, which provided for the award of a Congressional Gold Medal to Mr. Ferencz in recognition of his service to the United States and the international community during the post-World War II Nuremberg trials and his lifelong advocacy for international criminal justice and the rule of law. The bill unanimously passed the House on May 10, 2022, and was signed into law in December. I am grateful for Mr. Ferencz's outstanding service and dedication to achieving international justice. I include in the RECORD the following obituary for Prosecutor Benjamin Ferencz:

In 2011, at the age of 92, the diminutive but indomitable Benjamin Ferencz rose to deliver the closing prosecution speech at the first trial ever heard before the international criminal court (ICC) in The Hague. Wearing black robes and a starched white neck band, the veteran lawyer, who had prosecuted Nazi mass murderers at the Nuremberg war crimes trials more than 60 years earlier, saluted a "historic moment in the evolution of international criminal law".

Granting Ferencz, who has died aged 103, the honour of appearing on the prosecution team—in the trial of a Congolese warlord—acknowledged the extraordinary role he had played in advancing the cause of international justice. The last surviving Nuremberg prosecutor, he had dedicated his life to campaigning, successfully, for the establishment of a permanent court—the ICC—to try the world's most serious crimes and for laws establishing the crime of aggression. Guided by his motto, "Law, Not War", Ferencz was still giving television interviews last year—arguing that those responsible for atrocities in Ukraine must be brought to trial.

His reputation rested on two criminal trials he conducted at the age of 27 before US military courts sitting at Nuremberg in 1947 after the second world war. At the time, he had no previous experience leading courtroom prosecutions.

His first case was against SS officers who organized the Einsatzgruppen mobile death squads operating in Nazi-occupied eastern Europe. An estimated two million people were shot or beaten to death and their bodies dumped in pits; the majority of the victims were Jewish.

The documentary evidence Ferencz assembled was so persuasive that he did not need to rely on witnesses. Opening his argument, Ferencz declared: "Vengeance is not our goal . . . we ask this court to affirm by international penal action man's right to live in peace and dignity." It was later dubbed the biggest murder trial in history.

Twenty-two of the 24 Einsatzgruppen defendants were found guilty of crimes against humanity. Fourteen were sentenced to death and four eventually hanged. Ferencz had not requested the death penalty.

His second Nuremberg trial, in which he appeared as special counsel, involved the Krupp armaments group, whose directors were accused of crimes against humanity and exploitation of 100,000 slave labourers.

Eleven directors were found guilty and served prison terms of between three and 12 years.

Ferencz was born in a Transylvanian village, Sămăcă Mare, which was then in Hungary and later became part of Romania. Shortly afterwards his parents, Sarah (nee Schwartz) and Joseph Ferencz, fled with their two children to the US to escape antisemitism.

Benjamin was raised in the Hell's Kitchen district of New York, an area then renowned for poverty and crime. He won a scholarship to Harvard law school, where he researched war crimes. In 1943, he enlisted as a soldier and fought his way from the Normandy beaches to the Battle of the Bulge. His legal experience resulted in his being called into General George Patton's headquarters, where he was reassigned as a war crimes investigator. In Buchenwald and other concentration camps, he saw piles of corpses and emaciated survivors. His first target, he later recalled, was to seize the death records and correspondence that provided the evidence used at Nuremberg. He was discharged after the war and returned to New York to practice law and marry Gertrude Fried. In 1946, however, he was recruited to join the American war crimes unit at the Nuremberg trials.

The couple spent the next decade in Germany, where four children were born and Ferencz worked alongside General Telford Taylor, lead prosecutor at the U.S. military tribunals. When the trials finished in 1949, Ferencz coordinated reparations claims for Jewish survivors' groups.

In 1956, he returned to New York and opened a law firm with Taylor, but later turned his attention to campaigning for a permanent international criminal court. He wrote legal and popular books, the last of which, *Make It Count*, an autobiography, was published earlier this year. One of Ferencz's greatest regrets was that the US consistently refused to ratify the ICC agreement and, in his words, repeatedly "tried to kill the idea".

International recognition of Ferencz's contribution came towards the end of his life. In his 90s, a path alongside the international court of justice in The Hague was named after him and a bench set up with the motto Law, Not War.

Ferencz identified the problem that international criminal law is a patchwork where offenders who commit atrocities often escape justice because many states have still not ratified international court statutes. His response was "Never give up!"

"He was inspiring precisely because in the face of all the horror, he somehow managed to be optimistic," Philippe Sands, professor of international law at University College, London, said.

Sir Geoffrey Nice, a war crimes prosecutor at the international criminal court for the former Yugoslavia, who also cooperated with Ferencz, paid tribute to the way in which he "turned the traumas he experienced . . . into an enduring determination to learn and teach from them".

Gertrude died in 2019. He is survived by his son, Don, who continued his father's work developing international jurisdiction for the crime of aggression, three daughters, Nina, Robin and Keri, and three grandchildren.

Benjamin Berell Ferencz, war crimes prosecutor, born 11 March 1920; died 7 April 2023.

INTRODUCTION OF THE SMALL BUSINESS TAX EQUITY ACT

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 17, 2023

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, today I introduced the Small Business Tax Equity Act. This legislation would create an exception to Internal Revenue Code Section 280E that allows businesses operating in compliance with state laws to take business-related deductions associated with the sale of marijuana just like any other legal business.

U.S. cannabis laws are broken and woefully outdated. Section 280E of the federal tax code prohibits anyone engaged in the purchase or sale of Schedule I or Schedule II substances from deducting their business expenses from their taxes. To date, 38 states have legalized medical or adult use marijuana in some form. However, marijuana is currently a Schedule I substance under federal law and therefore businesses operating in compliance with state law are not allowed to deduct the ordinary expenses of running a small business, like rent, utilities, and payroll. They cannot claim the Work Opportunity Tax Credit if they hire a veteran; they cannot depreciate their American-made irrigation equipment; and they cannot take any credit or deduction relating to construction or operation costs if they want to revitalize a building for their operations.

Prohibiting marijuana businesses from deducting their business expenses means that marijuana businesses often pay federal income tax rates that are orders of magnitude higher than non-marijuana businesses. Disallowing business expense deductions creates a disproportionate burden that can put small dispensaries out of business and prevents many small businesspeople from entering the industry in the first place.

The Small Business Tax Equity Act will finally allow state regulated marijuana businesses to deduct their business expenses on their federal taxes, restoring equity with other legal businesses and helping make the legal cannabis competitive.

I look forward to working with the original cosponsors, Representatives JOYCE, LEE, and MACE and my colleagues in the House and Senate to enact this legislation and end the harmful prohibition on tax deductions for state-legal cannabis businesses.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate of February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for

printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Tuesday, April 18, 2023 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

APRIL 19

9:30 a.m. Committee on Armed Services
Subcommittee on Cybersecurity
To hold hearings to examine artificial intelligence and machine learning applications to enable cybersecurity.

SR-222

Committee on Armed Services
Subcommittee on Emerging Threats and Capabilities
To hold closed hearings to examine the mission, activities, oversight, and budget of the All-Domain Anomaly Resolution Office; to be immediately followed by an open session in SR-232A.

SVC-217

10 a.m. Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs
To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2024 for the United States Agency for International Development.

SD-138

Committee on Environment and Public Works
To hold hearings to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2024 for the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

SD-406

Committee on Finance
To hold hearings to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2024 for the Internal Revenue Service and the IRS's 2023 tax filing season.

SD-215

Committee on Foreign Relations
To hold hearings to examine PEPFAR at 20, focusing on achieving and sustaining epidemic control.

SD-419

Committee on the Judiciary
To hold hearings to examine holding Russian kleptocrats and human rights violators accountable for their crimes against Ukraine.

SH-216

10:30 a.m. Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies
To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2024 for military construction and family housing.

SD-124

12 noon Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry
Subcommittee on Food and Nutrition, Specialty Crops, Organics, and Research
To hold hearings to examine SNAP and other nutrition assistance in the Farm Bill.

SR-328A

1:30 p.m. Committee on Armed Services
Subcommittee on Readiness and Management Support
To hold hearings to examine military construction, energy, installations, environmental, and base closure programs in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2024 and the future years defense program.

SR-232A

2:15 p.m. Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies
To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2024 for the Food and Drug Administration.

SD-124

3:45 p.m. Committee on Veterans' Affairs
To hold hearings to examine veterans consumer protection, focusing on preventing financial exploitation of veterans and their benefits.

SR-418

APRIL 20

8 a.m. Committee on Armed Services
To hold a closed session in SVC-217; to be immediately followed by an open hearing to examine the posture of United States Indo-Pacific Command and United States Forces Korea in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2024 and the future years defense program.

SD-G50

9:30 a.m. Special Committee on Aging
To hold hearings to examine dismantling barriers and building economic resilience for older workers.

SD-106

10 a.m. Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry
Subcommittee on Conservation, Climate, Forestry, and Natural Resources
To hold hearings to examine the Farm Bill, focusing on making conservation programs work for farmers and ranchers.

SR-328A

Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies
To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2024 for the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

SD-192

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources
To hold hearings to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2024 for the Department of Energy.

SD-366

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions
To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Julie A. Su, of California, to be Secretary of Labor.

SD-430

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs
To hold hearings to examine Government Accountability Office's 2023 High Risk List, focusing on recommendations for reducing waste, fraud, and abuse.

SD-562

APRIL 25

3:30 p.m. Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Legislative Branch
To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2024 for the Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper of the Senate and the United States Capitol Police.

SD-124

APRIL 26

10 a.m. Committee on Environment and Public Works
To hold hearings to examine opportunities to improve project reviews for a cleaner and stronger economy.

SD-406

APRIL 27

9:30 a.m. Committee on Environment and Public Works
Subcommittee on Chemical Safety, Waste Management, Environmental Justice, and Regulatory Oversight
To hold hearings to examine impacts of plastic production and disposal on environmental justice communities.

SD-406

MAY 3

10 a.m. Committee on Environment and Public Works
To hold hearings to examine the 2024 U.S. Army Corps of Engineers budget and implementation of Water Resources Development Act of 2022.

SD-406

POSTPONEMENTS

APRIL 19

2:30 p.m. Select Committee on Intelligence
To receive a closed briefing on certain intelligence matters.

SH-219

Daily Digest

HIGHLIGHTS

See Résumé of Congressional Activity.

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S1121–S1147

Measures Introduced: Seven bills and one resolution were introduced, as follows: S. 1165–1171, and S. Res. 158. Page S1134

Measures Reported:

Special Report entitled “Review of Legislative Activity during the 117th Congress”. (S. Rept. No. 118–8) Page S1134

Appointments:

Commission on Reform and Modernization of the Department of State: The Chair, on behalf of the Republican Leader, pursuant to Public Law 117–263, announced the appointment of the following individual to serve as member of the Commission on Reform and Modernization of the Department of State: Senator Hagerty. Page S1140

Plumb Nomination—Agreement: Senate resumed consideration of the nomination of Radha Iyengar Plumb, of New York, to be a Deputy Under Secretary of Defense. Pages S1121–29

During consideration of this nomination today, Senate also took the following action:

By 61 yeas to 26 nays (Vote No. EX. 83), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination. Pages S1128–29

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the nomination, post-cloture, at approximately 10 a.m., on Tuesday, April 18, 2023; that at 11:30 a.m., Senate vote on confirmation of the nomination; that if cloture is invoked on the nomination of Amy Lefkowitz Solomon, of the District of Columbia, to be an Assistant Attorney General, all post-cloture time be con-

sidered expired at 2:15 p.m., and Senate vote on confirmation of the nomination. Page S1140

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

Lisa Peterson, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Burundi.

Ana de Alba, of California, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Ninth Circuit.

Irma Carrillo Ramirez, of Texas, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Fifth Circuit.

1 Air Force nomination in the rank of general.

1 Navy nomination in the rank of admiral.

Routine lists in the Air Force, Army, Navy, and Space Force. Pages S1140–47

Messages from the House:

Pages S1133–34

Additional Cosponsors:

Pages S1134–35

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:

Page S1136

Additional Statements:

Pages S1131–33

Amendments Submitted:

Pages S1136–40

Privileges of the Floor:

Page S1140

Record Votes: One record vote was taken today. (Total—83) Page S1129

Adjournment: Senate convened at 3 p.m. and adjourned at 6:28 p.m., until 10 a.m. on Tuesday, April 18, 2023. (For Senate’s program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today’s Record on page S1140.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

No committee meetings were held.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 32 public bills, H.R. 2631–2662; and 4 resolutions, H. Res. 299–302, were introduced. **Pages H1758–59**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages H1761–62**

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows:

Committee on Oversight and Accountability. Authorization and Oversight Plans for All House Committees (H. Rept. 118–36); and

H. Res. 298, providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 734) to amend the Education Amendments of 1972 to provide that for purposes of determining compliance with title IX of such Act in athletics, sex shall be recognized based solely on a person's reproductive biology and genetics at birth, and providing for consideration of the joint resolution (H.J. Res. 42) disapproving the action of the District of Columbia Council in approving the Comprehensive Policing and Justice Reform Amendment Act of 2022 (H. Rept. 118–37). **Page H1758**

Journal: The House agreed to the Speaker's approval of the Journal by voice vote. **Page H1741**

Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe—Appointment: The Chair announced the Speaker's appointment of the following Members on the part of the House to the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe: Representatives Cohen, Cleaver, and Veasey. **Page H1732**

Migratory Bird Conservation Commission—Appointment: The Chair announced the Speaker's appointment of the following Member on the part of the House to the Migratory Bird Conservation Commission: Representative Thompson (CA). **Page H1732**

United States Group of the NATO Parliamentary Assembly—Appointment: The Chair announced the Speaker's appointment of the following Members on the part of the House to the United States Group of the NATO Parliamentary Assembly: Representatives Connolly, Sánchez, Larsen (WA), and Boyle (PA). **Page H1732**

Recess: The House recessed at 2:12 p.m. and reconvened at 5 p.m. **Page H1732**

Order of Business: Agreed by unanimous consent that it may be in order at any time on Thursday, April 27, 2023, for the Speaker to declare a recess, subject to the call of the Chair, for the purpose of receiving in joint meeting His Excellency Yoon Suk Yeol, President of the Republic of Korea. **Page H1732**

Recess: The House recessed at 5:44 p.m. and reconvened at 6:32 p.m. **Page H1739**

Suspensions: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures:

Upholding Sovereignty of Airspace Act: H.R. 1151, amended, to hold the People's Republic of China accountable for the violation of United States airspace and sovereignty with its high-altitude surveillance balloon, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ yea-and-nay vote of 405 yeas to 6 nays, Roll No. 183; and

Pages H1735–38, H1739–40

Condemning recent actions taken by the Russian military to down a United States Air Force drone: H. Res. 240, amended, condemning recent actions taken by the Russian military to down a United States Air Force drone, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ yea-and-nay vote of 410 yeas with none voting "nay", Roll No. 184. **Pages H1738–39, H1740–41**

Committee on Ethics—Appointment: The Chair announced the Speaker's appointment of the following Members of the House to be available to serve on investigative subcommittees of the Committee on Ethics for the 118th Congress: Representatives Bentz, Cline, Kim (CA), Lee (FL), Mann, Owens, Pence, Rose, Rouzer and Yakym. **Page H1744**

Suspension—Proceedings Postponed: The House debated the following measures under suspension of the rules. Further proceedings were postponed.

Countering Untrusted Telecommunications Abroad Act: H.R. 1149, amended, to establish certain reporting and other requirements relating to telecommunications equipment and services produced or provided by certain entities. **Pages H1733–35**

Quorum Calls—Votes: Two yea-and-nay votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H1740 and H1740–41.

Adjournment: The House met at 2 p.m. and adjourned at 9:48 p.m.

Committee Meetings

PROTECTION OF WOMEN AND GIRLS IN SPORTS ACT OF 2023; DISAPPROVING THE ACTION OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA COUNCIL IN APPROVING THE COMPREHENSIVE POLICING AND JUSTICE REFORM AMENDMENT ACT OF 2022

Committee on Rules: Full Committee held a hearing on H.R. 734, the "Protection of Women and Girls in Sports Act of 2023"; and H.J. Res. 42, disapproving

the action of the District of Columbia Council in approving the Comprehensive Policing and Justice Reform Amendment Act of 2022. The Committee granted, by a record vote of 8–3, a rule providing for consideration of H.R. 734, the “Protection of Women and Girls in Sports Act of 2023”, and H.J. Res. 42, disapproving the action of the District of Columbia Council in approving the Comprehensive Policing and Justice Reform Amendment Act of 2022. The rule provides for consideration of H.R. 734, the “Protection of Women and Girls in Sports Act of 2023”, 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 Education and the Workforce or their respective designees. The rule provides that an amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of Rules Committee Print 118–3 shall be considered as adopted and the bill, as amended, shall be considered as read. The rule waives all points of order against the amendment in the nature of a substitute to H.R. 734 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 provides one motion to recommit. The rule further provides for consideration of H.J. Res. 42, disapproving the action of the District of Columbia Council in approving the Comprehensive Policing and Justice Reform Amendment Act of 2022, under a closed rule. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the joint resolution. 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 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. Finally, the rule provides that pursuant to section 604(h) of the Home Rule Act, a motion to recommit is not in order to the joint resolution if under consideration while the act of the D.C. Council is within the congressional review period prescribed in section 602 of such Act. Testimony was

heard from Chairman Foxx, Chairman Comer, and Representatives Takano and Raskin.

BUSINESS MEETING

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence: Full Committee held a business meeting on a Resolution to consider non-HPSCI Member Access Request. The Resolution passed. This meeting was closed.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

NEW PUBLIC LAWS

(For last listing of Public Laws, see DAILY DIGEST, p. D253)

H.J. Res. 7, relating to a national emergency declared by the President on March 13, 2020. Signed on April 10, 2023. (Public Law 118–3)

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR TUESDAY, APRIL 18, 2023

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Defense, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2024 for the Air Force and Space Force, 10 a.m., SD–192.

Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2024 for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration and the National Science Foundation, 2:30 p.m., SD–192.

Committee on Armed Services: to hold open and closed hearings to examine the posture of the Department of the Navy in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2024 and the future years defense program, 9:30 a.m., SD–106.

Subcommittee on Airland, to hold hearings to examine army modernization in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2024 and the future years defense program, 2:30 p.m., SR–232A.

Subcommittee on Strategic Forces, to hold hearings to examine the Department of Energy’s atomic energy defense activities and Department of Defense nuclear weapons programs in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2024 and future years defense program, 4:45 p.m., SR–222.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Jared Bernstein, of Virginia, to be Chairman of the Council of Economic Advisers, Ron Borzekowski, of Maryland, to be Director, Office of Financial Research, Department of the Treasury, and Solomon Jeffrey Greene, of the District of Columbia, and David Uejio, of California, both to be an Assistant Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, 10 a.m., SD–538.

Committee on the Budget: to hold hearings to examine tax dodging by the wealthy and big corporations, 10 a.m., SD-608.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: to hold hearings to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2024 for the United States Forest Service, 10 a.m., SD-366.

Committee on Environment and Public Works: Subcommittee on Clean Air, Climate, and Nuclear Safety, to hold hearings to examine cleaner vehicles, focusing on consumers and public health, 2:30 p.m., SD-406.

Committee on Foreign Relations: to receive a closed briefing on Ukraine, 10 a.m., SH-219.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: to hold hearings to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2024 for the Department of Homeland Security, focusing on resources and authorities requested to protect and secure the homeland, 10 a.m., SD-562.

Committee on the Judiciary: to hold hearings to examine certain pending nominations, 10 a.m., SD-226.

Subcommittee on Intellectual Property, to hold hearings to examine foreign competitive threats to American innovation and economic leadership, 2:30 p.m., SD-226.

Select Committee on Intelligence: to receive a closed briefing on certain intelligence matters, 2:30 p.m., SH-219.

House

Committee on Agriculture: Subcommittee on Livestock, Dairy, and Poultry, hearing entitled "A Review of USDA Animal Disease Prevention and Response Efforts", 10 a.m., 1300 Longworth.

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies, budget hearing on the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives, 10 a.m., H-309 Capitol.

Subcommittee on Homeland Security, budget hearing on the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement Agency, 10 a.m., 2362-A Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies, budget hearing on the Department of Education, 10 a.m., 2358-C Rayburn.

Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs, budget hearing on the U.S. Agency for International Development, 10 a.m., 2359 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies, budget hearing on the Department of Housing and Urban Development, 10 a.m., 2358-A Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies, budget hearing on the Department of Commerce, 2 p.m., 2359 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Homeland Security, budget hearing on the Federal Emergency Management Agency, 2 p.m., 2358-A Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies, budget hearing on the Navy and Marine Corps Military Construction and Family Housing, 2 p.m., 2362-B Rayburn.

Committee on Armed Services: Full Committee, hearing entitled "U.S. Military Posture and National Security

Challenges in the Indo-Pacific Region", 10:30 a.m., 2118 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Strategic Forces, hearing entitled "FY24 Budget Request for Missile Defense and Missile Defeat Programs", 3 p.m., 2118 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Seapower and Projection Forces, hearing entitled "Air Force Projection Forces Aviation Programs and Capabilities Related to the President's 2024 Budget Request", 3:30 p.m., 2212 Rayburn.

Committee on Education and Workforce: Subcommittee on Early Childhood, Elementary, and Secondary Education, hearing entitled "School Choice: Expanding Educational Freedom for All", 10:15 a.m., 2175 Rayburn.

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Innovation, Data, and Commerce, hearing entitled "Fiscal Year 2024 Federal Trade Commission Budget", 10 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, hearing entitled "Insights from the HHS Inspector General on Oversight of Unaccompanied Minors, Grant Management, and CMS", 10:30 a.m., 2322 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Energy, Climate, and Grid Security, hearing entitled "American Nuclear Energy Expansion: Powering a Clean and Secure Future", 2 p.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Committee on Financial Services: Full Committee, hearing entitled "Oversight of the Securities and Exchange Commission", 10 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Subcommittee on the Middle East, North Africa, and Central Asia, hearing entitled "12 Years of Terror: Assad's War Crimes and U.S. Policy for Seeking Accountability in Syria", 10:30 a.m., 2200 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on the Indo-Pacific, hearing entitled "Surrounding the Ocean: PRC Influence in the Indian Ocean", 2 p.m., 2200 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Africa, hearing entitled "Great Power Competition in Africa: The Chinese Communist Party", 2:30 p.m., HVC-210.

Committee on Homeland Security: Subcommittee on Counterterrorism, Law Enforcement, and Intelligence, hearing entitled "The Homeland Security Cost of the Biden Administration's Catastrophic Withdrawal from Afghanistan", 10 a.m., 310 Cannon.

Committee on House Administration: Full Committee, hearing entitled "Looking Ahead Series: House Sergeant at Arms Strategic Plan for the 118th Congress", 10 a.m., 1310 Longworth.

Committee on Natural Resources: Subcommittee on Federal Lands, hearing entitled "Examining the Implementation of the Great American Outdoors Act and the Growing National Park Service Deferred Maintenance Backlog", 10:15 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

Subcommittee on Water, Wildlife and Fisheries, hearing on H.J. Res. 29, providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service relating to "Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Lesser Prairie-Chicken; Threatened Status With Section 4(d) Rule for the Northern Distinct Population Segment and Endangered Status for the

Southern Distinct Population Segment”; H.J. Res. 46, providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the National Marine Fisheries Service relating to “Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Regulations for Listing Endangered and Threatened Species and Designating Critical Habitat”; H.J. Res. 49, providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service relating to “Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Endangered Species Status for Northern Long-Eared Bat”; and H.R. 1213, the “RESCUE Whales Act of 2023”, 10:30 a.m., 1334 Longworth.

Committee on Oversight and Accountability, Select Subcommittee on the Coronavirus Pandemic, hearing entitled “Investigating the Origins of COVID-19, Part 2: China and the Available Intelligence”, 9:30 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on National Security, the Border, and Foreign Affairs, hearing entitled “Oversight of the Office of Resettlement’s Unaccompanied Alien Children Program”, 10 a.m., 2247 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Economic Growth, Energy Policy, and Regulatory Affairs, hearing entitled “Spending on Empty: How the Biden Administration’s Unprecedented Spending Increased Risk of Waste, Fraud, and Abuse at the Department of Energy”, 2 p.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Establishing an Independent NOAA”, 10 a.m., 2318 Rayburn.

Committee on Small Business, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Paying Their Fair Share: How Tax Hikes Crush the Competitiveness of Small Businesses”, 2 p.m., 2360 Rayburn.

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure Member Day”, 10 a.m., 2167 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation, hearing entitled “Review of Fiscal Year 2024 Budget Request for the Coast Guard”, 2 p.m., 2253 Rayburn.

Committee on Veterans’ Affairs, Subcommittee on Health, markup on H.R. 41, the “VA Same-Day Scheduling Act of 2023”; H.R. 562, the “Improving Veterans Access to Congressional Services Act of 2023”; H.R. 808, the “Veterans Patient Advocacy Act”; H.R. 754, the “Modernizing Veterans’ Health Care Eligibility Act”; H.R. 693, the “Veterans Affairs Medical Center Absence and Notification Timeline Act”; H.R. 1089, the “VA Medical Center Transparency Act”; H.R. 366, the “Korean American VALOR Act”; and H.R. 1256, the “Veterans Health Administration Leadership Transformation Act”, 10 a.m., 390 Cannon.

Subcommittee on Health, hearing entitled “Combating a Crisis: Providing Veterans Access to Live-saving Substance Abuse Disorder Treatment”, 10:30 a.m., 390 Cannon.

Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity, markup on H.R. 645, the “Healthy Foundations for Homeless Vet-

erans Act”; H.R. 728, to Direct the Assistant Secretary of Labor for Veterans’ Employment and Training to carry out a pilot program on short-term programs for veterans; H.R. 746, the “Streamlining Aviation for Eligible Veterans Act”; H.R. 1169, the “VA E-Notification Enhancement Act”; H.R. 1635, the “Filipino Education Fairness Act”; H.R. 1669, the “VET-TEC Authorization Act of 2023”; H.R. 1767, the “Student Veteran Benefit Restoration Act”; H.R. 1786, the “Get Rewarding Outdoor Work for our Veterans Act”; H.R. 1798, the “Protect Military Dependents Act”; and H.R. 1799, the “EMPLOY VETS Act”, 3 p.m., 390 Cannon.

Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee on Trade, hearing entitled “Hearing on Countering China’s Trade and Investment Agenda: Opportunities for American Leadership”, 2 p.m., 1100 Longworth.

CONGRESSIONAL PROGRAM AHEAD

Week of April 18 through April 21, 2023

Senate Chamber

On *Tuesday*, Senate will continue consideration of the nomination of Radha Iyengar Plumb, of New York, to be a Deputy Under Secretary of Defense, post-cloture, and vote on confirmation thereon at 11:30 a.m.

Following disposition of the nomination of Radha Iyengar Plumb, Senate will vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Amy Lefkowitz Solomon, of the District of Columbia, to be an Assistant Attorney General. If cloture is invoked on the nomination, Senate will vote on confirmation thereon at 2:15 p.m.

Following disposition of the nomination of Amy Lefkowitz Solomon, Senate will vote on the motion to invoke cloture on S. 870, Fire Grants and Safety Act.

During the balance of the week, Senate may consider any cleared legislative and executive business.

Senate Committees

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry: April 19, Subcommittee on Food and Nutrition, Specialty Crops, Organics, and Research, to hold hearings to examine SNAP and other nutrition assistance in the Farm Bill, 12 noon, SR-328A.

April 20, Subcommittee on Conservation, Climate, Forestry, and Natural Resources, to hold hearings to examine the Farm Bill, focusing on making conservation programs work for farmers and ranchers, 10 a.m., SR-328A.

Committee on Appropriations: April 18, Subcommittee on Defense, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2024 for the Air Force and Space Force, 10 a.m., SD-192.

April 18, Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2024 for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration and the National Science Foundation, 2:30 p.m., SD-192.

April 19, Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2024 for the United States Agency for International Development, 10 a.m., SD-138.

April 19, Subcommittee on Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2024 for military construction and family housing, 10:30 a.m., SD-124.

April 19, Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2024 for the Food and Drug Administration, 2:15 p.m., SD-124.

April 20, Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2024 for the Department of Housing and Urban Development, 10 a.m., SD-192.

Committee on Armed Services: April 18, to hold open and closed hearings to examine the posture of the Department of the Navy in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2024 and the future years defense program, 9:30 a.m., SD-106.

April 18, Subcommittee on Airland, to hold hearings to examine army modernization in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2024 and the future years defense program, 2:30 p.m., SR-232A.

April 18, Subcommittee on Strategic Forces, to hold hearings to examine the Department of Energy's atomic energy defense activities and Department of Defense nuclear weapons programs in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2024 and future years defense program, 4:45 p.m., SR-222.

April 19, Subcommittee on Cybersecurity, to hold hearings to examine artificial intelligence and machine learning applications to enable cybersecurity, 9:30 a.m., SR-222.

April 19, Subcommittee on Emerging Threats and Capabilities, to hold closed hearings to examine the mission, activities, oversight, and budget of the All-Domain Anomaly Resolution Office; to be immediately followed by an open session in SR-232A, 9:30 a.m., SVC-217.

April 19, Subcommittee on Readiness and Management Support, to hold hearings to examine military construction, energy, installations, environmental, and base closure programs in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2024 and the future years defense program, 1:30 p.m., SR-232A.

April 20, Full Committee, to hold a closed session in SVC-217; to be immediately followed by an open hearing to examine the posture of United States Indo-Pacific Command and United States Forces Korea in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2024 and the future years defense program, 8 a.m., SD-G50.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: April 18, to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Jared Bernstein, of Virginia, to be Chairman of the Council of Economic Advisers, Ron Borzekowski, of Maryland, to be Director, Office of Financial Research, Department of the Treasury, and Solomon Jeffrey Greene, of the District of Columbia, and David Uejio, of California, both to be an Assistant Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, 10 a.m., SD-538.

Committee on the Budget: April 18, to hold hearings to examine tax dodging by the wealthy and big corporations, 10 a.m., SD-608.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: April 18, to hold hearings to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2024 for the United States Forest Service, 10 a.m., SD-366.

April 20, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2024 for the Department of Energy, 10 a.m., SD-366.

Committee on Environment and Public Works: April 18, Subcommittee on Clean Air, Climate, and Nuclear Safety, to hold hearings to examine cleaner vehicles, focusing on consumers and public health, 2:30 p.m., SD-406.

April 19, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2024 for the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, 10 a.m., SD-406.

Committee on Finance: April 19, to hold hearings to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2024 for the Internal Revenue Service and the IRS's 2023 tax filing season, 10 a.m., SD-215.

Committee on Foreign Relations: April 18, to receive a closed briefing on Ukraine, 10 a.m., SH-219.

April 19, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine PEPFAR at 20, focusing on achieving and sustaining epidemic control, 10 a.m., SD-419.

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: April 20, to hold hearings to examine the nomination of Julie A. Su, of California, to be Secretary of Labor, 10 a.m., SD-430.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: April 18, to hold hearings to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2024 for the Department of Homeland Security, focusing on resources and authorities requested to protect and secure the homeland, 10 a.m., SD-562.

April 20, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine Government Accountability Office's 2023 High Risk List, focusing on recommendations for reducing waste, fraud, and abuse, 10 a.m., SD-562.

Committee on the Judiciary: April 18, to hold hearings to examine certain pending nominations, 10 a.m., SD-226.

April 18, Subcommittee on Intellectual Property, to hold hearings to examine foreign competitive threats to American innovation and economic leadership, 2:30 p.m., SD-226.

April 19, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine holding Russian kleptocrats and human rights violators accountable for their crimes against Ukraine, 10 a.m., SH-216.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: April 19, to hold hearings to examine veterans consumer protection, focusing on preventing financial exploitation of veterans and their benefits, 3:45 p.m., SR-418.

Select Committee on Intelligence: April 18, to receive a closed briefing on certain intelligence matters, 2:30 p.m., SH-219.

Special Committee on Aging: April 20, to hold hearings to examine dismantling barriers and building economic resilience for older workers, 9:30 a.m., SD-106.

House Committees

Committee on Agriculture: April 19, Full Committee, hearing entitled “For the Purpose of Receiving Testimony from the Honorable Michael Regan, Administrator, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency”, 10 a.m., 1300 Longworth.

Committee on Appropriations: April 19, Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies, budget hearing on the National Science Foundation, 9:30 a.m., H-309 Capitol.

April 19, Subcommittee on Homeland Security, budget hearing on the U.S. Coast Guard, 10 a.m., 2008 Rayburn.

April 19, Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies, budget hearing and oversight hearing on the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Administration for Strategic Preparedness and Response, and National Institute of Health, 10 a.m., 2358-C Rayburn.

April 19, Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies, budget hearing on the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, 1:30 p.m., 2359 Rayburn.

April 19, Subcommittee on Homeland Security, budget hearing on the U.S. Customs and Border Protection Agency, 2 p.m., 2008 Rayburn.

April 20, Subcommittee on Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies, budget hearing on the Air Force and Space Force Military Construction and Family Housing, 9 a.m., 2362-B Rayburn.

April 20, Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies, budget hearing on the Department of Transportation, 10 a.m., 2359 Rayburn.

Committee on Armed Services: April 19, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Department of the Army Fiscal Year 2024 Budget Request”, 10 a.m., 2118 Rayburn.

April 19, Subcommittee on Tactical Air and Land Forces, hearing entitled “Fiscal Year 2024 Rotary Wing Aviation Budget Request”, 3 p.m., 2118 Rayburn.

April 19, Subcommittee on Readiness, hearing entitled “Fiscal Year 2024 Budget Request for Military Readiness”, 3:30 p.m., 2212 Rayburn.

Committee on Education and Workforce: April 19, Subcommittee on Workforce Protections, hearing entitled “Examining Biden’s War on Independent Contractors”, 10:15 a.m., 2175 Rayburn.

Committee on Energy and Commerce: April 19, Subcommittee on Health, hearing entitled “Examining Existing Federal Programs to Build a Stronger Health Work-

force and Improve Primary Care”, 10 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

April 19, Subcommittee on Communications and Technology, hearing entitled “Breaking Barriers: Streamlining Permitting to Expedite Broadband Deployment”, 10:30 a.m., 2322 Rayburn.

April 19, Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, hearing entitled “Who is Selling Your Data: A Critical Examination of the Role of Data Brokers in the Digital Economy”, 2 p.m., 2322 Rayburn.

Committee on Financial Services: April 19, Subcommittee on Digital Assets, Financial Technology and Inclusion, hearing entitled “Understanding Stablecoins’ Role in Payments and the Need for Legislation”, 10 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

April 19, Subcommittee on Capital Markets, hearing entitled “A Roadmap for Growth: Reforms to Encourage Capital Formation and Investment Opportunities for All Americans”, 2 p.m., 2128 Rayburn.

Committee on Foreign Affairs: April 19, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Exposing Putin’s Crimes: Evidence of Russian War Crimes and Other Atrocities in Ukraine”, 10:30 a.m., HVC-210.

April 20, Subcommittee on Global Health, Global Human Rights, and International Organizations, hearing entitled “China’s Political Prisoners: Where’s Gao Zhisheng?”, 10 a.m., 2200 Rayburn.

Committee on Homeland Security: April 19, Full Committee, hearing entitled “A Review of the Fiscal Year 2024 Budget Request for the Department of Homeland Security”, 10 a.m., 310 Cannon.

Committee on House Administration: April 20, Subcommittee on Elections, hearing entitled “American Confidence in Elections: Ensuring Every Eligible and Interested American Has the Opportunity to Vote—and for Their Ballot to Count According to Law”, 8:30 a.m., 1310 Longworth.

Committee on the Judiciary: April 19, Full Committee, markup on legislation on the Border Security Enforcement Act of 2023; and H. J. Res. 44, providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives relating to “Factoring Criteria for Firearms with Attached ‘Stabilizing Braces’”, 10 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Committee on Natural Resources: April 19, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Examining the President’s FY 2024 Budget Request for the Department of the Interior”, 10 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

Committee on Oversight and Accountability: April 19, Full Committee, hearing entitled “The Biden Administration’s Disastrous Withdrawal from Afghanistan, Part I: Review by the Inspectors General”, 10 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

April 19, Subcommittee on Cybersecurity, Information Technology, and Government Innovation; and Subcommittee on Oversight of the House Committee on House Administration, joint hearing entitled “Data Breach at the DC Health Exchange”, 2 p.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, April 19, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Protecting American Taxpayers: Highlighting Efforts to Protect Against Federal Waste, Fraud, and Mismanagement”, 10 a.m., 2318 Rayburn.

Committee on Small Business, April 19, Subcommittee on Oversight, Investigations, and Regulations, hearing entitled “Office of Inspector General Reports to Congress on Investigations of SBA Programs”, 10 a.m., 2360 Rayburn.

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, April 19, Subcommittee on Aviation, hearing entitled “FAA Reauthorization: Examining the Current and Future Challenges Facing the Aerospace Workforce”, 10 a.m., 2167 Rayburn.

Committee on Veterans’ Affairs, April 19, Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, hearing on H.R. 592, the “Department of Veterans Affairs Electronic Health Record Modernization Improvement Act”; H.R. 608, to terminate the Electronic Health Record Modernization Program of the Department of Veterans Affairs; H.R.

1658, the “Manage VA Act”; H.R. 1659, the “Department of Veterans Affairs IT Modernization Improvement Act”; and H.R. 2499, the “VA Supply Chain Management System Authorization Act”, 9:30 a.m., 390 Cannon.

April 19, Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs, markup on pending legislation, 3:30 p.m., 1334 Longworth.

Committee on Ways and Means, April 19, Full Committee, markup on H. J. Res 39, 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”, 9 a.m., 1100 Longworth.

April 19, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Hearing on the U.S. Tax Code Subsidizing Green Corporate Handouts and the Chinese Communist Party”, 10 a.m., 1100 Longworth.

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, April 19, Subcommittee on Central Intelligence Agency, hearing entitled “Central Intelligence Agency Budget Hearing”, 2 p.m., HVC-304 Hearing Room. This hearing is closed.

Résumé of Congressional Activity

FIRST SESSION OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS

The first table gives a comprehensive résumé of all legislative business transacted by the Senate and House. The second table accounts for all nominations submitted to the Senate by the President for Senate confirmation.

DATA ON LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITY

January 3 through March 31, 2023

	Senate	House	Total
Days in session	44	46	..
Time in session	203 hrs., 08'	185 hrs., 56'	..
Congressional Record:			
Pages of proceedings	1112	1,696	..
Extensions of Remarks .....	..	286	..
Public bills enacted into law	30	1	..
Private bills enacted into law .....	..	..	..
Bills in conference .....	..	..	..
Measures passed, total	78	94	172
Senate bills	10	1	..
House bills .....	..	43	..
Senate joint resolutions .....	..	..	..
House joint resolutions	4	5	..
Senate concurrent resolutions .....	..	..	..
House concurrent resolutions	3	7	..
Simple resolutions	61	38	..
Measures reported, total	*28	32	60
Senate bills	10	..	..
House bills .....	..	19	..
Senate joint resolutions .....	..	..	..
House joint resolutions .....	..	1	..
Senate concurrent resolutions .....	..	..	..
House concurrent resolutions .....	..	3	..
Simple resolutions	18	9	..
Special reports	6	..	..
Conference reports .....	..	..	..
Measures pending on calendar	29	18	..
Measures introduced, total	1,348	2,796	4,144
Bills	1,159	2,442	..
Joint resolutions	24	49	..
Concurrent resolutions	8	32	..
Simple resolutions	157	273	..
Quorum calls	1	1	..
Yea-and-nay votes	82	77	..
Recorded votes .....	..	104	..
Bills vetoed .....	..	1	..
Vetoos overridden .....	..	..	..

*These figures include all measures reported, even if there was no accompanying report. A total of 7 written reports have been filed in the Senate, 32 reports have been filed in the House.

DISPOSITION OF EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS

January 3 through March 31, 2023

Civilian nominees, totaling 238, disposed of as follows:	
Confirmed	37
Unconfirmed	199
Withdrawn	2
Other Civilian nominees, totaling 838, disposed of as follows:	
Unconfirmed	838
Air Force nominees, totaling 907, disposed of as follows:	
Confirmed	826
Unconfirmed	81
Army nominees, totaling 2,592, disposed of as follows:	
Confirmed	2,409
Unconfirmed	183
Navy nominees, totaling 160, disposed of as follows:	
Confirmed	85
Unconfirmed	75
Marine Corps nominees, totaling 1,084, disposed of as follows:	
Confirmed	1,028
Unconfirmed	56
Space Force nominees, totaling 352, disposed of as follows:	
Confirmed	352
<i>Summary</i>	
Total nominees carried over from the First Session	0
Total nominees received this Session	6,171
Total confirmed	4,737
Total unconfirmed	1,432
Total withdrawn	2
Total returned to the White House	0

Next Meeting of the SENATE
10 a.m., Tuesday, April 18

Senate Chamber

Program for Tuesday: Senate will continue consideration of the nomination of Radha Iyengar Plumb, of New York, to be a Deputy Under Secretary of Defense, post-cloture, and vote on confirmation thereon at 11:30 a.m.

Following disposition of the nomination of Radha Iyengar Plumb, Senate will vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Amy Lefkowitz Solomon, of the District of Columbia, to be an Assistant Attorney General. If cloture is invoked on the nomination, Senate will vote on confirmation thereon at 2:15 p.m.

Following disposition of the nomination of Amy Lefkowitz Solomon, Senate will vote on the motion to invoke cloture on S. 870, Fire Grants and Safety Act.

(Senate will recess following the vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Amy Lefkowitz Solomon, until 2:15 p.m. for their respective party conferences.)

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
10 a.m., Tuesday, April 18

House Chamber

Program for Tuesday: Consideration of Veto Message to Accompany 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’”.

Extensions of Remarks, as inserted in this issue

HOUSE

Bishop, Sanford D., Jr., Ga., E312, E315
Blumenauer, Earl, Ore., E320
Bost, Mike, Ill., E319
Case, Ed, Hawaii, E317
Cleaver, Emanuel, Mo., E312
Cohen, Steve, Tenn., E316
Courtney, Joe, Conn., E318
Duarte, John S., Calif., E311, E318

Franklin, C. Scott, Fla., E314

Guest, Michael, Miss., E313
Houchin, Erin, Ind., E314
Keating, William R., Mass., E313
Mallioakis, Nicole, N.Y., E314
Moskowitz, Jared, Fla., E316
Norman, Ralph, S.C., E311, E316
Norton, Eleanor Holmes, The District of Columbia, E315
Rosendale, Matthew M., Sr., Mont., E311, E317

Schiff, Adam B., Calif., E319

Simpson, Michael K., Idaho, E318
Smith, Adam, Wash., E316
Stefanik, Elise M., N.Y., E315
Thompson, Mike, Calif., E312, E313, E313, E318, E319
Valadao, David G., Calif., E317
Wenstrup, Brad R., Ohio, E318
Williams, Brandon, N.Y., E314
Wilson, Joe, S.C., E311, E315, E320



Congressional Record

printed pursuant to directions of the Joint Committee on Printing as authorized by appropriate provisions of Title 44, United States Code, and published for each day that one or both Houses are in session, excepting very infrequent instances when two or more unusually small consecutive issues are printed one time. ¶ Public access to the *Congressional Record* is available online through the U.S. Government Publishing Office, at www.govinfo.gov, free of charge to the user. The information is updated online each day the *Congressional Record* is published. For more information, contact the GPO Customer Contact Center, U.S. Government Publishing Office. Phone 202-512-1800, or 866-512-1800 (toll-free). E-Mail, contactcenter@gpo.gov. ¶ To place an order for any of these products, visit the U.S. Government Online Bookstore at: bookstore.gpo.gov. Mail orders to: Superintendent of Documents, P.O. Box 979050, St. Louis, MO 63197-9000, or phone orders to 866-512-1800 (toll-free), 202-512-1800 (D.C. area), or fax to 202-512-2104. Remit check or money order, made payable to the Superintendent of Documents, or use VISA, MasterCard, Discover, American Express, or GPO Deposit Account. ¶ Following each session of Congress, the daily *Congressional Record* is revised, printed, permanently bound and sold by the Superintendent of Documents in individual parts or by sets. ¶ With the exception of copyrighted articles, there are no restrictions on the republication of material from the *Congressional Record*.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to the Superintendent of Documents, *Congressional Record*, U.S. Government Publishing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402, along with the entire mailing label from the last issue received.