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House of Representatives

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

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
April 25, 2023.

I hereby appoint the Honorable ANTHONY D'ESPOSITO to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

KEVIN MCCARTHY,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

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

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

RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE OF THE HONORABLE BUD SHUSTER

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

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, for nearly three decades, Chairman Bud Shuster represented the people of central Pennsylvania here in the Halls of Congress.

After leaving Congress in 2001, Chairman Shuster returned home to Bedford County, Pennsylvania, where he remained active in his service, teaching at a university level, working on his farm, and spending time with those he loved.

When I first decided to run for office, I called Bud and asked him for his advice. For the next hour, he talked to me about what an honor it is to serve in the United States Congress, what an honor it is to sit in committee, what an honor it is to work on the issues that matter most to the families in Pennsylvania.

Bud Shuster ran unopposed for his seat eight times in the decades that he served, a testament to how much the communities that he represented cared for him and recognized that they would have no greater champion in Washington.

For 6 years, Chairman Shuster held the gavel on the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, where he fought to build roads, bridges, and waterways that Americans still rely on each and every day.

His drive and determination helped to bring our infrastructure into the 21st century, paving the way for innovation and new development in Pennsylvania and across the United States.

When I would drive home to Pennsylvania on Interstate 99, the road that Bud Shuster built and the road that bears his name, I would often call the former chairman and, once again, ask for his advice. We would talk about his farm, what votes had occurred, and when votes were upcoming the next week.

I will miss those calls, and all of us will miss the man known simply as Mr. Chairman.

Over 4 billion trips are taken on American highways each year, and each one of those travelers owes a certain amount of respect to the commitment that Bud Shuster showed to transportation and infrastructure in America.

Personally, my wife, Alice, and I will miss Mr. Chairman and miss what he did for those of us in central Pennsylvania.

YOUR SPEAKER OR YOUR SENIORS

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

Ms. CROCKETT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today appalled by the Speaker's debt ceiling bill. Right now, the Speaker stands alone, threatening to not pay bills we owe to advance his personal policy preferences.

If we don't pay our bills, there will be catastrophic consequences for everyone. The interest rate would skyrocket, making it nearly impossible to afford a home or car and closing opportunities for upward mobility for millions of Americans.

The stock market will crater as investors lose faith in the ability of our government to perform even the most basic function because of the Speaker's bill. The result would be millions of Americans' retirement accounts wiped out.

For years, the threat of such economic catastrophe historically made even the threat of default off-limits, but the Speaker knows that what he has is an extreme minority in his caucus and that what he wants is deeply unpopular, so he is trying to hold our government hostage.

He stands alone because he knows that no Democrat will support this ransom, so he needs each and every Republican to fall in line behind him.

I hope my colleagues on the other side of the aisle know that their constituents are watching, watching to see who their Representative came to Congress to fight for, your Speaker or your seniors.

The Speaker's bill will add additional work reporting requirements for seniors in their fifties in order to receive basic food assistance. Across the country, there are no less than 3 million

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seniors who could lose food assistance because of this bill.

My colleagues must make a choice: your Speaker or your seniors.

Because everything in D.C. is filled with jargon, I want to pause for a moment to make sure we all understand who the Speaker's bill is targeting.

The people the Speaker is targeting are seniors in their fifties who don't even have $6 a day for food. That is all SNAP pays, $6 a day for food, but the Speaker's bill would deny even that paltry aid to hundreds of thousands of our constituents.

Soon, those on the other side of the aisle must decide who matters more to them, your Speaker or your seniors.

Make no mistake: This isn't about getting people to work. If you worked twice what was required, a full 40-hour week at minimum wage, which, frankly, is most of what is on the table for these seniors, you would still be on SNAP.

The only way the Speaker's bill saves money, which he does say, is if people have their benefits stripped away, if seniors go hungry.

Each of my colleagues must ask who matters more, your Speaker or your seniors?

The Speaker's bill will kick seniors off SNAP rolls. Many seniors can't find a job at all because they face age discrimination. There is a reason that current law exempts those over 49. To expect them to have the same odds of finding a job as a young recipient is callous and cruel.

Ask yourselves, who did you come to Congress to serve, your Speaker or your seniors?

Even though the bill is only supposed to apply to able-bodied adults without dependents, that claim is laughable.

Many of our constituents in their fifties are grandparents. They have childcare responsibilities even if the child isn't their dependent. Requiring them to neglect their grandchild or else go hungry is cruel and heartless.

I hope my colleagues ask themselves who they came to Congress to serve, your Speaker or your seniors, because so many seniors will go hungry if the Speaker's bill becomes law.

As the pandemic SNAP policies are ending, State agencies are responsible for updating participants' information so those eligible for assistance don't go hungry, but in many States, no outreach or only perfunctory outreach was performed.

My concern is that if the Speaker's bill becomes law, tens of thousands of seniors who think they aren't subject to these reporting requirements will suddenly find themselves without benefits. If for any reason these seniors are denied benefits under the Speaker's bill, they will be ineligible for food assistance for the next 3 years.

When we vote on this bill, we will be voting on a very simple question: support your Speaker or support your seniors.

The burden lies with each of my colleagues on the other side of the aisle. It is within your range, your power, to protect our seniors.

Right now, the Speaker stands alone with a deeply unpopular proposal. Each of my colleagues on the other side of the aisle is asked to starve our seniors. If that is the policy of this House, that responsibility will be entirely on your shoulders.

The choice is now yours. Quite simply, each Republican must answer the question: Who do you fight for, your Speaker or your seniors?

RECOGNIZING AARON WARNER

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

Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Aaron Warner, CEO of ProCircular Inc., in Coralville, Iowa, who was named Iowa's 2023 Small Business Person of the Year.

Mr. Warner founded ProCircular in 2016 with the goal of being a dedicated cybersecurity and compliance firm, offering analysis, testing, governance, risk management, and compliance services. In the company's first year, its revenue grew over 200 percent and has continued to grow steadily year over year. The company now has 69 full-time staff and 19 interns.

In addition to running a booming small business, Mr. Warner is also heavily involved in his community. He volunteers with a number of different organizations, including the Technology Association of Iowa, the Iowa City Area Development Group, Junior Achievement, Rotary International, and the March of Dimes. He and his wife also started a trust to provide scholarships to students in need.

Mr. Warner is truly a pillar of his community and very deserving of this honor. I look forward to seeing what the future holds as his business and activism in southeast Iowa continue to grow.

RECOGNIZING POLICE CANINE KILO

Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize police canine Kilo, of the Indianola Police Department, for assisting in a drug bust during his first week of being on patrol with his handler, Officer Treyton Nixon.

As the newest member of the Indianola Police Department, Kilo made an immediate impact by helping find over 7 grams of methamphetamine during a traffic stop.

A canine's keen sense of smell helps them to detect items that a human officer might miss, especially drugs and bombs. In a time when record levels of illicit narcotics are pouring in through our southern border and killing American citizens, poisoning them with synthetic fentanyl, it is increasingly important that police departments utilize every resource available to keep their communities safe.

I hope Kilo sets the example and proves the need for canine units across our police forces, including at the border. If one canine officer could handle this drug bust in Indianola, imagine what a full squad could accomplish at our ports of entry.

Thank you, Kilo, for your service to the city of Indianola. We wish him and the rest of the Indianola Police Department the very best in the future.

MONITORING MISSISSIPPI RIVER FLOODING

Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to discuss major flooding in seven counties in southeast Iowa along the Mississippi River.

I appreciate Governor Reynolds' efforts to protect these communities, and I encourage residents in these areas to stay cautious.

Each year, as snow north of Iowa melts, it floods the communities along the Mississippi River in Iowa. While these floods can be devastating, we are lucky to be able to predict the severity of floods each year.

In Davenport, crews have been working 24-hour shifts at pump stations for over a week to protect their 9 miles of the riverfront.

As we continue to monitor the flooding, I remain grateful for the close eye of the Governor's office, disaster resources, and the United States Army Corps of Engineers' efforts to ensure pumps are working flawlessly.

I also appreciate the University of Iowa Flood Center to be able to monitor and sense rising waters.

My office remains open as a resource if southeast Iowans are in need of assistance. Together, we can again power through this flooding season.

I want to take a moment to wish a very happy birthday to my sister, Mariette Stanson.

Happy birthday, Mariette.

RECOGNIZING THREE HEROES OF GUAM

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

Mr. MOYLAN. Mr. Speaker, I will take some time this morning to recognize three heroes of Guam who are celebrating milestone birthdays this month.

First, there is Mr. Troy Moylan, who is an icon within the business community of Guam. A proud son, husband, father, brother, and family man, Troy continues a tradition of the insurance industry, which is synonymous with the Moylan name in Guam and within the Pacific region.

A healthcare czar who has advanced the medical insurance industry in Guam, ensuring greater care for women and children and expanding services to regions with indigent communities, he has helped grow Guam's economy by creating jobs and increasing investments. His generosity to the people of Guam has been evident in many great causes and organizations.

Troy is a great conservative, a decent man, and a proud fan of the Pittsburgh Steelers.

□ 1215

Secondly, I recognize Daniel and David Taitano, also known as the Dinga's. Just to place it on the record, the term ''dinga''' refers to twins. These two heroes have served the people of Guam in the capacities of firefighter and customs officer.

Daniel is a longtime firefighter in Guam and has placed himself in harm's way to protect his community. From battling wildfires to reassuring individuals in unsafe conditions to delivering kids in ambulances as an EMT, this hero is an icon in Guam.

Daniel is famous for ensuring that his brothers and sisters in the fire stations are well fed, as he is a renowned cook. Daniel is also a decent man, a proud son, a good sibling, and certainly a favorite uncle to numerous nieces and nephews. He is also a fan of the Pittsburgh Steelers.

His brother David has been protecting Guam's community and our borders as a lieutenant in the Guam Customs and Quarantine Agency for many years. His efforts have resulted in the interception of drugs and other contraband entering the island, and he has worked diligently to protect Guam's economy through the seizure of counterfeit goods.

David has placed himself in harm's way too many times, but he has always stated that it was for the betterment of his community and his island. He is also a decent man, a proud son, a good sibling, and another favorite uncle. This fan of the Dallas Cowboys continues to strive to protect our island.

From these historic and sacred Halls of democracy, and on behalf of a thankful Nation and the island of Guam, I thank Troy, Daniel, and David for their service to our community and wish them a happy birthday.

RECOGNIZING THE PFC JOSEPH P. DWYER PEER SUPPORT PROGRAM

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

Mr. LALOTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to draw attention to a critical veterans program that has been helping veterans in my district for years. The PFC Joseph P. Dwyer Peer Support Program is a program that helps veterans deal with the invisible scars of war, including PTSD.

This program was named after Iraq war veteran Army Private First Class Joseph Dwyer, a native of Mount Sinai, New York. After years of struggling with PTSD and addiction, PFC Dwyer passed away. He tried to seek help, but it was never enough.

As a Navy veteran myself, I understand the difficulties many of our servicemembers face when they return home.

I recently introduced the PFC Joseph P. Dwyer Peer Support Program Act to help nationalize an important program that has been incredibly successful in my district. This program has a proven track record of success in helping veterans deal with their mental health issues in a safe and welcoming environment among their fellow veterans.

My bipartisan bill would provide grants for State and local entities across the country to make the program easily accessible to all Americans.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to support this commonsense bill to help our veteran community.

CALLING FOR THE RELEASE OF KAI LI

Mr. LALOTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call on the Chinese Communist Party to release Kai Li of Huntington Station, who has been unjustly held as a prisoner by the CCP since 2016.

Mr. Li immigrated to the United States from China decades ago and soon after became a United States citizen.

For years, Mr. Li visited China to see relatives and conduct business, never having an issue. Yet, in 2016, while Mr. Li was visiting Shanghai for the anniversary of his mother's passing, he was apprehended by Chinese police at the Shanghai airport. Mr. Li's secret trial ended in just an hour, and he was sentenced to 10 years in prison for espionage.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Li is being detained unjustly and for purely political reasons.

On March 17, I sent a letter to Secretary Blinken urging him to do everything possible to bring Mr. Li home. I again urge President Biden, Secretary Blinken, and Ambassador Burns to bring Kai Li home. He and his family have suffered long enough. Let's bring him home.

THE THREAT OF THE CHINESE COMMUNIST PARTY

Mr. LALOTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to highlight the growing threat coming from the Chinese Communist Party.

For too long, the Chinese Communist Party has been allowed to grow and spread its influence throughout the world. They have encroached on Taiwan's territorial sovereignty. They have developed in and around the Paracel and Spratly Islands, continuing to falsely claim their control over the South China Sea. They have supercharged the Belt and Road Initiative to spread their influence. They continue to lie to the world about COVID–19. The list goes on, Mr. Speaker.

Every day, we read stories of the CCP's attempt to become the dominant power in the Indo-Pacific and around the world.

Mr. Speaker, we must act in a bipartisan manner to address the threats from the Chinese Communist Party before it is too late.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF SERGEANT NEIL HORN

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

Mr. STAUBER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and service of Sergeant Neil Horn, who dedicated 8 years of his life to service of his country in the United States Marine Corps.

Sergeant Horn spent most of his career in the U.S. Marines traveling the world as a security guard to defend the U.S. embassies where he was stationed.

In 2002, Neil served in antiterrorism capacities in North Africa, and part of his job was to train marines in door-to-door combat and enhanced marksmanship. He was also an instructor for combat water survival.

Sergeant Horn spent 14 years working in diplomatic security for the State Department, where he was engaged in a wide array of investigations, including human trafficking, terrorism, counterintelligence, the location and return of U.S. fugitives, large scale visa fraud, and passport and identity fraud. Most notably, Sergeant Horn played an integral part in reestablishing the United States Embassy in Cuba.

His country is forever grateful for the sacrifice that he and his family have made for this great Nation. May he rest in eternal peace.

CONGRATULATING AVA LOWMAN

Mr. STAUBER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Ava Lowman of Cambridge-Isanti High School for being selected as a 2023 Triple A Award State scholarship recipient.

This prestigious award, established in 1988, highlights high school seniors across the State of Minnesota for their hard work and dedication to their academics, art programs, and athletic endeavors.

Ava has earned an impressive GPA of 4.36 while participating in the band and choir, being the speech team captain, and a member of the tennis and track and field teams.

Additionally, Ava is considered a leader in her school's Link Crew program, where she and other students assist ninth graders with the transition into high school.

Ava plans on going to college while continuing to participate in tennis, speech, and music.

It is with great honor that I recognize Ava's achievements thus far, and it makes me proud to have such a distinguished young lady represent the great Eighth District of Minnesota.

I congratulate her and wish her good luck in her future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF CAROL ALSTROM

Mr. STAUBER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life of Carol Alstrom, who dedicated 34 years of her life to teaching our youth.

Carol received her teaching degree in physical education and health from Bemidji State University where she competed in track, volleyball, softball, and hockey and was inducted into BSU's Athletic Hall of Fame.

She was known for her larger-than-life personality and her generous and

caring demeanor. Her style of teaching was ahead of her time. Carol understood the importance of teaching her students valuable skills that could be transferred into the real world. She wanted to help her students become model citizens and would monitor their progress throughout their life.

Carol was an athletics enthusiast and true pioneer in women's sports, starting Tower-Soudan's girls' volleyball, basketball, swimming, and track programs. She introduced countless students to cross-country skiing, Rollerblading, and pickleball.

Carol went above and beyond to make sure her student athletes always had the equipment they needed. From buying new Adidas sneakers for the volleyball team to collecting golf clubs for the golf team, no one was underequipped.

It takes a special kind of person to draw over 200 attendees to honor their life. Carol was that kind of special person. Former students, the children of former students, coworkers, and friends gathered to celebrate the life of Carol Alstrom and to exchange lasting memories that she imprinted on each one of them.

The Tower-Soudan School gym was decorated in purple and gold to commemorate Carol's love for the Minnesota Vikings and her Tower-Soudan Golden Eagles.

A permanent memorial will be installed outside of the Tower-Soudan School in her honor.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Carol for her lifetime of service, and may she rest in peace.

RECOGNIZING NATIONAL TRAVEL AND TOURISM WEEK

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

Mr. BEAN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, the secret is out. People have discovered the beauty of Amelia Island and Nassau County.

I rise today to recognize National Travel and Tourism Week in my neck of the woods, in Nassau County, Florida. I want to congratulate and celebrate everyone who is in the tourism industry.

Seventy percent of Nassau County's economy comes from visitors. Some say they come for the great beaches, parks, or golf, but the real secret sauce is the warm southern hospitality.

Tourism is the largest creator of jobs and tax dollars in Nassau County. This week is a chance to celebrate our tourism community and highlight the people who work in this important sector.

Through their customer service and positive interactions with visitors, they are helping promote Amelia Island and Nassau County not only as a top 10 island destination but as a beloved destination for travelers to make memories.

Today, it is fitting that on its 40th anniversary, we recognize May 7 through May 13, 2023, as National Travel and Tourism Week in Nassau County, Florida.

RECOGNIZING THE 170TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE DUVAL COUNTY MEDICAL SOCIETY

Mr. BEAN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 170th anniversary of the Duval County Medical Society, a remarkable organization that has greatly improved the medical community and health of northeast Florida.

In the 1800s, Jacksonville was suffering from a series of outbreaks of smallpox, dengue fever, and malaria. Struggling to come up with a solution and with no public health system in the State, a group of eight local physicians decided to come together and do something about it.

On May 25, 1853, they chartered the Duval County Medical Society, the first medical society in the State of Florida, to bring physicians together to solve the public health crisis.

Today, the Duval County Medical Society's more than 1,800 members guided by Dr. Steven Kailes, continues to lead and research data to promote quality health outcomes throughout Duval County, the State of Florida, and the Nation.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor and privilege to celebrate the voice of organized medicine, the Duval County Medical Society, on their 170 years of exceptional service.

RECESS

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

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 28 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1400

AFTER RECESS

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

PRAYER

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

Holy God, the reports of war, sadly, are not just rumors. For the people of Sudan, war is once again their reality. We pray Your peace over Khartoum and throughout Sudan.

Sovereign Lord, call each leader and citizen to turn from evil and do good. Establish among them a lasting truce between the opposing sides so that no just cause is dishonored but each person is held accountable for wrongdoing.

In You only can peace be found from the rampant abuses and widespread deception. In You only will the Sudanese people emerge from the horrific shortage of food, fuel, and water.

Ensure that other nations in their proximity are not inclined to become entangled in the dispute between Sudan's warring factions. Remain the judge between the nations. Settle the disputes of the peoples within their country's borders, that the region would know peace.

By Your power, would that all beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks, that none would know war anymore.

O God of peace, we cry to You once again, sure of the power of Your name to answer our prayers.

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 of rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. THOMPSON) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania 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.

RECOGNIZING BUSINESS IN SOUTH CAROLINA

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, as the United States has only 5 percent of the world population, the remaining 95 percent are job opportunities for South Carolina.

Last year, the Palmetto State achieved $32 billion in net export sales. The top industries included: vehicles, nuclear reactors, plastics, aircraft, and rubber tires. South Carolina exports reached 196 countries, topped by Canada, Germany, Mexico, and South Korea.

The State leads in export sales of motor vehicles with $10 billion from BMW, Volvo, and Mercedes-Benz. Additionally, South Carolina is a leading manufacturer and exporter of tires by Michelin, Bridgestone, Giti, Continental, and Trelleborg.

In 2020, over 4,400 companies in South Carolina exported goods, creating 116,000 jobs, promoted by Governor Henry McMaster and Commerce Secretary Harry Lightsey.

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.

Welcome to President Yoon Suk Yeol of South Korea who will address Congress on Thursday as a champion for democracy.

RECOGNIZING REVEREND DR. FREDERICK D. HAYNES III

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

Ms. CROCKETT. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to recognize Reverend Dr. Frederick D. Haynes III, who is celebrating 40 years of being pastor at Friendship-West Baptist Church.

As a dynamic and influential teacher of God's word, he has remained a beacon of hope for many in Dallas and across our country.

Joining Friendship-West as pastor in 1983, the church's membership has grown tremendously, starting with just under 100 members and now serving over 12,000.

As a servant leader, he has embedded himself in our communities. He has remained at the forefront of empowering underserved people while taking the lead in advocating for issues such as voting rights, fair lending practices, just food policies, and criminal justice reform. That is just the tip of the iceberg.

Through the years, Pastor Haynes has remained faithful to the assignment God has called him to.

As a member of Friendship-West, his friend, and his Congresswoman, I couldn't be any prouder of the work he is doing as he continues to challenge the status quo and redefine what it means to be a pastor.

I congratulate Pastor Haynes on 40 years as pastor and your lifetime of service to our community.

RECOGNIZING THE OTTO-ELDRED HIGH SCHOOL AGRICULTURE SCIENCE PROGRAM

(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 in recognition of the world-class agriculture science program and FFA at the Otto-Eldred High School in McKean County, Pennsylvania.

Last week, I had the honor of visiting the amazing students and faculty at Otto-Eldred High School where agriculture is a staple of their home economics program. Founded just 3 years ago, the new agriculture program features a greenhouse, engine lab, life science lab, welding booth, woodshop, and even an agribusiness lab.

At Otto-Eldred, agricultural education goes beyond the classroom. In addition to the astonishing 75 percent of the students enrolled in agriculture science, the school's Future Farmers of America chapter membership compromises almost 70 percent of the entire student body. This fantastic success is a testament to the excellence and the commitment of the school administrators and faculty at Otto-Eldred.

As chairman of the House Agriculture Committee and a senior member of the Education and the Workforce Committee, I know just how important agricultural education is to the success of our Nation.

I commend the students, faculty, and administrators that make this outstanding agricultural education possible, and thank them for the opportunity to experience it firsthand.

CALLING FOR THE RESIGNATION OF SECRETARY PETE BUTTIGIEG

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

Mr. COLLINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call for Secretary Pete Buttigieg to resign for failing to do his job. He has taken the Department of Transportation from efficient and effective to woke and divisive. Instead of keeping Americans safe, tackling supply chain challenges, and modernizing transportation systems, he is flying all over the country on private jets to talk about race and gender. Looks to me like he is campaigning for President on the taxpayers' dime.

I know it sounds like I am being hard on the Secretary, but I do have some questions.

He recently asked Congress for $20 million to buy female dummies to use in safety tests. How many total genders is he going to request for? We are already funding two dummies. Now, he is asking for a third. What is the total going to be? Forty? Fifty? This is a slippery slope.

Secretary Pete needs to resign so someone else can take the wheel at the DOT. America needs fewer dummies, not more.

THE FIGHT AGAINST TRIPLE-NEGATIVE BREAST CANCER

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

Mrs. LESKO. Mr. Speaker, I rise to discuss an issue that has impacted far too many women across the United States, triple-negative breast cancer, or TNBC.

One in eight women in the United States will develop breast cancer in her lifetime. In Arizona, there will be approximately 6,240 new breast cancer-related cases just this year.

TNBC is an invasive breast cancer that accounts for 10 to 15 percent of all breast cancers. Unfortunately, TNBC tends to grow and spread faster than any other cancer, has fewer treatment options, and tends to have a worse prognosis.

Researchers at the University of Arizona have been working to create a less toxic treatment for TNBC, and a new study has provided clues about potential new approaches to treatment.

This is good news in the fight against cancer, but we must continue to invest in research and innovation to combat TNBC and protect women.

RECOGNIZING THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF ISRAEL

(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 recognize one of America's greatest allies, the State of Israel.

Tomorrow, Israel will celebrate its 75th anniversary. As a Representative of New York's 17th Congressional District, which is home to one of the largest Jewish populations in the country, I stand here with a deep sense of pride and honor for all that Israel has accomplished.

Israel is a beacon of freedom, liberty, and hope, and its success is testament to the resilience of its citizens. For 75 years, the State of Israel has stood strong, overcoming countless challenges and emerging as a leader in technology, science, and diplomacy.

As a staunch supporter of Israel, I am proud to stand with this great nation and its people. I have seen firsthand the impact that Israel has had on the world, from its many contributions to medical research to its efforts to promote peace in the Middle East.

Israel's story is one of courage, determination, and hope. I look forward to joining Speaker MCCARTHY in Israel as we celebrate the momentous occasion of their 75th anniversary later this week.

Let us never forget that Israel's strength lies in its people, a people who have overcome adversity time and time again.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SMITH of Nebraska). 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 13 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1600

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. LALOTA) at 4 p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

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

ADVANCED, LOCAL EMERGENCY RESPONSE TELECOMMUNICATIONS PARITY ACT

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1353) to direct the Federal Communications Commission to issue rules for the provision of emergency connectivity service, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1353

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 ''Advanced, Local Emergency Response Telecommunications Parity Act'' or the ''ALERT Parity Act''.

SEC. 2. EMERGENCY CONNECTIVITY SERVICE.

(a) RULEMAKING REQUIRED.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 18 months after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Commission shall issue rules for the provision of emergency connectivity service under which—

(A) a person may submit to the Commission an application for approval to provide such service to an area—

(i) that is an unserved area with respect to either or both services described in subsection (i)(5)(B); or

(ii) in the event that such area becomes an unserved area with respect to either or both such services due to destruction of infrastructure, a power outage, or any other reason; and

(B) for any period during which such approval is in effect and such area is an unserved area, such person will receive access to electromagnetic spectrum in accordance with subsection (d) to provide emergency connectivity service to such area.

(2) PROVIDER NOT LICENSEE.—The Commission shall include in the rules issued under paragraph (1) language to ensure that approval of an application to provide emergency connectivity service under such rules does not render the provider of such service a licensee (as such term is defined in section 3 of the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 153)).

(3) DEADLINE TO INITIATE RULEMAKING.—The Commission shall initiate a rulemaking to issue the rules required by paragraph (1) not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(b) DEMONSTRATIONS.—In the rules issued under subsection (a), the Commission shall require a person who submits an application to provide emergency connectivity service under such rules, in order for such application to be approved, to demonstrate to the Commission the following:

(1) Such person has a technical proposal describing how such person plans to provide such service and how the proposal complies with technical requirements included in such rules under subsection (d)(2).

(2) Such person will not use any electromagnetic spectrum to which access is made available under such rules to provide any service other than emergency connectivity service, unless the other service is provided under a separate authorization to use such spectrum held by such person.

(3) Such service proposed can withstand the impact of major natural disasters, such as earthquakes, hurricanes, wildfires, floods, blizzards, and tornados.

(4) Such person has the capability to begin providing such service in a rapid manner—

(A) in the case of an application to provide such service to an area that is an unserved area at the time at which the application is submitted, after the approval of the application; or

(B) in the case of an application to provide such service to an area in the event that such area becomes an unserved area due to destruction of infrastructure, a power outage, or any other reason, after such area becomes an unserved area.

(c) PUBLICATION OF LIST OF PROVIDERS.—The Commission shall publish on the internet website of the Commission a list of all providers of emergency connectivity service for which an approval is in effect to provide such service under the rules issued under subsection (a).

(d) ACCESS TO ELECTROMAGNETIC SPECTRUM.—The Commission shall include in the rules issued under subsection (a) the following:

(1) In the case of a provider of emergency connectivity service that is approved to provide such service to an area under such rules and that seeks access to spectrum that another entity is authorized to use, access to such spectrum shall be made available to such provider only if such provider receives voluntary express written consent for such access from such entity. An entity that receives a request for consent under this paragraph shall reasonably engage with the provider submitting the request and make a determination with respect to such request in a timely manner.

(2) With respect to providers of emergency connectivity service that are approved to provide such service to an area under such rules, technical requirements applicable to such providers that ensure that the use of electromagnetic spectrum under a relevant approval does not cause harmful interference to the use of spectrum by another entity authorized to provide a service to such area or an adjacent geographic area.

(e) AREAS UNSERVED WITH RESPECT TO BOTH SERVICES.—In the case of an area that is an unserved area with respect to both services described in subsection (i)(5)(B), the rules issued under subsection (a) shall require that, if a provider approved to provide emergency connectivity service to such area under such rules chooses to provide emergency connectivity service to such area, such provider shall provide both services described in subsection (i)(5)(B) to such area.

(f) LIMITATION OF LIABILITY.—

(1) TRANSMISSION OF ALERT MESSAGES.—Section 602(e)(1) of the Warning, Alert, and Response Network Act (47 U.S.C. 1201(e)(1)) shall apply to a provider of emergency connectivity service (including its officers, directors, employees, vendors, and agents) with respect to the provision of such service (to the extent such service consists of the provision of the service described in subsection (i)(5)(B)(i) of this section) in accordance with the rules issued under subsection (a) of this section, as if such provider were a provider of commercial mobile service that transmits emergency alerts and meets its obligations under such Act.

(2) PROVISION OF 9–1–1 SERVICE.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Section 4 of the Wireless Communications and Public Safety Act of 1999 (47 U.S.C. 615a) is amended—

(i) in subsection (a)—

(I) by inserting ''emergency connectivity service provider,'' after ''IP-enabled voice service provider,''; and

(II) by inserting ''emergency connectivity service,'' after ''emergency services,'';

(ii) in subsection (b)—

(I) by striking ''IP-enabled voice service or'' and inserting ''IP-enabled voice service, emergency connectivity service, or''; and

(II) by inserting ''emergency connectivity service,'' after ''IP-enabled voice service,''; and

(iii) in subsection (c), by inserting ''emergency connectivity service,'' after ''IP-enabled voice service,'' each place it appears.

(B) DEFINITIONS.—Section 7 of the Wireless Communications and Public Safety Act of 1999 (47 U.S.C. 615b) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(11) EMERGENCY CONNECTIVITY SERVICE.—The term 'emergency connectivity service' has the meaning given such term in paragraph (5) of section 2(i) of the Advanced, Local Emergency Response Telecommunications Parity Act, to the extent such service consists of the provision of the service described in subparagraph (B)(ii) of such paragraph.

''(12) EMERGENCY CONNECTIVITY SERVICE PROVIDER.—The term 'emergency connectivity service provider' means a person who provides emergency connectivity service in accordance with the rules issued under section 2(a) of the Advanced, Local Emergency Response Telecommunications Parity Act.''.

(g) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 1 year after the date on which the Commission issues rules under subsection (a), and annually thereafter, the Commission shall submit to the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate a report regarding the provision of emergency connectivity service under such rules, which shall include a description of—

(1) each instance during the preceding year that emergency connectivity service was provided under such rules; and

(2) each instance during the preceding year that an entity authorized to use spectrum declined to provide, to a provider of emergency connectivity service, the consent described in subsection (d)(1).

(h) RULES OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this section may be construed to—

(1) provide the Commission with new authority to regulate the terms, conditions, or rates applicable to an agreement between 2 or more parties to facilitate the provision of emergency connectivity service;

(2) preclude the Commission, before it issues rules under subsection (a), from permitting the use of electromagnetic spectrum by a person that otherwise meets the requirements of this section; or

(3) preclude the Commission from approving an application to provide emergency connectivity service under the rules issued under subsection (a) that proposes using spectrum in a manner that is inconsistent with the Table of Frequency Allocations.

(i) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) ALERT MESSAGE.—The term ''alert message'' has the meaning given such term in section 10.10 of title 47, Code of Federal Regulations (or any successor regulation).

(2) COMMERCIAL MOBILE SERVICE.—The term ''commercial mobile service'' has the meaning given such term in section 332(d) of the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 332(d)).

(3) COMMISSION.—The term ''Commission'' means the Federal Communications Commission.

(4) COVERED DEVICE.—The term ''covered device'' means—

(A) a mobile device; or

(B) any other device that is capable of—

(i) receiving alert messages; and

(ii) providing emergency information to a public safety answering point (which may include enhanced 9–1–1 service).

(5) EMERGENCY CONNECTIVITY SERVICE.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The term ''emergency connectivity service'' means a service—

(i) to which covered devices are capable of connecting—

(I) without any technical capability specific to such service; and

(II) regardless of whether commercial mobile service or any other service is initialized on the device; and

(ii) that consists only of the provision of a service described in subparagraph (B) to an area that is an unserved area with respect to such service.

(B) SERVICES DESCRIBED.—The services described in this subparagraph are the following:

(i) Transmitting alert messages to covered devices.

(ii) Providing emergency information from a covered device to a public safety answering point (which may include enhanced 9–1–1 service).

(6) ENHANCED 9–1–1 SERVICE.—The term ''enhanced 9–1–1 service'' has the meaning given such term in section 7 of the Wireless Communications and Public Safety Act of 1999 (47 U.S.C. 615b).

(7) MOBILE DEVICE.—The term ''mobile device'' has the meaning given such term in section 10.10 of title 47, Code of Federal Regulations (or any successor regulation).

(8) PUBLIC SAFETY ANSWERING POINT.—The term ''public safety answering point'' has the meaning given such term in section 7 of the Wireless Communications and Public Safety Act of 1999 (47 U.S.C. 615b).

(9) TABLE OF FREQUENCY ALLOCATIONS.—The term ''table of frequency allocations'' means the United States table of frequency allocations contained in section 2.106 of title 47, Code of Federal Regulations (or any successor regulation).

(10) UNSERVED AREA.—The term ''unserved area'' means, with respect to a service described in paragraph (5)(B), an area that, due to lack of infrastructure, destruction of infrastructure, a power outage, or any other reason, has no provider of commercial mobile service that is capable of providing such service.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. LATTA) and the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Ohio.

GENERAL LEAVE

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

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 1353, the ALERT Parity Act, led by the gentleman from Ohio's Sixth District and the gentlewoman of Washington's Eighth District.

When hurricanes, tornadoes, and other natural disasters strike, connectivity and access to emergency communications is often one of the many critical services that are temporarily knocked out. Access to 911 services and important updates from local authorities sent by text message may be unavailable in dire moments.

While network operators do great work in preparing for, responding to, and improving future preparations for these natural disasters, they are unavoidable. Even the best response may leave Americans trapped without access to emergency services in the aftermath of the event.

However, recent innovations in satellite communications technologies have opened new opportunities to leverage our communications systems to provide emergency communications in times of natural disaster from satellites. Many of these services are designed to be available on Americans' phones seamlessly with no action needed by Americans.

Recent innovative partnership between terrestrial network operators and satellite operators have highlighted the type of possibilities Americans may someday take for granted. Yet, these innovations and partnerships have also demonstrated that novel use of our airwaves, while potentially lifesaving, also need regulatory certainty so that they are reliably available and do not result in harmful interference.

The ALERT Parity Act would establish a process for the FCC to ensure that satellite technology can be used to ensure access to wireless emergency alerts and 911 service remain uninterrupted during times of an emergency in areas that do not have connectivity.

This legislation will be key to ensuring that emergency connectivity services are not authorized using temporary authorities and adequately protect all of the wireless services Americans rely on.

This legislation will also pave the way for U.S. leadership as other countries look to take advantage of the innovation pioneered here in the United States.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 1353, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 1353, the Advanced, Local Emergency Response Telecommunications Parity Act, or the ALERT Parity Act. This bipartisan bill will enhance wireless connectivity in remote and hard-to-reach places to ensure that people can always reach out to emergency services and family during emergencies.

H.R. 1353 will help the Federal Communications Commission utilize satellite technology to deliver emergency connectivity service to remote areas or areas experiencing service outages caused by natural disasters. This is particularly important for rural and Tribal areas that have been particularly devastated by the lack of access to 911 and emergency alerts due to limited wireless coverage.

This bill is needed now because over the last few months many 5G mobile providers and equipment manufacturers have announced partnerships with satellite operators to deliver emergency communication to consumers where wireless coverage is lacking or nonexistent. These efforts are likely to offer tangible benefits to consumers as the partnerships will enable wireless service providers to offer consumers universal coverage and enhance access to emergency services. It is likely that consumer demand for satellite services will grow in the future as wireless carriers and phone manufacturers continue to build this capability into their networks and phones.

This additional layer of protection is also a welcome sign given that the worsening climate crisis is causing more frequent and extreme weather events. Mobile service is essential for receiving emergency alerts with lifesaving information. Resilient communications networks can be the difference between life and death when the unexpected strikes. Satellite systems will be crucial in helping ensure that consumers have the necessary details to navigate through these emergency situations.

To help advance these efforts, H.R. 1353 directs the FCC to issue rules so that satellite providers can offer emergency connectivity services in areas that currently do not have access to such services or areas that have been impacted by a disaster.

The legislation also requires the FCC to annually report to Congress on the instances where satellite providers utilized the rules to provide emergency services and where such providers were denied the opportunity to offer these lifesaving services.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Representatives SCHRIER and JOHNSON for their bipartisan work on this bill. With this legislation, consumers can rest assured that if they find themselves in an area without service, whether it is because of lack of coverage, the result of natural disaster, or for some other reason, they will continue to have the ability to reach first responders and loved ones during an emergency.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this legislation that unanimously advanced out of the Energy and Commerce Committee last month, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. JOHNSON).

Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague, Mr. LATTA, for recognizing me.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of my legislation, H.R. 1353, the ALERT Parity Act.

This bipartisan legislation would require the Federal Communications Commission to issue rules within 18 months of enactment to establish an application process for any entities seeking to provide wireless emergency alerts for 911 services in unserved areas across America. It also requires the FCC to establish service rules whereby providers of emergency connectivity service may access spectrum held by a licensee, so long as it does not cause interference and they have express written consent from the licensee.

Additionally, the bill requires the FCC to provide an annual report to Congress detailing instances where emergency connectivity service was provided by this process, and also each instance when an entity authorized to use spectrum declined to provide the consent needed by providers of emergency connectivity service to use their spectrum.

This enables Congress to provide oversight of these services and ensure that this legislation is implemented as intended.

First and foremost, enabling 911 calls and texts and emergency alerts in remote and unserved areas is not only

common sense, it is a lifesaving measure.

Every American deserves access to emergency assistance, regardless of where they live, period.

This bill is very narrow in scope. The rules required by the bill would only enable emergency connectivity service providers to connect to individuals' phones where there is no cellular service, either due to an outage or because there is not a mobile carrier providing service in that area.

To many of us, it is frustrating if we lose cell service temporarily. It is unfathomable for many to understand that in 2023 there remains remote areas in America that still lack reliable cellular service.

Now that there is technology that will enable distressed Ohioans in rural Appalachia, and all such rural areas across the United States who lack mobile cell service to reach emergency assistance, I believe we have a responsibility to make it happen and to ensure American innovation can serve our communities that are otherwise left out.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Representative KIM SCHRIER for co-leading this legislation and her work on this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I also urge my colleagues to support H.R. 1353 to ensure everyone has access to critical lifesaving emergency services regardless of where they live or travel.

Mr. Speaker, I also thank Mr. PALLONE, the ranking member of the Energy and Commerce Committee for his support as well.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, this is a bipartisan bill that was reported out of our committee unanimously last month, and I would ask everyone to support the legislation.

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

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, I also urge support of H.R. 1353, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. LATTA) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1353, as amended.

The question was taken.

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

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

The yeas and nays were ordered.

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

INSTITUTE FOR TELECOMMUNICATION SCIENCES CODIFICATION ACT

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1343) to codify the Institute for Telecommunication Sciences and to direct the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information to establish an initiative to support the development of emergency communication and tracking technologies, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1343

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 ''Institute for Telecommunication Sciences Codification Act'' or the ''ITS Codification Act''.

SEC. 2. INSTITUTE FOR TELECOMMUNICATION SCIENCES.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

(1) The test center within the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (in this subsection referred to as the ''NTIA'') represents executive branch agencies on spectrum issues before the Federal Communications Commission.

(2) Understanding radio frequency propagation characteristics and modeling is a critical component of making spectrum decisions.

(3) Federal agencies rely on expert engineering studies, simulations, and analyses to make determinations about how to make spectrum available for commercial use, including through system relocations and identifying spectrum sharing opportunities through the NTIA.

(4) Clearing of Federal spectrum, when feasible, is the priority action to take to make Federal spectrum available for commercial uses as required by section 113(j)(1) of the National Telecommunications and Information Administration Organization Act (47 U.S.C. 923(j)(1)).

(5) Sharing of Federal spectrum between Federal entities and commercial entities provides access to Federal spectrum for commercial uses in circumstances where clearing is not feasible.

(6) The test center within the NTIA is the Government's premier expert laboratory for spectrum research activities, spectrum sharing innovation and testing, spectrum interference studies, and all activities related to advancing next generation wireless technologies.

(7) The test center within the NTIA is critical for undertaking engineering studies and analyses that inform clearing or sharing opportunities and facilitate policy decisions to maximize the efficient use of spectrum resources.

(b) OPERATION OF TEST CENTER.—Part A of the National Telecommunications and Information Administration Organization Act (47 U.S.C. 901 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''SEC. 106. INSTITUTE FOR TELECOMMUNICATION SCIENCES.

''(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Under the authority provided to the Assistant Secretary under section 103, the Assistant Secretary shall operate a test center to be known as the Institute for Telecommunication Sciences (in this section referred to as 'ITS').

''(2) FUNCTIONS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—In addition to any functions delegated by the Assistant Secretary under subparagraph (B), ITS shall serve as the primary laboratory for the executive branch of the Federal Government to—

''(i) study radio frequency emissions, including technologies and techniques to control such emissions and interference caused by such emissions;

''(ii) determine spectrum propagation characteristics;

''(iii) conduct tests on technology that enhances the sharing of electromagnetic spectrum between Federal and non-Federal users;

''(iv) improve the interference tolerance of Federal systems operating with, or using, Federal spectrum;

''(v) promote activities relating to access to Federal spectrum by non-Federal users and the sharing of Federal spectrum between Federal and non-Federal users; and

''(vi) conduct such other activities as determined necessary by the Assistant Secretary.

''(B) ADDITIONAL FUNCTIONS.—The Assistant Secretary may delegate to ITS any of the functions assigned to the Assistant Secretary under section 103(b)(1).

''(3) AGREEMENTS AND TRANSACTIONS.—In carrying out the functions described in paragraph (2), the Assistant Secretary, acting through the head of ITS, may enter into agreements as provided under the following authorities:

''(A) Sections 11 and 12 of the Stevenson–Wydler Technology Innovation Act of 1980.

''(B) Section 1535 of title 31, United States Code.

''(C) Sections 207 and 209 of title 35, United States Code.

''(D) Section 103(b)(2) of this Act.

''(E) Section 113(g) of this Act.

''(F) The first undesignated section of Public Law 91–412.

''(G) As authorized in any other Federal statute.

''(4) FEDERAL SPECTRUM DEFINED.—In this subsection, the term 'Federal spectrum' means frequencies assigned on a primary basis to a Federal entity (as defined in section 113(l)).

''(b) EMERGENCY COMMUNICATION AND TRACKING TECHNOLOGIES INITIATIVE.—

''(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Assistant Secretary, acting through the head of ITS, shall establish an initiative to support the development of emergency communication and tracking technologies for use in locating trapped individuals in confined spaces, such as underground mines, and other shielded environments, such as high-rise buildings or collapsed structures, where conventional radio communication is limited.

''(2) ACTIVITIES.—In order to carry out this subsection, the Assistant Secretary, acting through the head of ITS, shall work with private sector entities and the heads of appropriate Federal agencies, to—

''(A) perform a needs assessment to identify and evaluate the measurement, technical specifications, and conformity assessment needs required to improve the operation and reliability of such emergency communication and tracking technologies; and

''(B) support the development of technical specifications and conformance architecture to improve the operation and reliability of such emergency communication and tracking technologies.

''(3) REPORT.—Not later than 18 months after the date of the enactment of this section, the Assistant Secretary shall submit to Congress, and make publicly available, a report on the assessment performed under paragraph (2)(A).''.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. LATTA) and the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Ohio.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may

have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and insert extraneous materials in the RECORD on the bill.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 1343, the ITS Codification Act, led by the gentleman from Georgia's First District and the gentlewoman from Colorado's Seventh District.

The effective and efficient management of our airwaves plays an important role in fueling our economy, which increasingly relies on communication between digital technologies.

As demand for wireless technology continues to grow, we must continue to focus on identifying potential opportunities to make more spectrum available for commercial use, including reallocating and sharing spectrum from Federal users.

Complex, technical engineering testing and analysis underpins these important decisions on how best to maximize our airwaves for commercial use while preserving our Federal missions.

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Indeed, having a sound technical basis supporting these decisions will help restore trust in the process among Federal agencies.

The Institute for Telecommunication Sciences, or ITS, within NTIA plays an essential role in conducting the tests that guide these spectrum reallocation or sharing decisions. ITS will also help ensure that NTIA, as the Federal spectrum manager, can continue to find opportunities to unleash commercial wireless innovation while also ensuring military readiness, securing our southern border, and advancing scientific discovery and other successful Federal missions.

The work ITS performs has led to innovative advancements in the way we manage our airwaves. These airwaves power faster mobile connectivity for Americans, and making more spectrum available in the future is critical to beating China and ensuring our continued economic and national security.

The ITS Codification Act will strengthen the statutory authority for ITS and ensure the work they do to advance United States technological leadership remains a key part of our approach.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 1343, the Institute for Telecommunication Sciences, or ITS, Codification Act.

The Institute for Telecommunication Sciences, or ITS, is the premier engineering laboratory of the National Telecommunications and Information Administration. Among its many responsibilities, ITS manages various technology development programs for NTIA and the Department of Commerce and oversees cutting-edge studies concerning the use of our country's airwaves. ITS has played a significant role in furthering telecommunication advancements for our country's benefit.

H.R. 1343 recognizes the numerous contributions of ITS by providing it with additional statutory authority. Under this legislation, ITS will serve as the primary laboratory for the executive branch of the Federal Government. It will be charged with studying the use of innovative sharing technologies for our airwaves and improving the interference tolerance of Federal systems operating with, or using, Federal spectrum.

The legislation also will allow the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information, acting through the head of the ITS, to enter into agreements needed to carry out the functions of the laboratory.

This bill also requires the Assistant Secretary to establish an initiative to support the development of emergency communication and tracking technologies. These technologies will then be used to locate people trapped in areas where mobile connectivity may not be available due to natural disasters and other devastating events.

I commend Representatives PETTERSEN and CARTER for their bipartisan work on this bill. It will ensure that one of our Nation's key telecommunications facilities has the necessary tools and resources to not only continue its work but also expand its activities.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bipartisan bill, which unanimously passed the Energy and Commerce Committee last month, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. CARTER), who is the bill's sponsor and the vice chairman of the Communications and Technology Subcommittee.

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of my bill, H.R. 1343, the ITS Codification Act.

This legislation would codify the Institute for Telecommunication Sciences, which plays a critical role in making spectrum available for commercial use.

As we examine how Federal and commercial spectrum is allocated, it is our job as Members to ensure the agencies tasked with managing spectrum have the technical resources they need to be successful in their missions.

ITS is an essential part of the National Telecommunications and Information Administration, and we must strengthen its statutory authority to ensure it continues informing important spectrum policy decisions.

This testing center will also play an important role in America's ability to stay ahead of international competitors like China on spectrum policy. I am confident ITS will continue to contribute to innovative advancements that are crucial for our global competitiveness.

This bill also directs ITS to establish an initiative to support the development of emergency communication and tracking technologies for use in locating trapped individuals in confined spaces. This is an important initiative that has the potential to protect and save American lives.

Last Congress, this bill went through regular order and enjoyed unanimous support on the House floor.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bipartisan legislation.

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

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, again, I urge my colleagues to support this bipartisan bill that, as I mentioned, unanimously passed out of the Energy and Commerce Committee last month. It is important.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to support the bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, I also urge support of H.R. 1343 and passage by the House, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. LATTA) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1343.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

PRECISION AGRICULTURE SATELLITE CONNECTIVITY ACT

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1339) to require the Federal Communications Commission to review certain rules of the Commission and develop recommendations for rule changes to promote precision agriculture, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1339

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 ''Precision Agriculture Satellite Connectivity Act''.

SEC. 2. PRECISION AGRICULTURE SATELLITE CONNECTIVITY.

(a) REVIEW.—The Commission, in consultation with the Task Force, shall—

(1) review the rules of the Commission relating to fixed satellite service, mobile satellite service, and earth exploration satellite service to determine if there are rule changes that the Commission could implement under existing authority to promote precision agriculture; and

(2) if the Commission determines under paragraph (1) that there are rule changes that the Commission could implement, develop recommendations for how to implement the changes.

(b) REPORT.—Not later than 15 months after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Commission shall submit to the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate a report on the results of the review conducted under subsection (a), including any recommendations developed under paragraph (2) of such subsection.

(c) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) COMMISSION.—The term ''Commission'' means the Federal Communications Commission.

(2) TASK FORCE.—The term ''Task Force'' means the Task Force for Reviewing the Connectivity and Technology Needs of Precision Agriculture in the United States established under section 12511 of the Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018 (Public Law 115–334).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. LATTA) and the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Ohio.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and insert extraneous material in the RECORD on the bill, including an exchange of letters with the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of my legislation, H.R. 1339, the Precision Agriculture Satellite Connectivity Act, that I was pleased to introduce with the gentlewoman from Illinois' Second District.

For years, large parts of my district and rural areas across America have lacked access to fast broadband connections. Reliable internet access is more than just being able to stream your favorite TV shows and movies, Mr. Speaker. It is the crucial link connecting us all. Whether it is helping seniors access telehealth services or allowing students to complete homework assignments or enabling small businesses to reach global markets, our people, country, and economy run on a reliable internet connection.

Farmers in rural Ohio also know that reliable broadband connections are essential to their operations. After all, it helps deploy technologies that increase their productivity, produce higher yields, and minimize operating costs.

Today's smart agriculture technology, from autonomous tractors to distributed soil sensors, rely on internet connections to share data. In fact, farmers use information in real time to make smarter decisions on how to optimize inputs and whether and when to plant or harvest. When terrestrial or cellular networks are not available, satellite broadband steps in to make these technologies work.

However, it is not just advanced satellite broadband capabilities that improve precision agriculture. Earth imaging satellites also provide important information that can help farmers and ranchers identify visual trends that may require immediate attention. As we heard in hearings before the Energy and Commerce Committee, satellite communications technologies can offer an array of services that may promote precision agriculture.

In order to ensure our regulations maximize these opportunities, our legislation directs the FCC to evaluate its rules and identify potential changes that could further promote precision agriculture.

I am committed to ensuring our farmers have the tools needed at their disposal to help increase productivity while minimizing costs. This legislation is a good step forward in that mission.

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

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE, SPACE, AND TECHNOLOGY,
Washington, DC, April 24, 2023.

Hon. CATHY MCMORRIS RODGERS,
Chair, Committee on Energy and Commerce, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MS. CHAIR: I am writing concerning H.R. 1339, the ''Precision Agriculture Satellite Connectivity Act'', which your committee reported on April 24, 2023.

H.R. 1339 contains provisions within the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology's Rule Xjurisdiction. As a result of your having consulted with the Committee and in order to expedite this bill for floor consideration, the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology will forego action on the bill. This is being done on the basis of our mutual understanding that doing so will in no way diminish or alter the jurisdiction of the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology with respect to the appointment of conferees, or to any future jurisdictional claim over the subject matters contained in the bill or similar legislation.

I would appreciate your response to this letter confirming this understanding, and would request that you include a copy of this letter and your response in in the Congressional Record during the floor consideration of this bill. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

FRANK D. LUCAS,
Chairman.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND COMMERCE,
Washington, DC, April 25, 2023.

Hon. FRANK D. LUCAS,
Chairman, Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN LUCAS: Thank you for your letter concerning H.R. 1339, the ''Precision Agricultun Connectivity Act,'' which was referred solely to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

I understand that the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology (Committee on Science) has requested a sequential referral on the bill based on its jurisdiction over ''[a]stronautical research and development, including resources, personnel, equipment, and facilities,'' ''[e]nvironmental research and development,'' ''National Aeronautic sand Space Administration,'' and ''[o]uter Space, including exploration and control thereof.''

While I am not prepared to concede that point, I recognize the request for a sequential referral is not frivolous. I therefore thank the Committee on Science for not insist sequential referral request so that H.R. 1339 can be promptly scheduled for Floor consid the Majority Leader.

As a fellow committee chair, I understand it is your duty to protect the jurisdiction of the Committee on Science, and I agree that foregoing action on this bill will in no way diminish or alter the jurisdiction of the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology with respect to the appointment of conferees, or to any future jurisdictional claim over the subject matters contained in this bill or similar legislation.

I will place a copy of your letter and this response into the Congressional Record during the Floor consideration of this bill.

Sincerely,

CATHY MCMORRIS RODGERS,
Chair.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 1339, the Precision Agriculture Satellite Connectivity Act.

The innovations we are seeing in the commercial satellite industry have the potential to transform so many aspects of daily life, especially for those in more rural and remote areas.

For years, Americans have relied on satellites for a variety of services, including the Global Positioning System, radio, and television. However, now satellites are helping deliver faster broadband speeds, providing critical communications services and enabling scientists and nonprofits to monitor challenges like the climate crisis and deforestation.

This satellite evolution is also touching American farms by facilitating advancements in precision agriculture. H.R. 1339 promotes the innovation of satellite technology for precision agriculture, which uses satellite images to help farmers yield better crops and maximize their yield profitability.

The legislation directs the Federal Communications Commission to review its satellite service rules to assess whether there are any rule changes that could better enable satellites to deliver precision agriculture solutions. If the FCC finds that such rule changes exist, then this legislation requires the FCC to develop recommendations for implementing them. It also instructs the FCC to report its findings to Congress, including any recommendations.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Representatives KELLY and LATTA for their bipartisan work on this bill, which unanimously passed out of the Energy and Commerce Committee last month. With this legislation, we ensure that the FCC and its satellite service rules are enabling technological advances in the important area of precision agriculture as much as possible.

Mr. Speaker, as I mentioned, this bill is bipartisan and passed out of our committee unanimously last month.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support it, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, I also urge the passage of H.R. 1339, the Precision Agriculture Satellite Connectivity Act, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. LATTA) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1339.

The question was taken.

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

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

The yeas and nays were ordered.

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

□ 1630

DEMANDING THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA AND THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF CHINA IMMEDIATELY RELEASE MARK SWIDAN

Mr. MCCAUL. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H. Res. 90) demanding that the Government of the People's Republic of China and the Communist Party of China immediately release Mark Swidan, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H. RES. 90

Whereas Mark Swidan is being unjustly and arbitrarily detained by the Government of the People's Republic of China, according to the United States Government and the United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC) Working Group on Arbitrary Detention;

Whereas, Mark Swidan is a United States citizen from Luling, Texas, and is a resident of Houston, Texas;

Whereas, on November 13, 2012, Mark Swidan was abducted by officers of the Public Security Bureau while on a business trip to the People's Republic of China, and on December 21, 2012, Swidan was formally arrested following an indictment issued by the Public Prosecutions Office of the People's Procuratorate of Jiangmen City alleging that Swidan was part of a criminal conspiracy with 11 other individuals to manufacture and traffic drugs;

Whereas, on April 30, 2019, a PRC court sentenced Swidan to death, which he has appealed;

Whereas PRC security officials repeatedly attempted to coerce Swidan into signing a confession, but Swidan refused to sign a confession pleaded not guilty;

Whereas, according to evidence evaluated by the UNHRC Working Group on Arbitrary Detention—

(1) no drugs were found on Swidan or in his hotel room;

(2) the prosecution did not produce any forensic evidence of the alleged offenses;

(3) records in Swidan's passport indicate he was not in the People's Republic of China during the time of the offenses; and

(4) the 11 other individuals indicted in relation to the alleged conspiracy could not identify Swidan;

Whereas PRC officials have maliciously and systematically denied Swidan's mother Katherine Swidan, a resident of Texas, and other members of his family the ability to contact him;

Whereas the PRC have denied and continue to deny United States diplomats full consular access to Swidan, in violation of international norms;

Whereas Swidan's detention has been and continues to be inhumane, and includes exposure to extreme weather conditions, sleep deprivation, and physical and psychological abuse;

Whereas Swidan's health has precipitously deteriorated and PRC security officials continue to deny independent or competent medical care and evaluation to Swidan;

Whereas humanitarian organizations of the United States, including the Dui Hua Foundation, which helped put this case before the Working Group, and the Global Liberty Alliance, which has asked the Sister Cities programs to sever relationships with Jiangmen until Swidan is released, have sought to highlight the injustice and conditions of Swidan's detention;

Whereas the UNHRC Working Group on Arbitrary Detention—

(1) found that Swidan is being held in violation of customary international law;

(2) emphasized the nonconformity by the PRC with international norms, including the Universal Declaration of Human Rights; and

(3) stressed that ''the appropriate remedy would be to release Swidan immediately and accord him an enforceable right to compensation and other reparations, in accordance with international law'': Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) demands that the Government of the People's Republic of China and the Chinese Communist Party immediately release Mark Swidan;

(2) condemns the Government of the People's Republic of China and the Chinese Communist Party for refusing to provide Swidan with—

(A) regular communication with his family;

(B) access to United States diplomats; and

(C) independent and competent medical care and evaluation; and

(3) calls on the United States Government to deepen and prioritize efforts to secure the release of Swidan, including by—

(A) urging PRC counterparts at every level of engagement to release Swidan; and

(B) using the voice and vote of United States diplomats in international forums to highlight Swidan's case.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. MCCAUL) and the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. MANNING) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. MCCAUL. 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 Texas?

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, Mark Swidan is an American, a Texan, and has been a hostage of the Chinese Communist Party for more than a decade. We stand together to demand his release and an end to his torture by CCP officials.

In 2012, Mark was wrongfully detained in China for a crime he clearly did not commit. The U.N. Working Group on Arbitrary Detention has found that it was impossible for him to have committed any of the crimes he is charged with. In fact, Mr. Speaker, he was not even in China at the time the CCP says that these false crimes were committed.

Since his abduction in 2012, Mark has been grossly abused in Chinese custody. He has been held for more than a decade in temporary detention facilities intended for brief custody. He remains caged in a small, crowded cell that is freezing in the winter and sweltering in the summer. The toilet is a hole in the ground; the lights are never turned off; and he has no regular access to sunlight, a bed, or hot water.

Chinese officials have denied him proper medical care. Guards have broken his hands several times, and he has suffered a dislocated knee. Mark has lost almost 100 pounds. He suffers from tooth and gum disease, and his mouth bleeds every day. Mark has only been allowed to speak with his family a handful of times. His ordeal has taken a terrible toll on his physical and mental health.

Just last week, the People's Republic of China denied Mark's appeal and upheld the death penalty with a 2-year suspended death sentence. Threatening an American citizen with death for a crime that he could not have possibly committed is a brazen human rights violation and a disgusting example of CCP's hostage diplomacy.

Protecting Americans abroad is a priority mission of the State Department, yet State has failed to secure Mark's release or hold the CCP accountable for its gross violation of his basic human rights. Instead, the Biden administration continues to prioritize engagement with the PRC over all else, even the safety of American citizens.

This bipartisan resolution before us today unanimously passed the Foreign Affairs Committee in February. It condemns the CCP for their violation of international law and demands the immediate release of Mr. Swidan. Furthermore, it urges the Biden administration to hold the CCP accountable for its blatant violation of human rights and international law.

I thank the gentleman from Texas (Mr. CLOUD), my good friend, for introducing this resolution which deserves our unanimous support.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of this resolution before us today. It is

not just timely; it is urgently important.

Earlier this month, a court in the People's Republic of China denied an appeal by U.S. national Mark Swidan, who has been wrongly detained in China, and upheld his death penalty with a 2-year suspended death sentence.

The PRC has detained Mark since his arrest for drug-related crimes in 2012, even though he was not convicted until 2019. He has been arbitrarily detained for more than 10 years and has been denied regular communication with his family, regular access to United States' consular officials, and has not had access to competent medical care and treatment.

Swidan's detention conditions have included exposure to extreme weather conditions, sleep deprivation, and physical and psychological abuse, leading tragically to Mark's attempting to take his own life.

This is, simply put, a travesty of justice. Mr. Speaker, no concrete evidence has been provided to justify the charges against Mr. Swidan. In 2020, a United Nations body confirmed what we already knew, that Mr. Swidan has been arbitrarily detained in violation of international law, and we call for his swift release.

Mr. Speaker, this body needs to come together today to stand up for Mr. Swidan and make clear to Beijing that his inhumane treatment is unacceptable.

H. Res. 90 is a bipartisan measure led by Representative CLOUD that passed out of the House Foreign Affairs Committee unanimously. It condemns the PRC for its mistreatment of Mark and calls for his immediate release. It also asks the Biden administration to redouble its efforts to highlight the case of Mr. Swidan internationally and to help secure his release through diplomacy.

Though the court has provided Mr. Swidan with a 2-year reprieve on his death sentence, we cannot afford to wait that long to correct the injustice he has suffered. By passing this resolution today, the House makes clear to the People's Republic of China that it should release Mark Swidan immediately.

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

Mr. MCCAUL. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. CLOUD), the author of this bill.

Mr. CLOUD. Mr. Speaker, I thank the chairman for his support in getting Mark Swidan back to his home and to his family. I also thank the ranking member for her support, as well.

Mark Swidan is a native Texan from Luling who is currently being detained in China on fabricated drug charges and faces an impending death sentence.

Mark was arrested on November 13, 2012, while on a trip to China to procure furnishings for his home and business. Chinese authorities burst into his hotel room while he was on the phone with his family and, without showing any warrant, arrested him and confiscated his photography equipment, wallet, tablet, passport, and identity card.

They originally told him he was being held as a witness, but that rapidly changed. Mark was accused of being involved in the manufacturing and trafficking of drugs, leading to Chinese officials trying to coerce him into signing a false confession.

Mark maintained his innocence and his integrity and has rejected their attempts to this day. Nonetheless, Mark has been imprisoned in China for over 10 years, despite the fact that no drugs were ever found on Swidan or in his hotel room, and the prosecution did not produce any evidence tying him to the drugs. The 11 other individuals indicted on the same charges could not identify Mark, and records in Mark's passport show that he was not even in China during the time of the alleged offense.

As a result, Mark hasn't slept in the dark for over 10 years and is exposed to extreme heat in the summer and freezing cold in the winter. His hands have been broken a number of times. Mark faces abuse by his captors and has been denied an independent medical examination despite his deteriorating health in the detainment facility.

A few weeks ago, China upheld Mark Swidan's death sentence. It is my hope that this resolution will signal to China that this death sentence should not be enforced, and that Mark should be sent home.

Additionally, this resolution calls on the administration to use all the tools at their disposal to secure Mark Swidan's release.

The People's Republic of China and the Chinese Communist Party have a history of capturing innocent people and using them as political pawns. This needs to stop. Unfortunately for them, though, Mark has defiantly refused to be coerced as he waits on us to secure his release.

Mr. Speaker, I call on all my colleagues in Congress to support this resolution and for our State Department to redouble their efforts and use every means available to bring Mark Swidan home.

Ms. MANNING. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time for the purpose of closing.

Mr. Speaker, the American people send us to Washington to represent them, to advance the national interest, and most importantly, to keep them safe. When the life and dignity of any American is challenged or undermined, it is our duty as lawmakers to speak out and take action.

That is why it is vital that this body condemn the People's Republic of China for its unjust and arbitrary detention and inhumane treatment of American citizen Mark Swidan. That is why it is vital that this body demand that Mr. Swidan be swiftly released and returned to the United States.

Mr. Speaker, I hope my colleagues will join me and support this important resolution, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. MCCAUL. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time to close.

Mr. Speaker, if we are seen as a weak nation, we will be treated as such. Appeasement only invites aggression. The U.S. must not tolerate these brazen acts of hostage diplomacy. I wish that Mark Swidan could somehow hear us in this Chamber today to know that he is not forgotten. However, I know that his tireless advocate, his mother, Katherine, is listening; and I know that his CCP captors and abusers are listening, too.

Our unified bipartisan message to them is simple: Free Mark Swidan now.

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

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H. Res. 90, calling for the immediate release of U.S. Citizen Mark Swidan, whose wrongful and arbitrary detention by the Chinese Communist authorities, without ever having had a chance at a fair trial, is unconscionable.

Just two weeks ago, the PRC Jiangmen Intermediate Court denied Mr. Swidan's appeal. He remains on death row, with a two-year suspended death sentence.

Moreover, I and my colleagues are very concerned at the condition in which Mr. Swidan is being held. He is being denied needed medical care and is cut off from receiving mail from loved ones in a timely manner.

The United Nations Working Group on Arbitrary Detention has expressed "grave concern" over the severity of Mr. Swidan's sentence, and has catalogued the step-by-step denial of justice that has accompanied Mr. Swidan's arbitrary detention: "it is evident that Mr. Swidan has been unable to defend himself properly, as he has been subjected to a detention of extraordinary length, to ill-treatment and to coercion with the purpose of extracting a confession and as he has received ineffective legal assistance."

The Working Group has therefore called for the only just resolution of this case: "release Mr. Swidan immediately and accord him an enforceable right to compensation and other reparations."

We also must redouble our efforts to release of US citizens Kai Li and David Lin, who are wrongful detainees, as well as Chinese nationals who are imprisoned because of their connection to the United States, such as Ekpar Asat, who was jailed because he participated in the State Department's International Visitor's Leadership Program, and Gulshan Abbas, who was interned because of her sister Rushan's intrepid reporting at Radio Free Asia, and her testimony before Congress and elsewhere.

At the end of the day these individuals are hostages held by a hostile regime. Their freedom must be prioritized and raised in all our State Department's interactions with PRC officials.

Please join me in supporting this resolution, and in calling for Mark Swidan's immediate release.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. MCCAUL) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H. Res. 90, 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. MCCAUL. 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.

ENCOURAGING THE EXPANSION AND STRENGTHENING OF THE ABRAHAM ACCORDS TO URGE OTHER NATIONS TO NORMALIZE RELATIONS WITH ISRAEL AND ENSURE THAT EXISTING AGREEMENTS REAP TANGIBLE SECURITY AND ECONOMIC BENEFITS FOR THE CITIZENS OF THOSE COUNTRIES AND ALL PEOPLES IN THE REGION

Mr. MCCAUL. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H. Res. 311) encouraging the expansion and strengthening of the Abraham Accords to urge other nations to normalize relations with Israel and ensure that existing agreements reap tangible security and economic benefits for the citizens of those countries and all peoples in the region.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H. RES. 311

Whereas May 14, 2023, marks the 75th anniversary of the establishment of the State of Israel;

Whereas, on May 14, 1948, the United States officially recognized Israel as a State;

Whereas Israel has been designated by the United States Government as a major non-NATO ally;

Whereas, in 2014, Congress designated Israel as a ''major strategic partner'';

Whereas the United States and Israel have a close and robust bilateral relationship marked by strong people-to-people ties and close cooperation on a wide range of issues including defense, diplomacy, energy, cybersecurity, agriculture, science, and space;

Whereas the United States and Israel have signed three 10-year memoranda of understanding, in which the United States committed to provide $26,700,000,000 between fiscal year 1999 and fiscal year 2008, $30,000,000,000 between fiscal year 2009 and fiscal year 2018, and $38,000,000,000 between fiscal year 2019 and fiscal year 2028;

Whereas Congress has appropriated amounts in accordance with such memoranda of understanding, reflecting the two countries' shared priorities in the region;

Whereas, in late 2020 and early 2021, Israel reached agreements, known collectively as the Abraham Accords, to improve or normalize its relations with the United Arab Emirates, Bahrain, Morocco, and Sudan; and

Whereas these agreements build upon the decades-long leadership of the United States and other governments in supporting efforts to broker peace treaties between Israel and Egypt and Israel and Jordan: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) encourages the United States and Israel to continue to deepen and expand bilateral cooperation across the full spectrum of economic, security, and civilian issues;

(2) encourages the expansion and strengthening of the Abraham Accords to urge other nations to normalize relations with Israel and ensure that existing agreements reap tangible security and economic benefits for the citizens of those countries and all peoples in the region;

(3) expresses continued support for security assistance to Israel as outlined in the United States-Israel Memorandum of Understanding to ensure that Israel can defend itself by itself; and

(4) supports Israel's robust involvement as an active member of the community of nations to benefit Israel and the United States as partners who share common values and a commitment to democracy.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. MCCAUL) and the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. MANNING) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. MCCAUL. 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 Texas?

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, this week we are marking an incredible milestone, 75 years since the establishment of the State of Israel.

Since the day Israel was founded, it faced numerous existential threats, and yet today, Israel is a thriving democracy with a robust economy and one of the world's most capable militaries. Most importantly, the United States and Israel have stood shoulder to shoulder together since day one.

Over seven-and-a-half decades, we have worked as friends and partners, and we will continue to work together to overcome shared challenges and reach new triumphs.

The United States has long supported Israel's right and ability to defend herself against threats. Our long-term commitment to Israel's security includes the $3.3 billion per year in foreign military financing assistance and support for defense technology development. One of the great successes of this support is the Iron Dome air defense system.

□ 1645

In May of 2021 when Hamas and Palestinian Islamic Jihad launched more than 4,000 rockets toward Israel, it was the Iron Dome that shot those weapons out of the sky, greatly limiting the number of casualties in this terrifying conflict.

After this escalation, Congress voted overwhelmingly to resupply the Iron Dome to help Israel keep its citizens safe.

The United States will always stand with Israel in its fight against terrorism. Our close partner is also vital to combating the global threat posed by Iran's nuclear program, ballistic missile arsenal, armed UAV attacks, as well as Iran's support for international terrorism, hostage-taking, and human rights abuses.

Simply put, a nuclear Iran is unacceptable, both for the United States, our ally Israel, and for the world.

We are also in full agreement that the IRGC is a foreign terrorist organization, and this designation should remain in place.

We are seeing Iran's malign influence spread well beyond the Middle East. Iran is orchestrating terror plots against Americans on U.S. soil.

Iran continues to supply Russia with lethal drones and other forms of support for its war of aggression in Ukraine.

Moreover, Iran is deepening its cooperation with Communist China who continues to threaten the global balance of power through their malign activities around the globe and hostility toward Taiwan.

Responding to Iran's global threat and its unholy alliance with Russia and China will be a generational challenge, but the United States and Israel are prepared to respond.

It is clear that others have taken note of how much the United States and Israel accomplish when we work together.

That is why in 2020, President Trump and his team succeeded in brokering the first normalization agreements between Israel and its neighbors in over 25 years.

The Abraham Accords are transformational for the Middle East. I was proud to be at the White House for the signing ceremony of these historic agreements. Now the UAE, Bahrain, and Morocco join Egypt and Jordan in having full diplomatic relations with Israel.

The accords open the door to important cooperation, including to address the shared threat posed by Iran that is making the Middle East and North Africa safer and more prosperous.

These countries are working together on free trade, energy, water, and, of course, defense cooperation, like the Middle East Air Defense Alliance, now that Israel is a part of Central Command.

This is a generational shift in the Middle East and one that promotes peace and prosperity in the region. That is why we need to invest in the positive progress of growing and deepening the Abraham Accords as this resolution outlines.

We need to put our diplomatic might into trying to achieve the kinds of big breakthroughs that created the Abraham Accords almost 3 years ago.

I was pleased to see Oman and Saudi Arabia begin allowing overflights of

Israeli planes. It is a huge step forward, but we need to keep thinking bigger until we get to the game changer that would be full diplomatic relations between Saudi Arabia and Israel.

On behalf of the American people, I congratulate our Israeli friends on everything they have accomplished in their first 75 years.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, 75 years ago, the State of Israel joined the community of nations when it declared its independence from the British Empire.

In the wake of World War II and the Holocaust, for the first time in modern history, the Jews would have a land and a military of their own that would allow them to overcome centuries of anti-Semitism, persecution, and attempts at elimination.

The State of Israel rests on land that has been uniquely bound to the Jewish people for thousands of years.

From the Exodus from Egypt to the First and Second Temples all the way to today's modern age, there has always been a Jewish presence between the Mediterranean and the Jordan River.

Over the last 75 years, Israelis have made the desert bloom, transforming the country into a modern, industrialized democracy.

Israel is a leader in technology, business, and agriculture. The country's innovative technologies have greatly benefited the United States military and other government agencies.

Israel shares the democratic and human rights values we treasure here in the United States. The recent Abraham Accords represent yet another milestone in Israel's development.

Normalization of Israel's relationships with the UAE, Bahrain, and Morocco are already enhancing regional diplomacy, security, and communication and will serve as an incubator for increased regional stability, prosperity, and peace.

These agreements come on top of already realized peace agreements with Israel's neighbors, Egypt and Jordan, and demonstrate the power of diplomacy and compromise.

As a proud, lifelong supporter of a strong bipartisan U.S.-Israel relationship, I also support a two-state solution which preserves Israel's fundamental character as a Jewish and a democratic state.

This has been the longstanding policy of the United States through both Republican and Democratic administrations.

A two-state solution is the only way Israel can remain both Jewish and democratic into the future, and it is the only way to meet the aspirations of the Palestinian people.

I would like to see the bipartisan consensus on two states be maintained in the future for the benefit of the United States, Israel, the Palestinians, and the wider region and world.

Mr. Speaker, it is a great honor to be on the floor of the House of Representatives honoring Israel's 75th anniversary as well as the Abraham Accords.

Modern Israel is truly a miracle, and its existence is an asset to our great country. I encourage my colleagues to support this bipartisan resolution that I was proud to help introduce with my colleagues on the House Foreign Affairs Committee: Representatives ANN WAGNER, BRAD SCHNEIDER, and Chairman MIKE MCCAUL.

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

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

Ms. MANNING. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to my friend from Illinois (Mr. SCHNEIDER).

Mr. SCHNEIDER. Mr. Speaker, 25 years ago, I proudly joined many fellow Chicagoans in Kiryat Gat, Israel, celebrating the 50th jubilee anniversary of the establishment of the Jewish State in the land of the Jewish people.

Today, I proudly stand in the well of the House of Representatives marking the 75th anniversary of that remarkable event.

I am beyond proud that the United States was the first Nation to recognize the nascent State of Israel in 1948.

In the 3 score and 15 years since, our shared values have been the bedrock of an extraordinary relationship, strengthening our ties along cultural, economic, technological, and security lines, and in so many more ways, as well.

Throughout my life, I have prayed for a just and lasting peace for Israel and all the people of the region.

I have joyously celebrated each of the peace agreements between Israel and Egypt, Israel and Jordan, and the Abraham Accords between the UAE, Bahrain, and Morocco.

I know in my heart that peace can one day be achieved with the Palestinians with a negotiated two-state solution that would give us a Jewish democratic Israel and a demilitarized democratic Palestinian state living side by side in peace, security, and prosperity.

Again, we celebrate with Israel 75 years of independence; 75 years of partnership; 75 years of scientific and medical research and innovation that gave us cell phones, Waze directions, the PillCam, and drip irrigation, revolutionizing agriculture around the world. We celebrate with Israel 75 years of cultural exchange; 75 years of economic growth with a start-up nation; 75 years of security cooperation. We celebrate 75 years together of pursuing peace; peace with Egypt in 1979, Jordan in 1994, and with the Abraham Accords, again, UAE, Bahrain, and Morocco.

Mr. Speaker, I wish the Israelis and the Israel people, the State of Israel, congratulations on 75 years, and we all look forward to building together toward a better future for Israel and the region for years to come.

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

Mr. MCCAUL. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from Missouri (Mrs. WAGNER), the author of this resolution, who made it just in the nick of time.

Mrs. WAGNER. Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend, the chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, for yielding, and I am glad that I made it.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H. Res. 311, which I did introduce, to honor 75 years of friendship between the United States and Israel.

The decades-long partnership between our nations underpins security in the Middle East and promotes economic growth throughout the region.

Tonight marks the beginning of Israel's 75th Independence Day, a remarkable milestone that celebrates the establishment of a democratic Jewish homeland.

I have had the privilege to travel to Israel several times as a Member of Congress; from Jerusalem to the West Bank.

I met so many wonderful and welcoming people there: parents and businesspeople who simply yearn for peace in their region. Being on the ground in the Holy Land was among the most moving experiences of my life.

The United States was the very first Nation to stand in recognition of Israel at its founding in 1948, and I am proud of what our countries have accomplished together.

The signing of the Abraham Accords more than 2 years ago heralded an unprecedented opportunity for growth in the Middle East and beyond.

Already, the Abraham Accords have proven to be enduring and fruitful, contributing to regional stability and a sense of kinship between Israel and its neighbors.

As a founding co-chair of the Abraham Accords Caucus, I have been delighted to meet so many young people, entrepreneurs, innovators, and leaders who are working to establish relationships of trust and appreciation and lay the foundations for a prosperous future.

These efforts will have region-wide implications, encouraging sustained economic growth, peace, and stability.

This resolution urges other nations to normalize relations with Israel and ensure that existing agreements continue to reap tangible security and economic benefits for all peoples in the region.

We must all, however, be frank in recognizing the immense security challenges facing Abraham Accords countries.

Iran is closer than ever before to joining the ranks of nuclear powers, a terrifying prospect for us all, but especially so for Israel and its neighbors.

H. Res. 311 calls for continued support for United States security assistance to Israel so that Israel can defend herself.

However, security cooperation must be accompanied by real and sustained progress on eliminating anti-Semitism, an abhorrent ideology that continues to impede expansion of the accords and poison international institutions.

To secure universal acceptance of Israel's inherent right to exist, my resolution calls for Israel's robust participation in the community of nations.

Israel is a force for peace and a beacon of democracy in a challenging region. At a time of heightened anti-Semitism across the globe, it is more important than ever that we maintain our strong connection to this very key ally.

I thank my colleagues, Representatives MANNING, MCCAUL, and SCHNEIDER, for joining together in introducing this resolution.

They are all true champions of the U.S.-Israel alliance, and I have had the pleasure of working with them for many years to advance this essential relationship.

I congratulate the people of Israel on their 75th anniversary of their independence, and I urge each of my colleagues to support H. Res. 311.

□ 1700

Ms. MANNING. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time for the purpose of closing.

Mr. Speaker, I express my congratulations to Israel on the 75th anniversary of its independence and express my hope for Israel to find peace with all of its neighbors in the near future. I remind my colleagues and the world that President Truman on behalf of our great Nation was the very first country to recognize the establishment of the State of Israel only 11 minutes after David Ben-Gurion made his historic declaration of the establishment of the Jewish democratic State of Israel.

At this time, with the frightening rise of anti-Semitism we are seeing in our own country and around the world, it is more important than ever that we support the one Jewish country in the world.

Mr. Speaker, I hope my colleagues will join me in support of this important resolution, and I yield back the balance of my time.

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

I thank Ms. MANNING, Mr. SCHNEIDER, and Mrs. WAGNER for leading on this important resolution. On a personal note, I have to thank my own father who fought in World War II and was a bombardier on a B–17 who bombed the Nazis. He participated in 32 bombing missions, including Operation Overlord.

My father's generation liberated Europe from the threats and the horrors of the Nazis and fascism. They liberated the Jewish people from the horrors surrounding the Holocaust, which is unimaginable. That generation brought the State of Israel into existence, and that is our pact with Israel.

Since 1948, Israel has been our best friend and our strongest ally in the Middle East. Israel has also been a true beacon of hope and democracy in the Middle East.

I look forward to a day, as I know they envisioned at the time of its creation in 1948, that even though these forces still exist today of anti-Semitism in Iran and other nations, that one day we will achieve true peace in the Middle East. I look forward to the day that Israel can coexist peacefully with its surrounding neighbors in the region and with the world.

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

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, while I will vote in favor of this resolution and support the advancement of the Abraham Accords and normalization of relations with Israel, I am disappointed that the resolution does not mention the longstanding U.S. policy of supporting a two-state solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, as past U.S.-Israel relationship anniversary resolutions have. I continue to strongly support a sustainable two-state solution, with a democratic, Jewish state of Israel and a demilitarized, democratic Palestinian state living peacefully side-by-side. This resolution's omission of this policy is concerning given the current far-right Israeli governing coalition under Prime Minister Netanyahu, which has seriously undermined the prospects for a two-state solution.

Further, as hundreds of thousands of Israelis have been protesting in opposition of an anti-democratic judicial overhaul, it's important for U.S. policymakers to recognize that a negotiated two-state solution requires a robust democracy in Israel. America must insist that Israel not only remains committed to the two-state solution but committed to democracy in Israel.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I will be voting to support H. Res. 311 today. We all support our ally Israel and recognize our longstanding alliance on Israel's 75th Anniversary. I cast my vote, however, with some misgivings.

There is nothing particularly problematic about this resolution, but there is a problem with what it does not say. I spent a week in Israel in February, and I saw first-hand the momentous crisis facing Israel—a crisis of democracy, a human rights crisis, and an international crisis.

Israel's democratic crisis, including deliberate attempts to undermine the Supreme Court and an independent judiciary, has brought hundreds of thousands of ordinary Israeli citizens to take to the streets in protest.

The human rights crisis includes the steady deterioration of the basic human rights of Arab Israelis and of the Palestinian people in the West Bank and Gaza brought about by deliberate decisions, policies, and actions by Israeli authorities.

As a result, there is mounting alarm, criticism, and condemnation of Israel in the international community by governments, NGOs, and civil society.

Mr. Speaker, this resolution ignores the reality on the ground.

This resolution ignores the damage that the current extremist government is accelerating inside Israel and in the West Bank and Gaza.

For the first time that I can remember, a resolution celebrating Israel's anniversary is being brought before the House without mention of congressional support for a two-state solution.

I honor Israel's remarkable history on its 75th Anniversary, but unlike this resolution, I cannot be deaf, blind, and mute to the current challenge to Israel's democracy, the suffering of Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza, the terrorism that continues to fester in the region, and the fragility of any remaining possibility for a negotiated two-state solution.

I urge my colleagues, regardless of how they might vote on this resolution, not to abandon a two-state solution and to work together in support of peace, human dignity, and democracy for Israel and the Palestinian people.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. MCCAUL) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 311.

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

The yeas and nays were ordered.

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

RECESS

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

Accordingly (at 5 o'clock and 3 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1830

AFTER RECESS

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

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

Motions to suspend the rules and agree to:

H. Res. 90; and

H. Res. 311.

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.

DEMANDING THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA AND THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF CHINA IMMEDIATELY RELEASE MARK SWIDAN

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 agree to

the resolution (H. Res. 90) demanding that the Government of the People's Republic of China and the Communist Party of China immediately release Mark Swidan, as amended, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. MCCAUL) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, as amended.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 418, nays 0, not voting 16, as follows:

[Roll No. 193]

YEAS—418

Adams
Aderholt
Aguilar
Alford
Allen
Allred
Amodei
Armstrong
Arrington
Auchincloss
Babin
Bacon
Baird
Balderson
Balint
Banks
Barr
Barragán
Bean (FL)
Beatty
Bentz
Bera
Bergman
Beyer
Bice
Biggs
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NC)
Blumenauer
Blunt Rochester
Boebert
Bonamici
Bost
Bowman
Boyle (PA)
Brecheen
Brown
Brownley
Buchanan
Buck
Bucshon
Budzinski
Burchett
Burgess
Burlison
Bush
Calvert
Cammack
Caraveo
Carbajal
Cárdenas
Carey
Carl
Carson
Carter (GA)
Carter (LA)
Carter (TX)
Cartwright
Casar
Case
Casten
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Chavez-DeRemer
Cherfilus-McCormick
Chu
Cicilline
Ciscomani
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Cleaver
Cline
Cloud
Clyburn
Clyde
Cohen
Cole
Collins
Comer
Connolly
Correa
Costa
Courtney
Craig
Crane
Crawford
Crenshaw
Crockett
Cuellar
Curtis
D'Esposito
Davids (KS)
Davidson
Davis (IL)
Davis (NC)
De La Cruz
Dean (PA)
DeGette
DeLauro
DelBene
Deluzio
DeSaulnier
DesJarlais
Diaz-Balart
Dingell
Doggett
Donalds
Duarte
Duncan
Dunn (FL)
Edwards
Ellzey
Emmer
Escobar
Eshoo
Espaillat
Evans
Ezell
Fallon
Feenstra
Ferguson
Finstad
Fischbach
Fitzgerald
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Fletcher
Flood
Foster
Foushee
Foxx
Franklin, C. Scott
Frost
Fry
Fulcher
Gaetz
Gallagher
Gallego
Garamendi
Garbarino
García (IL)
Garcia (TX)
Garcia, Mike
Garcia, Robert
Gimenez
Golden (ME)
Goldman (NY)
Gomez
Gonzales, Tony
Gonzalez, Vicente
Good (VA)
Gooden (TX)
Gosar
Gottheimer
Granger
Graves (LA)
Graves (MO)
Green (TN)
Green, Al (TX)
Greene (GA)
Grijalva
Grothman
Guest
Guthrie
Hageman
Harder (CA)
Harris
Harshbarger
Hayes
Hern
Higgins (LA)
Higgins (NY)
Hill
Himes
Hinson
Horsford
Houchin
Houlahan
Hoyer
Hoyle (OR)
Hudson
Huffman
Huizenga
Hunt
Issa
Ivey
Jackson (IL)
Jackson (NC)
Jackson (TX)
Jackson Lee
Jacobs
James
Jayapal
Jeffries
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (LA)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson (SD)
Jordan
Joyce (OH)
Joyce (PA)
Kamlager-Dove
Kaptur
Kean (NJ)
Keating
Kelly (IL)
Kelly (MS)
Khanna
Kiggans (VA)
Kilmer
Kim (CA)
Kim (NJ)
Krishnamoorthi
Kuster
Kustoff
LaHood
LaLota
LaMalfa
Lamborn
Landsman
Langworthy
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latta
Lawler
Lee (FL)
Lee (NV)
Lee (PA)
Leger Fernandez
Lesko
Letlow
Levin
Lieu
Lofgren
Loudermilk
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Luna
Luttrell
Lynch
Mace
Magaziner
Malliotakis
Mann
Manning
Massie
Mast
Matsui
McBath
McCaul
McClain
McClellan
McClintock
McCollum
McCormick
McGarvey
McGovern
McHenry
Meeks
Menendez
Meng
Meuser
Mfume
Miller (IL)
Miller (OH)
Miller (WV)
Miller-Meeks
Mills
Molinaro
Moolenaar
Mooney
Moore (AL)
Moore (UT)
Moore (WI)
Moran
Morelle
Moskowitz
Moulton
Mrvan
Mullin
Murphy
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Neguse
Nehls
Newhouse
Nickel
Norcross
Norman
Nunn (IA)
Obernolte
Ocasio-Cortez
Ogles
Omar
Owens
Pallone
Palmer
Panetta
Pappas
Pascrell
Payne
Pelosi
Peltola
Pence
Perez
Perry
Pettersen
Pfluger
Phillips
Pingree
Pocan
Posey
Pressley
Quigley
Ramirez
Raskin
Reschenthaler
Rodgers (WA)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rose
Rosendale
Rouzer
Roy
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Rutherford
Ryan
Salazar
Salinas
Sánchez
Santos
Sarbanes
Scalise
Scanlon
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schneider
Scholten
Schrier
Schweikert
Scott (VA)
Scott, Austin
Scott, David
Self
Sessions
Sewell
Sherman
Sherrill
Simpson
Slotkin
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (WA)
Smucker
Sorensen
Soto
Spanberger
Spartz
Stansbury
Stanton
Stauber
Steel
Stefanik
Steil
Steube
Stevens
Strickland
Strong
Sykes
Takano
Tenney
Thanedar
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thompson (PA)
Tiffany
Timmons
Titus
Tlaib
Tokuda
Tonko
Torres (CA)
Torres (NY)
Trahan
Trone
Turner
Underwood
Valadao
Van Drew
Van Duyne
Van Orden
Vargas
Vasquez
Veasey
Velázquez
Wagner
Walberg
Waltz
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Wenstrup
Westerman
Wexton
Wild
Williams (GA)
Williams (NY)
Wilson (FL)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Womack
Yakym
Zinke

NOT VOTING—16

Crow
Estes
Frankel, Lois
Griffith
Kelly (PA)
Kildee
Kiley
LaTurner
Lee (CA)
Peters
Porter
Ross
Stewart
Swalwell
Watson Coleman
Williams (TX)

□ 1901

Ms. PRESSLEY and Mr. TORRES of New York changed their vote from ''nay'' to ''yea.''

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.

The title of the resolution was amended so as to read: ''Demanding that the Government of the People's Republic of China and the Chinese Communist Party immediately release Mark Swidan.''.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

ENCOURAGING THE EXPANSION AND STRENGTHENING OF THE ABRAHAM ACCORDS TO URGE OTHER NATIONS TO NORMALIZE RELATIONS WITH ISRAEL AND ENSURE THAT EXISTING AGREEMENTS REAP TANGIBLE SECURITY AND ECONOMIC BENEFITS FOR THE CITIZENS OF THOSE COUNTRIES AND ALL PEOPLES IN THE REGION

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BACON). Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 311) encouraging the expansion and strengthening of the Abraham Accords to urge other nations to normalize relations with Israel and ensure that existing agreements reap tangible security and economic benefits for the citizens of those countries and all peoples in the region, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. MCCAUL) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution.

This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 401, nays 19, not voting 15, as follows:

[Roll No. 194]

YEAS—401

Adams
Aderholt
Aguilar
Alford
Allen
Allred
Amodei
Armstrong
Arrington
Auchincloss
Babin
Bacon
Baird
Balderson
Balint
Banks
Barr
Barragán
Bean (FL)
Beatty
Bentz
Bera
Bergman
Beyer
Bice
Biggs
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NC)
Blumenauer
Blunt Rochester
Boebert
Bonamici
Bost
Boyle (PA)
Brecheen
Brown
Brownley
Buchanan
Buck
Bucshon
Budzinski
Burchett
Burgess
Burlison
Calvert
Cammack
Caraveo
Carbajal
Cárdenas
Carey
Carl
Carter (GA)
Carter (LA)
Carter (TX)
Cartwright
Casar
Case
Casten
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Chavez-DeRemer
Cherfilus-McCormick
Chu
Cicilline
Ciscomani
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Cleaver
Cline
Cloud
Clyburn
Clyde
Cohen
Cole
Collins
Comer
Connolly
Correa
Costa
Courtney
Craig
Crane
Crawford
Crenshaw
Crockett
Cuellar
Curtis
D'Esposito
Davids (KS)
Davidson
Davis (IL)
Davis (NC)
De La Cruz
Dean (PA)
DeGette
DeLauro
DelBene
Deluzio
DesJarlais
Diaz-Balart
Dingell
Doggett
Donalds
Duarte
Duncan
Dunn (FL)
Edwards
Ellzey
Emmer
Escobar
Eshoo
Espaillat
Evans
Ezell
Fallon
Feenstra
Ferguson
Finstad
Fischbach
Fitzgerald
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Fletcher
Flood
Foster
Foushee
Foxx
Franklin, C. Scott
Frost
Fry
Fulcher
Gaetz
Gallagher
Gallego
Garamendi
Garbarino
Garcia (TX)
Garcia, Mike
Garcia, Robert
Gimenez
Golden (ME)
Goldman (NY)
Gomez
Gonzales, Tony

Gonzalez, Vicente
Good (VA)
Gooden (TX)
Gosar
Gottheimer
Granger
Graves (LA)
Graves (MO)
Green (TN)
Green, Al (TX)
Greene (GA)
Griffith
Grothman
Guest
Guthrie
Hageman
Harder (CA)
Harris
Harshbarger
Hayes
Hern
Higgins (LA)
Higgins (NY)
Hill
Himes
Hinson
Horsford
Houchin
Houlahan
Hoyer
Hoyle (OR)
Hudson
Huizenga
Hunt
Issa
Ivey
Jackson (IL)
Jackson (NC)
Jackson (TX)
Jackson Lee
Jacobs
James
Jeffries
Johnson (LA)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson (SD)
Jordan
Joyce (OH)
Joyce (PA)
Kamlager-Dove
Kaptur
Kean (NJ)
Keating
Kelly (IL)
Kelly (MS)
Khanna
Kiggans (VA)
Kiley
Kilmer
Kim (CA)
Kim (NJ)
Krishnamoorthi
Kuster
Kustoff
LaHood
LaLota
LaMalfa
Lamborn
Landsman
Langworthy
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latta
Lawler
Lee (FL)
Lee (NV)
Leger Fernandez
Lesko
Letlow
Levin
Lieu
Lofgren
Loudermilk
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Luna
Luttrell
Lynch
Mace
Magaziner
Malliotakis
Mann
Manning
Mast
Matsui
McBath
McCarthy
McCaul
McClain
McClellan
McClintock
McCormick
McGarvey
McGovern
McHenry
Meeks
Menendez
Meng
Meuser
Mfume
Miller (IL)
Miller (OH)
Miller (WV)
Miller-Meeks
Mills
Molinaro
Moolenaar
Mooney
Moore (AL)
Moore (UT)
Moore (WI)
Moran
Morelle
Moskowitz
Moulton
Mrvan
Mullin
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Neguse
Nehls
Newhouse
Nickel
Norcross
Norman
Nunn (IA)
Obernolte
Ogles
Owens
Pallone
Palmer
Panetta
Pappas
Pascrell
Payne
Pelosi
Peltola
Pence
Perez
Perry
Pettersen
Pfluger
Phillips
Pingree
Posey
Quigley
Raskin
Reschenthaler
Rodgers (WA)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rose
Rosendale
Rouzer
Roy
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Rutherford
Ryan
Salazar
Salinas
Sánchez
Santos
Sarbanes
Scalise
Scanlon
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schneider
Scholten
Schrier
Schweikert
Scott (VA)
Scott, Austin
Scott, David
Self
Sessions
Sewell
Sherman
Sherrill
Simpson
Slotkin
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (WA)
Smucker
Sorensen
Soto
Spanberger
Spartz
Stansbury
Stanton
Stauber
Steel
Stefanik
Steil
Steube
Stevens
Strickland
Strong
Sykes
Takano
Tenney
Thanedar
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thompson (PA)
Tiffany
Timmons
Titus
Tokuda
Tonko
Torres (CA)
Torres (NY)
Trahan
Trone
Turner
Underwood
Valadao
Van Drew
Van Duyne
Van Orden
Vargas
Vasquez
Veasey
Wagner
Walberg
Waltz
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Wenstrup
Westerman
Wexton
Wild
Williams (GA)
Williams (NY)
Wilson (FL)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Womack
Yakym
Zinke

NAYS—19

Bowman
Bush
Carson
DeSaulnier
García (IL)
Grijalva
Huffman
Jayapal
Johnson (GA)
Lee (PA)
Massie
McCollum
Ocasio-Cortez
Omar
Pocan
Pressley
Ramirez
Tlaib
Velázquez

NOT VOTING—15

Crow
Estes
Frankel, Lois
Kelly (PA)
Kildee
LaTurner
Lee (CA)
Murphy
Peters
Porter
Ross
Stewart
Swalwell
Watson Coleman
Williams (TX)

□ 1916

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

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to attend votes due to a medical procedure. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall No. 193 and "yea" on rollcall No. 194.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Ms. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to be present to cast votes today. Had I been present I would have voted "yea" on rollcall 193 and "yea" on rollcall 194.

PERMITTING OFFICIAL PHOTOGRAPHS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TO BE TAKEN WHILE THE HOUSE IS IN ACTUAL SESSION ON A DATE DESIGNATED BY THE SPEAKER

Mr. STEIL. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on House Administration be discharged from further consideration of H. Res. 321, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

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

There was no objection.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 321

Resolved, That on such date as the Speaker of the House of Representatives may designate, official photographs of the House may be taken while the House is in actual session. Payment for the costs associated with taking, preparing, and distributing such photographs may be made from the applicable accounts of the House of Representatives.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

MOMENT OF SILENCE IN MEMORY OF THE HONORABLE ELMER G. ''BUD'' SHUSTER

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

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, for nearly three decades, Chairman Bud Shuster was a tireless champion for the people of central Pennsylvania. He truly earned the nickname ''Mr. Chairman'' as he led the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee into the 21st century, spearheading infrastructure projects that have stood the test of time and remain standing today, not only in Pennsylvania, but throughout the United States.

Chairman Shuster's vision and his leadership built the roads, the bridges, and the waterways that have allowed our communities and our Nation to thrive. On behalf of all the Pennsylvania delegation standing here with me this evening, I ask for a moment of silence to honor the late chairman, Bud Shuster.

GREATER LONGVIEW UNITED WAY

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

Mr. MORAN. Mr. Speaker, every year the Greater Longview United Way hosts a fundraiser known as their annual campaign to raise money for nonprofit organizations in the Gregg County area.

In recognition of the 75th year, the United Way's campaign theme was: ''Past. Present. Future. We are UNITED.''

This year, the organization surpassed their goal by over $25,000, raising a grand total of $1.1 million, which will be used to help fund nearly 40 programs across 20 nonprofits in the Gregg County area.

United Ways are a vital part of communities across the Nation, bringing people together to volunteer, advocate, and give back to their community.

Their core belief is that only when a community is united to benefit all people, regardless of race, creed, class, school district, or place of origin that true change can happen.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the executive director, Dr. Evan Dolive; campaign and community outreach manager, Heather Stevenson; and front office coordinator, Raven Atkinson for their dedication to the United Way and our Gregg County community.

CELEBRATING 40 YEARS OF THE ROSELLE ACTIVE SENIORS GROUP

(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 40th anniversary of the Roselle Active Seniors group. It began in 1983 when a group of Roselle residents took trips to local places of interest. The connections and conversations between the residents soon sparked talk of a formal group.

Today, the Roselle Active Seniors group provides fun activities, trips, and outreach opportunities for local seniors, and it is an important part of our community. Group members provide Easter baskets for children with disabilities, baby supplies for single mothers, toy drives and winter clothes for children in need, and food baskets for families during Thanksgiving.

I attended a recent gathering of the group, and I was extremely impressed with the members and their organization. It is an incredible group that I am proud to have in my district.

CONGRATULATING STEVE WATERS OF GLYNN COUNTY

(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 congratulate Steve Waters, athletic director at Glynn County for being named State Athletic Director of the Year for Class 6–A.

Steve has a long history of success in high school sports. He won a State championship in basketball at Christian Renewal Academy and turned around a losing program at Monroe Academy where he took them to the Elite Eight.

Steve has been the athletic director in Glynn County for the last 11 years. During his tenure, he has been responsible for large expansion projects centered around the high school football field. He has also been able to add 14 new sports programs to the school system.

Outside of work, Steve has a passion for service. He created a foundation that raises money for Morquio research, a rare genetic condition that affects a child's bones, spine, organs, and physical abilities. He recently held a golf tournament and silent auction fundraiser and was able to raise $330,000.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate Steve on this great honor and all he has done for our community.

FINDING A SOLUTION FOR GUN VIOLENCE

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

Ms. HOULAHAN. Mr. Speaker, over 13,000 people in the United States have died from gun violence this year alone. Let me repeat that: Over 13,000 people in the United States have died from gun violence this year alone, and it is only April. This means that over 100 people are dying by gunshot every single day.

We have to take action to stop this epidemic. We have to address the scourge of gun violence and the multiple reasons that we find ourselves here almost every single day having the same conversation.

People should be able to ring the wrong doorbell accidentally or drive into the wrong driveway without the fear of being shot. We cannot continue to glorify guns while vilifying and frightening our fellow Americans. More guns are not the answer. Improving public safety and supporting our law enforcement will make us safer and can help change public sentiment so that people will stop seeing guns as solutions and our neighbors and each other as threats.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to please work together on finding our common ground with actual solutions to gun violence. The American people are asking us to do this. We must work together. We must move forward rather than pushing each other apart.

□ 1930

CONGRATULATING THE CHILDREN'S TRUST ON THEIR 20TH ANNIVERSARY

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

Mr. GIMENEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate The Children's Trust on their 20th anniversary.

My wife, Lourdes, and I have been longtime supporters of The Children's Trust and are so proud of their tireless work to protect our community's children and safeguard taxpayer dollars.

I would especially thank our friends, David Lawrence and James Haaj. Their visionary leadership has paved the way for the countless innovative programs offered by The Children's Trust aimed at improving the lives of our next generation of leaders: our children.

In Miami-Dade, we are blessed to have The Children's Trust prioritizing our kids' welfare and investing in family programs to nurture and advocate for all of our children regardless of socioeconomic background.

As a county commissioner, mayor, and now a Member of Congress, I have seen the impact of The Children's Trust firsthand, and I look forward to continuing to work closely together.

Congratulations on these 20 years and many, many more.

IN MEMORY OF MELINDA GRACZYK

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

Ms. TLAIB. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the memory of Melinda Graczyk, a lifelong volunteer in service to the people of Redford Township in Michigan's 12th District Strong.

Melinda embraced her passion to serve the unrepresented, chairing Redford's newly formed commission for diversity, equity, and inclusion in order to create a more welcoming community for all.

Through her work with the Jaycees, Melinda volunteered to build local community gardens which provided thousands of pounds of fresh vegetables to families in need. They also founded the Redford farmer's market, providing a local source of fresh, locally grown food at an affordable price.

As a volunteer and eventually president of Redford's festival committee, they helped plan and execute all of Redford's local festivals throughout the year, creating opportunities for residents to gather and foster a sense of community.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in recognizing Melinda Graczyk's unwavering service to our district and the Redford Township community as we honor her memory.

OUR NATION'S DEBT CEILING CRISIS

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

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, since January, Democrats and the President have tried to falsely claim that House Republicans have no plan regarding the Nation's debt ceiling crisis.

This week, we released our plan. As always, House Republicans have consistently argued for reasonable, responsible debt limit increases coupled with spending cuts.

Every debt limit debate in this body has been achieved via compromise. It is absurd to think that our Democrat colleagues now demand unilateral increases to our Nation's debt and balk at Republicans for asking for something in return.

Our plan, the Limit, Save, Grow Act of 2023, will save the American taxpayers $4.5 trillion over the next decade. We will limit Federal spending to fiscal year 2022 levels, which our government operated on just 4 months ago.

In exchange, we will allow for a 1 percent annual growth in Federal spending over the next 10 years, which is a compromise.

Included in the bill are clawbacks for around $60 billion in unspent COVID funds. The pandemic is over, and this money that has not been spent should be rescinded without delay.

Also included in the bill is our Lower Energy Costs Act, which has already passed this Chamber with bipartisan support, lowering energy costs for American families.

House Republicans' plan is economically sound, financially wise, and still allows for a debt limit increase of $1.5 trillion. This is a reasonable and responsible plan that will benefit all Americans.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF GEORGE FENTON

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

Mr. CORREA. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to celebrate the life of a very good friend, a dedicated father, a great neighbor, George Fenton.

He was born on Valentine's Day in 1935 and devoted his entire life to serving his country and his community. After graduating from high school in Detroit, Michigan, George joined the U.S. Marine Corps. Decades after his service in the Marine Corps, he often talked and relayed stories about his time at boot camp in Parris Island and Camp Lejeune, and he called it his hot weather training at Twentynine Palms.

Later, George moved his entire family to Garden Grove. He worked for the

city of Orange before joining the Orange County Sheriff's Department in 1971. That is where he met his wife, Lynn, at the courthouse on the job in 1989. They were married in Santa Ana in 1991, and recently they celebrated 31 years of marriage.

After George retired from the Orange County Sheriff's Department in 1993, he spent the next 15 years working at Disneyland as a cast member and ticket taker.

George, you will be missed. Thank you for your time and service.

REMEMBERING HARRY BELAFONTE

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

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, he sold millions of records. He was known around the world: Harry Belafonte. That song we remember, ''Day-O.'' But for those of us who admired and hung onto his every word, we know that he provided a transformational change in the civil rights history of this Nation.

Heroic and courageous, he was not afraid of those who attacked him and called him names. What a major force standing by Dr. Martin Luther King, intervening with politicians and entertainers and providing financial support. He continued questioning this Nation's issues of race. He was fearless.

Mr. Speaker, I am sad about his passing, but I will say that no one will fill his giant shoes. To his wife Pamela, Gina, and other wonderful relatives, I offer my personal regrets and sympathy. As a Jamaican immigrant that he was, he obviously touches my heart and that of my family.

Mr. Speaker, I hope that we will always remember a man that could have been only an entertainer, as well as rich and resounding, but Harry Belafonte wanted to change this country.

Harry, as I see you soar where the eagles fly, may the Lord bless you. Rest in peace, my brother, and rest in power.

CELEBRATING THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE U.S. GREEN BUILDING COUNCIL

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

Mr. TONKO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 30th anniversary of the U.S. Green Building Council, which was founded in April of 1993.

This member-led, nonprofit organization has helped countless schools, businesses, cities, and even countries build and operate better buildings that truly transform lives.

Their LEED certification program has grown to become the world's most acclaimed and widely used green building system with 105,000 projects in 187 countries.

In my home State of New York, over 2,600 projects and over 15,000 homes have achieved LEED certification.

At a time when homeowners and businesses are dealing with rising costs, research has repeatedly found that energy-efficient, lower-waste buildings result in major savings. Plus, they boost staff recruitment, retention, and productivity.

Mr. Speaker, 30 years ago there was no agreement on what constituted green buildings, let alone any kind of accepted mechanism to certify them.

Because of the efforts of the U.S. Green Building Council, our country is moving toward better performing buildings that lower costs and waste, mitigate climate impacts and improve health.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the council's staff for all their great efforts and offer my congratulations to this incredible organization. Here is to another impactful 30 years.

HOLD BAD ACTORS ACCOUNTABLE FOR ILLEGAL TRADING PRACTICES

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

Mr. MRVAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the Fighting Trade Cheats Act of 2023, recently introduced by my friend from Illinois (Mr. BOST).

As the vice chairman of the Congressional Steel Caucus and Representative from one of the largest steel-producing districts in our Nation, I know it is a necessity that we protect American workers and hold bad actors accountable for illegal trading practices.

More must be done to ensure that foreign countries and companies that cheat our trade policies know that their actions will not be tolerated.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Representative BOST for his leadership, and appreciate that his legislation will increase penalties for those who harm American manufacturers.

Mr. Speaker, I look forward to working with my colleagues to ensure that all American workers can compete and can, no doubt, thrive when we have a level playing field in our global economy.

FORCED ARBITRATION IS EVERYWHERE

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

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise to announce this week that I am reintroducing the FAIR Act: the Forced Arbitration Injustice Repeal Act.

Forced arbitration has been a concern of mine for some time, and that is why I have always been in support of sponsoring this legislation which would strip away what powerful corporations have imposed upon consumers and workers. That is forced arbitration.

These forced arbitration clauses are everywhere. Americans sign away their rights when they buy a cell phone or sign an employment contract. They are forced into arbitration, which is a private, for-profit dispute resolution process, and it bans claimants from banding together. The deck is always stacked against the little guy. That is why I have been championing this legislation since 2007. Momentum is shifting to our side.

President Biden signed a law last year invalidating forced arbitration clauses. We have a lot of work to do, and we will continue that with the FAIR Act.

RECOGNIZING THE INCREDIBLE AND HEROIC ADVOCACY OF ELIZABETH WHELAN

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

Ms. STEVENS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the incredible and heroic advocacy of Elizabeth Whelan, the sister of my wrongfully detained constituent, U.S. citizen, and Michigander, Paul Whelan.

Paul Whelan is the longest detained American in Russia. Since his detention in December 2018, Elizabeth has been his fiercest advocate and tireless champion, alongside her brother, David; and parents, Rosemary and Ed.

Elizabeth has spent nearly $100,000 of her own money in the last 5 years to travel to D.C. to meet with political leaders and State Department officials to receive updates on Paul's case, and fight for his release.

Yesterday, speaking at the United Nations, alongside U.S. Ambassador Linda Thomas-Greenfield, Elizabeth directly confronted Russia's Minister of Foreign Affairs, Sergey Lavrov, and implored him to release Paul and to end their cruel practice of hostage diplomacy.

Elizabeth's speech has reverberated around the world. It has made its way to Paul's prison camp in Mordovia.

I have been honored to work with Elizabeth for many years and she will always serve as an inspiration to me and my staff.

Her words yesterday speak for themselves: ''Paul has not committed a crime, but a crime has been committed against him.''

ASKING FOR SUPPORT FOR ENES KANTER FREEDOM

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

GENERAL LEAVE

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

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

There was no objection.

Mr. OWENS. Mr. Speaker, I have the honor and privilege to stand in the House today to highlight the courage of a young man, Enes Kanter Freedom, who has dealt with the tyranny of a country that he came from.

Since becoming an American citizen, he decided to stand for those who do not have the voices that we have here.

Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleagues for being here to share these moments with us, and to educate the American people to the fact that freedom is something we have to fight for. Not only here, but everywhere, there is a voice that is speaking for the things we sometimes take for granted.

Mr. Speaker, I am very, very proud to highlight Enes Kanter Freedom's journey. The fight exposes tyranny in Turkiye and China. I encourage those who are watching to tune in so we can support and help those that are truly voiceless in these other countries.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. DE LA CRUZ).

Ms. DE LA CRUZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today before you as a south Texan and an American to speak out against the human rights violations being committed in Turkiye.

□ 1945

The Turkish Government, under the leadership of President Erdogan, has been suppressing the basic human rights of its citizens for far too long.

As we gather here today, thousands of innocent individuals in Turkiye are being unjustly detained, tortured, and subjected to inhumane treatment. Turkish authorities have shown no regard for the basic rights and freedoms that we take for granted here in our country.

We have heard reports of journalists being arrested and imprisoned simply for speaking out against the government. Teachers, academics, and activists have all faced similar fates. There are countless cases of people being detained and held without trial or evidence. This is not acceptable in any society, let alone one that claims to be a democracy.

However, we are not here just to talk. We are here to demand action from President Biden and insist that he put the interests of the American people first and take time to listen to Turkish Americans, such as professional basketball player Enes Freedom, who has been a vocal advocate for human rights in Turkiye.

Enes has been tirelessly fighting for the rights of the Turkish people, and he has even faced persecution for doing so. He was forced to give up his passport and feared for his life after being accused of being a terrorist for simply speaking out against the government.

We cannot stand by and watch as innocent people are being subjected to such brutality. Our top priority as Members of Congress is to care for the American people.

The Biden administration has an entire State Department that is supposed to advance our interests around the world. It is time for the Biden administration to do its job.

We respect the sovereignty of other nations, but the human rights violations in Turkiye can no longer be ignored. We are all God's children. Let us continue to fight for a world where the human rights of all men, women, and children are respected, regardless of where they come from.

Mr. OWENS. Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend for her remarks. The gentlewoman is a great addition to our Conference.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BILIRAKIS), who is my good friend.

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I am grateful for this opportunity tonight, and I thank my good friend, Mr. OWENS. He does an outstanding job. What a great American he is.

I thank the gentleman for organizing this very important Special Order on the persecution faced by Enes Kanter Freedom by the Erdogan regime.

This issue has personal significance to me, Mr. Speaker, because I consider Enes a very close friend. I am proud to call him my friend.

Enes should be held up and supported by the American Government as someone who has used his platform to speak out against human rights violations around the world. Instead, Mr. Speaker, as the previous speaker said, the Biden administration has been critically silent on the Turkish persecution of Enes Kanter Freedom.

Most recently, Enes had a 10 million Turkish lira bounty—slightly more than $500,000—placed on his head by the Erdogan regime.

This is just the latest of a long line of direct attacks against Enes Kanter Freedom by the Turkish Government. It is unacceptable, and we must speak out.

Since 2017, the Erdogan regime has issued at least 10 arrest warrants against Kanter Freedom, and he even narrowly avoided arrest on behalf of the Turkish Government in Indonesia.

This is unacceptable, Mr. Speaker. I know for a fact that he hasn't seen his family for approximately 10 years because he can't go back to his native Turkiye. Now, he is an American citizen and loving it, and he is giving so much. He is such a great American.

What has he done wrong? What crime has he committed? He chose to speak out against President Erdogan for his regime's numerous human rights violations.

Enes knew the risks but felt compelled to face the risks to his apparent safety and livelihood to be the voice for the voiceless and the defenseless.

What he has given up and what he has sacrificed for those around him, his fellow men and women—it is incredible what he has done. He had a great career in the NBA, and he sacrificed it to help others, people whom he doesn't even know.

As a matter of fact, he holds these clinics around the world for our children, all of God's children here in the United States and around the world. What a great individual. Again, I am so proud to call him my friend.

He reaches out to Republicans and Democrats to advocate on behalf of these wonderful people. He is a bipartisan guy. I would like to say he is a nonpartisan guy. He just wants to do the right thing.

This is particularly evident, again, in his criticism of China and their treatment of the Uyghurs. Again, instead of standing behind Enes, a law-abiding American citizen—he is so proud of his country—the Biden administration has remained silent after the so-called American ally Turkiye placed Enes Kanter Freedom on their most-wanted terrorist list.

Not only has the Biden administration been silent, but it has refused to meet with Mr. Freedom regarding the persecution he faces from the Turkish Government.

That is just wrong. It really is, frankly, a failure on behalf of the Biden administration's responsibility to protect Americans from foreign threats. Through the Global Magnitsky Human Rights Accountability Act, President Biden is authorized to impose sanctions on any foreign person who is responsible for extrajudicial killings, torture, or other gross violations of internationally recognized human rights against any individual.

No action has been taken by this administration, Mr. Speaker, sadly.

President Biden should lead on this issue instead of allowing Enes Kanter Freedom to continue to be persecuted by Turkiye. All we are asking for is a meeting of Mr. Freedom and President Biden or any member of the State Department, a high-level individual, so he can express his concerns.

The President needs, again, to meet with Mr. Freedom and stand up for what is right because that is what Enes does on a daily basis.

Again, he has been persecuted in Turkiye. He lives in fear, but he is a fearless guy. In my opinion, he is a hero.

I appreciate my good friend, BURGESS OWENS, who is a great American himself. He has done so much for so many people in the State of Utah. Again, I am proud to call him my friend. May God bless him.

Mr. OWENS. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Florida (Mrs. CAMMACK), who is my favorite Gator of all time.

Mrs. CAMMACK. Mr. Speaker, I thank my good friend and colleague from the great State of Utah, Mr. BURGESS OWENS, who also happens to be a Floridian by birth.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to add my name to the many of my colleagues who are here today to stand in support of our friend, Enes Kanter Freedom.

Enes has sacrificed his career and put his life on the line to pursue the noble and often dangerous path of fighting for human rights around the world.

In a time when it is easy to go with the flow, often at the expense of those in lands far away, he has made the decision to stand up and speak out.

As a result of his vocal opposition to the various human rights abuses happening around the world today, including the Chinese genocide of Muslim Uyghurs or the oppressive and often brutal regime in his homeland of Turkiye, he, as a human rights advocate, has had a bounty placed on his head of half a million dollars to anyone who will end his life to silence him from highlighting the atrocities that few dare to expose.

Inspired by the United States' example of liberty and justice for all, Enes became an American citizen—he even changed his last name to ''Freedom''—and chose to stand up for what is right even at the expense that cost him so much.

Enes embodies the American Dream and has repeatedly displayed the courage, grit, and work ethic necessary to change the world. He has become a friend not just to me but to several of my friends here in the House of Representatives on both sides of the political aisle. However, despite his best efforts here in the House of Representatives, his calls to meet with White House officials and, more pointedly, President Biden have fallen on deaf ears.

Mr. Speaker, you have to ask yourself: Why? Why would the White House refuse to meet with an individual as high profile as Enes Kanter Freedom? There is simply no good excuse—at least not one that we can discuss here today.

I thank my colleague from Utah for hosting this Special Order and encouraging this administration to step up and meet with Enes to discuss the horrific atrocities happening around the world—moreover, the atrocities that are occurring against Americans who speak out against those who commit these horrific acts.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage those who are watching here today: You can be a force for good. You can speak up. You can speak out.

Mr. OWENS. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for her remarks.

Mr. Speaker, we are going to switch slides here in a minute.

First of all, I thank my colleagues. It has been a full day, a flying day, yet they found the time. Many would have loved to have been here—but they had other things going on—to speak up for a young man who had the courage when many in the NBA league would not. He had the courage to stand out. He had the courage to stand up because freedom is something that many of us take for granted. He happened to be a young man at the age of 20 who stood up against the regime that he saw changing.

Two years ago, he started exposing the atrocities in Communist China, a country that is very near and dear to the NBA because that is where they get a lot of funding now and where they get a lot of profits now. We can see that there are many who are playing the game and becoming very, very wealthy and becoming very, very popular and getting a lot of fame but not willing to do what Enes Kanter was able and willing to do—to give it all—because he believes so much in the idea of freedom.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my grave concerns regarding the human rights abuses discussed tonight. Once a thriving democracy, the two-decades-long ruthless regime of Erdogan has made Turkiye notorious for human rights abuses.

For over a decade, former NBA star Enes Kanter Freedom has used his platform to speak for the voiceless who are suffering under the tyranny of Turkiye and Communist China.

Turkiye's oppressive behavior does not end with Enes. Journalists, human rights activists, and protesters are jailed. His father was jailed because he spoke up here in the United States—unjustly, to say the least. Protesters are jailed without trial and labeled ''terrorists'' without evidence.

Turkiye is ranked fourth globally for arresting journalists critical of the government. Turkiye's President has also weaponized the judiciary system to target opposition parties.

This is not democracy. This is not what a NATO ally should be standing for or acting like.

□ 2000

Two years ago, the Constitutional Court of the Republic of Turkiye shut down the second largest political party.

Women's rights are also under threat in Turkiye, as well. The Turkish Government withdrew from the Istanbul Convention, an international treaty to tackle gender-based violence.

In anticipation of a formidable challenge in the upcoming general elections in Turkiye, the regime is intimidating rival parties, voters, and the press to sway the election results in the government's favor.

The Biden administration and other NATO allies must condemn these heinous actions of the Turkish regime. Unfortunately, once again, President Biden is a laggard when it comes to protection of basic human rights and freedoms.

Though an American citizen, Turkiye put a $500,000 bounty on Enes for calling out the abuse of power in Turkiye. President Biden, as has been noted before, has repeatedly refused to meet with our fellow citizens. He has also ignored the official requests from many of my fellow Republican colleagues to do so.

The Biden administration has failed to protect one of the most fundamental rights of every American—freedom of speech.

When Enes criticized the Chinese Communist Party for its brutality against its own people, the NBA abruptly ended his career.

As the corporatist sports complex—NBA, NFL, and Nike—promoted the anti-flag, anti-American, BLM, Marxist movement, it was Enes Freedom who was speaking about the real human rights abuses being perpetrated by the CCP.

Note here the shoe, ''end slavery.'' No slavery. That is something that you did not see on TV, I can promise you that.

It was his voice that exposed the corporatist sports complex hypocrisy as they chose to turn a blind eye to the misery their business model had created for the Chinese people. Enes' criticism culminated in the CCP's demand that he be canceled. The CCP's cancellation of China's NBA TV coverage drove home the consequences of not bowing to their demands. Once the NBA acted to terminate the 11-year all-star's career, the CCP allowed NBA games to once again be aired in the Chinese market.

The NBA, NFL, and Nike's decades-old partnership with the CCP has created a culture within the corporatist sports complex that can best be summarized as profit over American patriotism and profit over the Chinese people.

It is a culture that has granted credibility to the Communist Chinese regime, a regime that has interned over 1 million Muslim Uyghurs.

It is a culture that promoted BLM rhetoric of America's systemic racism as the global corporatists in real time profited in the billions from slavery in China. This sports complex has discovered the financial benefits of the 1800's slave trade, that when given scale, human slavery is the cheapest and most profitable labor on planet Earth.

The NBA, NFL, and Nike culture of greed profit over patriotism and profits over the Chinese people has justified them closing their eyes to the genocide of the Muslim Uyghurs. It confirms that child labor, human trafficking, and organ harvesting from healthy Muslim Uyghurs is okay as long as it is out of sight and out of mind.

What the voice and action of Enes Freedom did was show the hypocrisy of their virtue signaling. As the NBA handed out slogans to players on their jerseys to support Black Lives Matter, he was wearing shoes that highlighted the real issue of atrocities of slavery in China. Again, this is what was not seen on prime time TV.

On a side note, and a personal note: Where are the activist voices of this corporatist sports complex as throughout our country hopeless Black youth callously kill each other by the thousands?

Where are their BLM slogans and messages on the sidelines as in every urban city our education system betrays at-risk kids by the millions?

Where is the presence and voice of the sports complex whose very survival

depends on 70 to 80 percent of Black talent?

Mr. Speaker, the corporatist sports complex of the NFL, NBA, Nike could care less about Black lives, Muslim lives, Asian lives, White lives, or American lives. For them, it is indeed profit that matters. If turning their backs on their loyal fans here in America and betraying the values that have made us the greatest country in the history of mankind, so be it. Profit over patriotism.

One of the values that the Republican Conference holds dear and will make clear is loyalty to our fellow countrymen and women. Turkiye, remove the bounty off Enes Kanter Freedom and any other American citizen. If not, there will be legislative action from this body, I can promise you.

We call on the Turkish Government to release all political prisoners and cease its persecution of the Hizmet movement and its members. We expect a NATO ally to respect free speech and assembly and to uphold its international obligations to protect human rights.

Let us not be the generation that history looks back on as one of moral indifference.

Let us not be the generation that is compared to the 1800s pre-Civil War era when industries flourished from the demands of cotton as they betrayed their commitment to our human rights of life, liberty, and pursuit of happiness.

Enes Kanter Freedom has shown the bold courage, tenacity, and empathy that defines our American way. For the millions who depend on American resolve to remain the shining city on the hill, we are committed to freedom and liberty in every corner of the world. We must stand, rise, support those Americans who speak and stand for freedom and the freedom of speech. Let's make sure as Americans we are not looked at as the one who dropped the ball in this case.

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

ISSUES OF THE DAY

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

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include any extraneous material on the subject of this Special Order.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I rise today to coanchor this CBC Special Order hour along with the gentlewoman from Florida (Mrs. CHERFILUS-MCCORMICK), my distinguished colleague.

For the next 60 minutes, members of the CBC have the opportunity to speak directly to the American people on the default on America act, Speaker MCCARTHY's draconian plan to default on our debt. The act proposes drastic cuts to vital government programs such as SNAP, Social Security, and housing programs, which serve as lifelines for our communities.

There is a group within the Republican Party that are holding these programs hostage in exchange for paying the debt we have already incurred. However, the CBC is here tonight to declare that this approach is a nonstarter, and we will not negotiate over paying the Nation's bills that we have incurred. We advocate for a clean debt limit, a bill that will protect the well-being of our citizens and our Nation's financial stability.

This issue holds great importance to the Congressional Black Caucus, to our Congress, the constituents we represent, and all Americans.

I now yield to my coanchor, the Honorable Congresswoman SHEILA CHERFILUS-MCCORMICK.

Mrs. CHERFILUS-MCCORMICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to voice my deep concern with Speaker MCCARTHY's reckless plan to address the debt ceiling, which will impose a hardship on working Americans. Instead of solving problems, House Republicans are holding our Nation hostage and demanding that their ransom be met.

Let us not beat around the bush: Caps equal cuts, and Speaker MCCARTHY's brinkmanship is dangerous. If extreme Republicans have their way, communities across the country will suffer.

The 320-page proposal from the other side of the aisle pushes forward drastic cuts to government programs, programs that families in my district desperately need.

The Republican Party seems to be more focused on padding the pockets of large corporations and billionaires instead of lending a hand to working Americans. The GOP framework is nothing short of a catastrophe.

It includes sweeping cuts to SNAP and food assistance programs that low-income families depend on. It destroys President Biden's student loan debt agenda under the guise of fiscal responsibility. It imposes cruel Medicaid work requirements, ripping healthcare coverage directly from people's hands. It would rescind $80 billion allocated to the IRS through President Biden's historic Inflation Reduction Act. It would repeal clean energy tax credits, which have proven crucial in addressing the climate crisis.

What Republicans are proposing is just not in the best interests of our working people. The American people need a government that works for them, not against them. There will certainly be an opportunity to debate the GOP's rightwing policy proposals down the road, but doing so at the expense of the American people through gamesmanship is reckless and irresponsible.

We need to all work together to make life easier, not harder. Members of Congress have a responsibility to serve the American people. I urge Speaker MCCARTHY and the Republicans to stop playing political games with our economy and those we are elected to serve.

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WATERS).

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, in just a few months, the United States is on track to default on its debt for the first time in history. This is because Speaker MCCARTHY has unveiled a bill that he claims will fulfill our debt obligations, but in reality it will cut access to critical social programs supporting education, food assistance, healthcare, and housing. It would devastate our economy, and we all know it is a dead-on-arrival bill. It will crash our global financial markets.

According to Moody's, under MCCARTHY's legislation, 780,000 Americans will lose their jobs, and our Nation's unemployment rate will surge. We all know that this pain will be borne disproportionately by people of color.

Republicans must put an end to this needless political theater and raise the debt limit, as they did three times with no problem under the twice-impeached and newly indicted former President Donald Trump, who signed $4.7 trillion in new deficits into law. Not only that, but they must do so without any cuts or reductions to housing funds given the terrible state of affordability in America.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my Republican colleagues who care about our economy—or who say they care about our economy—and the American Dream to get serious and work with Democrats to avert a catastrophic default by supporting a clean bill to raise the debt limit.

Mr. Speaker, this should not be about politics. This should be about whether or not you love this country and whether or not you believe that we should pay our bills, whether or not you think it would be horrible if this government is to shut down.

If we don't pay our bills and the government shuts down, employees will not be able to put food on their tables. They will not be able to pay their mortgage or their rent. They will not be able to support their children in the ways that they should be supported. This is serious business.

Now, this business of Mr. MCCARTHY trying to negotiate with the President of the United States to say: Well, if you do what I want you to do, then I will support debt limits.

Mr. Speaker, we cannot do what the majority wants us to do because, first of all, they don't know what they are doing. They are putting this country at great risk.

□ 2015

What you are saying is you don't care about the debt. You don't care about the fact that there are people waiting to be paid that we owe.

You don't care whether or not there is a government shutdown. You don't care whether or not these jobs are lost.

I am saying to you: We will not support that kind of so-called negotiation. We will not support your putting this country at risk in the way that you are doing.

You need to come to grips with the fact that we have to raise the debt limit, and it has been done historically when it has needed to be done, and we expect you to do it.

I leave this moment by saying to you: We are waiting on you, Mr. MCCARTHY, to do the responsible thing, get with our President, and let's support our country.

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WATERS) for her keen words and precise insight.

Mr. Speaker, fellow Americans, I come before you today with a heavy heart and a deep sense of concern for the future of our beloved Nation.

It appears we have reached a crucial juncture where our democracy's very essence is being challenged. The Republican proposed budget, also known as the default on America act, seeks to slash a minimum of 22 percent from nondefense discretionary programs as a condition for raising the debt ceiling.

Mr. Speaker, this money has already been spent. It has benefited the American public. This is a game of brinksmanship, but it has dire consequences even for us having the conversation.

The plan contains severe cuts to essential programs like SNAP. SNAP, the acronym meaning Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program. I shall repeat: Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program. This is for people that simply do not have enough to eat in our great country.

This plan also contains severe cuts for Social Security and housing assistance, which act as crucial lifelines for all of our communities.

This minority group within the Republican Party is callously using these indispensable programs as bargaining chips, bargaining on the backs of the most vulnerable. This strategy not only endangers our economy but undermines the foundation of our society.

For residents of my district in Illinois, the First Congressional District, the consequences of not raising the debt ceiling and defaulting on the debt would be dire.

I am compelled to share some startling statistics with you today. Mr. Speaker, 7,000 jobs would be lost alone in the First Congressional District in Illinois. Over 103,000 people in the First District nearing retirement would lose on average $20,000 out of their 401K. Mr. Speaker, 95,300 households in the First District would have their Social Security checks at risk.

These devastating impacts not only affect the families who are directly involved but would also disrupt the local economy.

In the First District alone, $151 million a month would be removed from Social Security income from families.

Moreover, the health benefits of over 305,000 residents in the First District on Medicare, Medicaid, and veterans coverage would be jeopardized.

It is clear that we must demand a clean debt limit that addresses the needs of our communities without threatening the livelihoods of the most vulnerable.

As a member of the Agriculture Committee, I am particularly upset and appalled about the suggested cuts to our food and nutrition assistance programs.

We have been in committee for over 100 days now and have not had a single meeting on the largest portion of the ag bill, the SNAP food portion, which comprises 75 percent of our funding.

The bill, proposed by the House Agriculture Committee with over 20 Republicans, would dramatically expand the population of people subject to policies that take SNAP away from those not meeting onerous work and work reporting requirements.

I want some of my fellow colleagues to understand. Some people are in transit deserts where they do not have easy access to mass transit or private transportation.

Many people that are on the Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program are women and children. Eighty percent.

Some people have to care for aging parents and have to care for disabled children. I think it is more complicated than what is being shared.

This punitive and ineffective work will put SNAP's grocery benefits at risk for adults up to age 65 and many families with school-age children, in which parents or other adults are unable to work or cannot find jobs or cannot find enough hours.

In the last 2 weeks, in my district again, Mr. Speaker, Walmart, the Nation's largest employer, has pulled out of two stores directly in the district. We are now having a work crisis where we don't have enough employment, and new employment has to be created.

In Illinois' First Congressional District, over 54,000 households, about 20 percent of all of our residents, receive SNAP benefits. Of these recipients, a staggering 85 percent are African American.

The median income of households on SNAP is a mere $20,289. Mr. Speaker, that is $390 a week where people are having to pay their rent, their transportation, and trying to get food.

Not only is it $20,289 annually, $390 a week, which comes out to simply $55 of income a day. These statistics paint a clear picture of the most vulnerable populations in our society; those who are struggling to make ends meet, those who are disproportionately affected by systemic inequalities, and those who desperately need our support to ensure their basic human rights to healthy supplemental food.

Our people need shelter and dignity, and they should not be used as bargaining chips to advance anyone's agenda.

In the face of these proposed cuts, we must acknowledge the catastrophic impact that they would have on our Nation's housing, a fundamental human right that is critical to the health, safety, and dignity of all of our citizens.

If these cuts were to be implemented, 640,000 families across the Nation would lose access to rental assistance if we go through with the draconian 22 percent proposed cut across the board.

We are talking about more than 430,000 low-income families facing eviction from Section 8 housing.

This would result in an unparalleled loss of affordable housing for older adults, families with disabilities, families with children, and our veterans—individuals who have already confronted adversity and who deserve our unwavering support and protection.

Yet, these threats to housing are not the only concern we must address. Amid these proposed budget cuts, we must also be vigilant of the detrimental effects on the central services provided by the Social Security Administration.

The cuts would necessitate the closure of field offices and limit access to persons having in-person visits, imposing undue burdens on those seeking assistance.

Furthermore, people applying for disability benefits would experience an additional 2-month delay in the processing of their claims, prolonging the struggle to access crucial financial support.

This is a moment that demands our outrage, our empathy, and our unwavering commitment to justice. It is a moment that calls upon each and every one of us to stand up and say, ''no more,'' not to negotiate with the debt ceiling.

The bills are already due, and our Nation has the character and the capacity. Now we must furnish the will. I hope Wall Street is watching tonight because the chasm and the gap between the proposals is stark, and the time is limited.

We will not allow policies that perpetuate inequality to widen the chasm between the haves and have nots.

We will not be complicit in the erosion of the very foundation upon which this great Nation was built. The belief that all people are created equal and endowed with certain inalienable rights; among them, life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

It is our moral and ethical obligation to stand against these proposed budget cuts and call for a clean raising of the debt ceiling.

It has happened three times before in the previous administration. Close to

$5 trillion was added. These are America's bills. We can be responsible and meet our obligation.

The consequences of such actions would be dire and felt by those who are already struggling the most. Overall, a default on the U.S. debt obligation would trigger a loss of nearly 7 million jobs, push the unemployment rate north of 8 percent, eliminate $10 trillion in household wealth, and reduce real GDP by greater than 4 percent, according to the Congressional Budget Office.

This is not a path we can afford to take. Our future and the very fabric of our society depend on us defending the rights of the most vulnerable among us and protecting the essential programs that have sustained our communities for generations.

Together, let us stand strong against these cuts and fight for the betterment of all Americans. We must ensure that every person has a fair chance to thrive and that the promise of equality and justice remain at the heart of our great Nation.

Mr. Speaker, may God bless these United States.

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

Mrs. CHERFILUS-McCORMICK. Mr. Speaker, may I inquire as to how much time is remaining?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Illinois has 40 minutes remaining.

Mrs. CHERFILUS-McCORMICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today again for the second time to express my concerns with Speaker MCCARTHY's proposal which cancelled President Biden's student loan debt forgiveness program and wreaks havoc on our educational system.

President Biden is committed to providing economic relief for families and ensuring that all students can access quality education that sets them up on the best pathway to success.

Altogether, more than 40 million borrowers would qualify for the Biden administration's debt relief program. It is also targeted at those who need the most help with nearly 90 percent of the benefits of the relief going to out-of-school borrowers who earn less than $75,000 per year.

Speaker MCCARTHY has other priorities. Both he and other extreme Republicans are willing to send our economy into a recession, using American students as a bargaining chip.

If extreme MAGA Republicans had their way, they would not only eliminate Pell Grants for more than 6,000 students in Florida but would also reduce the maximum reward by nearly $1,000 for the remaining 500,000 students who receive Pell Grants.

This would be especially harmful to communities of color. Black and Brown college graduates owe an average of $25,000 more in student debt than White college graduates.

Black women carry the highest student loan debt burden of any racial or ethnic group. This is unacceptable.

Republicans aren't stopping at college either. Their proposal would mean 10,000 children in Florida would lose access to childcare and to slots in the Head Start programs.

Nationwide, 100,000 children would lose access to childcare, making it difficult for parents to join the workforce.

My Republican colleagues care more about special interest groups and massive corporations than our children.

We need to be investing in our kids all across America and in their lives and give them the tools they need for success.

Speaker MCCARTHY's proposal does the exact opposite. I call on the Republicans to quit playing games with our children's future.

It is time for our parties to come together and make decisions that are best for our community and for all Americans.

The party politics, the partisan politics, must end today. I ask Leader MCCARTHY to not go forward with this proposal and to have compassion for American people, for our students, for our children, and for Americans across this country.

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman form Florida (Mrs. CHERFILUS-MCCORMICK) for her remarks.

HONORING HARRY BELAFONTE

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a man whose life, legacy, and unwavering commitment to justice and equality has left an indelible mark on our Nation.

I speak of none other than the incomparable Mr. Harry Belafonte who passed away today at the age of 96.

At a time when segregation was still deeply entrenched and Black faces were scarce on screens, both large and small, Mr. Belafonte's historic rise to the pinnacle of show business broke barriers and paved the way for future generations.

Mr. Belafonte's exceptional music career earned him numerous accolades and awards. A three-time Grammy Award winner, including the prestigious Grammy Lifetime Achievement Award, he was recognized for his enduring contributions to the world of music.

□ 2030

His exceptional talent transcended mediums, earning him an Emmy Award for his work on television and a Tony Award for his brilliance on stage.

In 1989, he received one of the highest honors bestowed upon artists in the United States: The Kennedy Center Honors. Our Nation continued to recognize his extraordinary contributions when, in 1994, he was awarded the National Medal of Arts for his significant impact on American culture.

In 2014, Mr. Belafonte received the Jean Hersholt Humanitarian Award at the Academy's Sixth Annual Governors Awards. In 2022, the world of music paid homage to his influence by inducting him into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in the early influence category.

As we celebrate Mr. Harry Belafonte's life and memory, let us also remember that he was much more than an extraordinary entertainer. I have had the privilege and honor of meeting and knowing Mr. Belafonte, and what attracted me to him the most is that he was a tireless advocate for civil rights, using his fame and fortune to further the cause of equality and uplift the lives of countless African Americans. He used his celebrity, his wealth, his power, and his influence to transcend the racial divisions of our day and time.

He contributed to Reverend Martin Luther King at the height of the civil rights challenges in America. That says something about where you stand in times of challenge.

Belafonte's close friendship and support of Reverend Martin Luther King exemplified the duality of his life's work. He stood beside Mrs. Coretta Scott King and Duke Ellington at the ''Salute to Montgomery'' in 1956, raising funds for the civil rights movement when it was not popular, but it was the right thing to do.

Part of the legacy he leaves behind is a call for our current generation to use their celebrity, their influence, and their access as they walk the corridors of power to give truth in high places.

During the tumultuous 1960s, Belafonte continued to provide much-needed financial assistance to the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, most notably during the Birmingham, Alabama, campaign.

He opened his home and his heart, inviting prominent individuals for a meeting where Reverend King and Fred Shuttlesworth laid out their plans and appealed for support. Belafonte answered the call, not seeking a car, not wanting a bigger house, not wanting to boast about his earnings. He raised over $50,000 and donated it to the civil rights cause to keep Reverend Martin Luther King's movement and our movement alive to enable the campaign to proceed, even while Reverend Martin Luther King was in jail in Birmingham writing the ''Letter From a Birmingham Jail.'' Mr. Belafonte worked the outside, while Reverend Martin Luther King worked the inside.

In the aftermath of Reverend Martin Luther King's tragic assassination, it was Mr. Harry Belafonte, not the entertainer but the activist, who continued to fight for his dream, who gave the King family financial support after their father was slain with four young children at home, serving as the executor of King's estate and chairing the Martin Luther King Memorial Fund. His commitment to civil rights and humanitarian issues never wavered, and his voice rang out in support of those who sought justice and equality both at home and abroad.

My fellow Americans, as we honor the life and memory of Harry Belafonte, let us remember his unwavering dedication to the cause of justice,

and let us strive to carry on his legacy by standing tall in the face of challenge and controversy. Reverend Martin Luther King said it is not where you stand in moments of comfort and convenience but where you stand in moments of challenge and controversy.

Let us, like Harry Belafonte, be champions of equality guided by the principles of compassion, empathy, and love. It is said: ''Each and every one of us has the capacity to be an oppressor. I want to encourage everyone to interrogate how we might be an oppressor and how we might be able to become liberators for ourselves and for each other.''

In the spirit of these words, let us forge ahead harnessing the power of our collective talents and passions to drive change and create a more just and equitable world for all. Let us not only celebrate his achievements but also emulate his unwavering actions and dedication to the cause of justice. Let us strive to become liberators for ourselves and for each other, working tirelessly to ensure that the torch of equality and freedom continue to burn brightly for generations to come.

May the life and legacy of Mr. Harry Belafonte serve as the guiding light as we navigate the challenges that lie ahead. Together, let us work toward a life and a world where justice, equality, and love will prevail.

Mr. Speaker, God bless us all.

I yield to the gentlewoman from Florida (Mrs. CHERFILUS-MCCORMICK).

Mrs. CHERFILUS-MCCORMICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today for the third time in opposition to Speaker MCCARTHY's debt ceiling brinksmanship, which would deliver a crushing setback to the numerous successes of President Biden and House Democrats.

Just look at how far we have come. Annual inflation has declined in the last 9 months. Gas prices are much lower than the record highs we saw in the wake of Russia's invasion of Ukraine last year. The price of many foods like chicken and fruits and vegetables have declined in March.

Labor force participation is at record-high levels. Unemployment has reached a 50-year low of 3.5 percent. Within the Black community, unemployment has never been this low.

Real income has risen both for low-income Americans and across the economy as a whole. All the while, our deficit has dropped more than $1.7 trillion in 2 years. We are not out of the woods yet. There is always more we can do and could be done to reduce the financial burdens faced by American families and making things even just a little bit easier.

Let's give credit where credit is due. Since taking office, President Biden has passed legislation that has created a strong foundation for the economy to grow and he has invested in the middle class. The administration has worked tirelessly to reduce the cost of living and bringing down the cost of prices.

President Biden's Inflation Reduction Act has also been transformative, slashing kitchen table costs for working families, forcing pharmaceutical companies to negotiate lower drug prices, capping insulin at $35 per month for Medicare patients, and cutting healthcare insurance premiums for millions of Americans.

President Biden's budget proposal stands in stark contrast to what Speaker MCCARTHY has floated. It is bold, compassionate, and puts working families over politics. Not only would President Biden's proposal reduce the deficit by $3 trillion over the next 10 years, but it does so while investing in our Nation. It lowers costs for working families by making childcare, healthcare, and housing more affordable. These are all things that are crucial to our economy and to the American people at this present time.

Now is the time for my Republican colleagues to put aside partisan politics and work with us to pass a budget that reinforces America's promise to our constituents. House Republicans should not stand in the way of this progress.

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, you have heard from our distinguished colleagues about the American debt cliff that we are facing. All of these issues are of great importance to the Congressional Black Caucus, our constituents, the Congress, and all Americans tonight.

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

AMERICANS ARE POORER THAN THEY WERE 2 YEARS AGO

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 9, 2023, the Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. SCHWEIKERT) for 30 minutes.

Mr. SCHWEIKERT. Mr. Speaker, we are going to do a couple different things tonight. I am going to spend some time talking about growth. I am one of those who believes growth is moral. If you listen to my brothers and sisters on the left or many of us on the right, we are talking about how much poorer America is today.

The fact of the matter is, working men and women in this country today are poorer than they were 2 years ago. From the day Joe Biden was elected to today, if you are in my district—I have one of the highest, if not the highest, inflation in America. I have the Phoenix-Scottsdale area—you are about 6 percent poorer because inflation has been this high, your wage growth is here.

It is always amusing to me when our brothers and sisters on the left talk about income inequality, working men and women, and then the very policies that are advocated basically make us poorer.

Another thing I have to say is—and I have to say this over and over and over—in 2011, Standard and Poor's put out a paper and they downgraded the United States' debt, and their downgrade was a tick. We were AAA, and we went to AA+, but if anyone would bother to read it—because if I hear one more person from the press go, well, in 2011 when they had the debt ceiling fight, they got downgraded. That isn't what S&P said. Read the damn thing.

It is very simple: We got downgraded as a country because we were not doing anything about debt. It makes it very clear. I went over this a couple of weeks ago here on the floor, I read part of it. It basically says the United States Congress is not taking the debt seriously. It was not about the debt fight. It was about the solution that came to negotiate to raise the debt ceiling, didn't actually have enough teeth and mechanisms.

Mr. Speaker, I must tell you, the demographics are dramatically worse today than they were in 2011. I have been here multiple times to the floor with different economic boards, but the Democrats' Orwellian-named Inflation Reduction Act, if you actually look at the spending, there were $271 billion of functionally grant handouts to clean energy companies.

Even the latest CBO score that we just got because of the negotiations, the mechanisms, the piece of legislation put together to raise the debt ceiling and cut out many of these things, actually came back and said, well, we may have missed the number by about $300 billion. In other words, our own Congressional Budget Office basically missed it by 100 percent.

Now, Goldman Sachs said it was 1.2 trillion in spending, but CBO, at least, now has updated their numbers. This is the sort of thing that if you think about those levels of spending and then you call something the Inflation Reduction Act and then you wonder why inflation continues and one of the really disturbing things even on last month's numbers is the core number. The core inflation in the United States is staying pretty solid.

The danger in that is, everyone gets a little bit giddy, fuel prices, food prices go down, but they also go up. Those are actually numbers that move up and down an awful lot, but the problem is the core gets built into everything and the effect that it is going to have on your pension, on your family's ability to ever buy a house, on the Social Security pension system.

You do realize we lost an entire year of actuarial soundness. Now, the Social Security Trust Fund is functionally gone in about 9 years, 8½ years. At that moment, if you are on Social Security, you will be taking a 23 percent reduction if we do not find a way to fix it.

Almost every bit of that loss of a whole year from the previous actuary report was the inflation COLA. We must understand how devastating the policies of this place were when the Democrats controlled the House, the Senate, the White House what they have done to you and your family.

□ 2045

I don't care if you don't love Republicans, but do understand that your country is poorer today than it was a couple of years ago.

One of the other things we need to talk about is the Congressional Budget Office—they did this about 3 weeks ago—basically has been updating economic growth projections.

For 2024, we were at 1.6. That was our projection. That is what we were building the budget on. That is what we were projecting for future revenues. This will make sense here in a moment.

They came back and said, no, we don't even think we are going to hit 1.6. Now, understand, there was a time 1.6 would have been embarrassing. Long-run GDP growth in the United States in the last 50 years—about 3 percent. So, we have halved that, and now, we have actually got it down to 1.2.

Do understand, when you have this level of anemic growth, how much it hurts, how much it hurts you, how much it hurts tax receipts, how much it hurts your ability to retire, for your kids to have a future.

This is the world we have been handed. This is substantially because of losses of productivity, the amounts of debt. Remember, the United States is consuming so much of the capital of the world just to finance our debt. This is a real problem.

What would you do if I came to you and said, ''Growth is moral''? We saw through the 2017 tax reform the economic growth. Income inequality shrank more than it had at any time in modern history. Food insecurity shrank more than at any time in modern history.

The populations that had just years of brutality and trying to get some economic momentum shot up, and then COVID hit—actually, thank heaven we had that economic vitality going into COVID. Could you imagine if we had this sort of GDP when COVID happened? How miserable.

Remember, the United States still came out of it much faster, much stronger than almost any other place in the industrialized world.

As we start to talk about what we do, what is moral but what also produces some growth—I have spent the last few months coming here every week and walking through how devastatingly ugly the demographics and the debt. Last week, I did demographics. I don't know if anyone was crazy enough to watch it, but it is important.

In 18 years, the United States has more deaths than births. Half the States in America today have more deaths than births. That is not Republican. That is not Democrat. That is just fertility.

You have to understand, if you are going to have a vital country, if there is going to be another American century, you need growth.

What policies are we getting from the left? Just piling on dramatically more debt and then saying to just keep raising the limit on the credit card.

Let's walk through a couple of things we could do immediately. I have been complaining about the debt, demographics, and some of the bad decisions, so let's just do some of the things we know that have worked.

If I came to you right now—and part of this is going to get me in trouble because I am going to say things that don't really fit the pop culture of this place.

The fourth quarter of 2017, tax reform—there was this thing called expensing, this concept of you are a business and you buy a piece of capital equipment so you can make more stuff, make it better, faster, cheaper.

Remember your high school economics class? There are functionally two things that drive up wages. Inflation—but when your wages go up because of inflation, do you really get anything? Your purchasing power, you are often behind. It is not just getting back up to even.

The second thing that raises wages is productivity. You get wealthier. The country gets wealthier. Society gets healthier when we get more productive.

It turns out that in the 2017 tax reform—and you can actually sort of see some of it because most people don't realize the tax reform kicked in in 2018, but we actually had a backward looking for anyone that made those capital expenditures in that fourth quarter of 2017.

You can see it right on the chart. All of a sudden, these capital expenditures—businesses, organizations going out and saying they are going to buy that new piece of equipment. They are going to buy those new trucks so they have more capacity.

You can actually see it, and that did this remarkable thing—growing the economy.

Now, here is where I am going to get myself in trouble, but the math is the math, and the math always wins.

If you actually look at the 100 percent bonus depreciation that we did and compare it to the individual tax cuts—we all love our individual tax cuts.

Remember, the tax reform for 2017, something I over and over tried to share with my friends on the left because they have this crazy folklore that it was a giveaway to the rich—except the 2017 tax reform was more progressive, meaning the wealthier were paying a higher percentage of the Federal income tax burden than the previous one.

Remember, under the tax reform, half of society doesn't pay Federal income taxes. They pay FICA, Social Security, Medicare, unemployment, but income taxes, half of society doesn't pay.

The tax reform became more progressive but with lower rates and the ability for businesses to become productive. A crazy thing we found in the data set—and this is just a chart trying to say for every billion in your immediate lost revenues and the tax reform, if you do it on individuals, you get about 0.1 percent, a little over that, in GDP growth.

When you do it in expensing—and there is a punch line coming here—you actually get over 0.6 percent growth, which in an economy our size is massive.

It turns out that if you actually really think about this—and this is one that is going to be a little hard, and so this is the moment, anyone watching, if you don't like accounting, please, you may want to go find something on Netflix.

If you buy that piece of capital equipment so you can be more productive, and because you have gotten more productive and your efficiencies, you can pay your workers more, and your workers actually are doing better in life.

You have this thing called depreciation. I am going to take that over 7 years, and each year I get to take a little bit of it.

If you actually read how the tax code works—I am going to show you some slides—you end up paying taxes on revenues you haven't produced yet because of the way depreciation works.

If you get to take it all at one time, you speed up the capital cycle, meaning I bought this piece of equipment, and we got this much more productive. It is 3 years later, and I can buy the next one and expense it then and get that much more productive. You could actually see what they call the productivity cycle.

The tax receipts are a timing effect, so you get this depreciation—well, it actually would look more like a curve going this way, over 7 years, or you take it in 1 year. The basic depreciation you get is the same. It is a timing effect.

The reason you will see the CBO score says that this costs money is because we are always doing things in a 10-year window. Then, you often don't get the dynamic score. What happens when you have that productivity step up, and what does that produce in tax receipts, and then the new one and the new one.

This is always very hard, particularly for those of us who get elected. Everybody loves their individual tax cuts, but if you want to grow the economy, ideas like expensing, that immediate depreciation to make society more productive, that is where you get your bang for your buck.

This was my attempt—and we sort of stole this from—I am not even sure where we got this slide, but this is sort of walking through the depreciation cycle. If you had $100, you get to depreciate $88 of it. There is $11 of that piece of capital equipment that you don't get to depreciate.

By the time it is done, you actually are paying more taxes because of the timing effect and that portion of it you didn't get to depreciate. You don't actually get the full value of the depreciation the way the tax code is written.

So, the basic argument I am making here is, as we are starting to think about what things we could do, where I am hoping the White House, the folks down the Hall we call the Senate, and maybe even the Democrats on this side, what are the things they could do if they actually really cared about the fact that Americans are poorer today?

What I need is wage growth going up faster than inflation. We know, over and over, permanent 100 percent bonus depreciation, which that is expensing, is the fastest way to step up that productivity because it is instant. It is particularly important during a time of inflation.

I am going to bear with everyone because I have never actually tried explaining this behind a microphone. It has always been in my head, but I am going to try to explain this.

A piece of equipment costs $100 today. You go, and it is a piece of equipment that you have to depreciate because the tax code now says you have to depreciate it over time. You get ready to buy it, and tomorrow it is no longer $100. It is $120.

The fact matter of is, as it goes up, the value of that depreciation over time, compared to the productivity you get from it, is lost. In expensing, if inflation goes up, if it is $100, $120, you get to take 100 percent of it immediately.

The argument is, what is happening right now, in this year, because in part of the tax reform from 2017, today, you no longer get to take 100 percent. You get to take 80 percent of it and expense it. Next year, it will be 60 percent and expense it.

You see what is happening. As you can only take less and less of the cost of that piece of equipment, the price is moving up, the gap expands, and all of a sudden now, I have to cover that bigger gap because of inflation.

If I have to depreciate it, it is much harder to get your value back. If it is expensing, even with inflation, you at least get the value back immediately.

There is an argument from a bunch of the tax experts that basically says if you want growth in the economy without inflation, if you want wage growth in the economy without inflation, going back to 100 percent expensing is the most powerful tool we have.

I know that may be a little geeky, but it is worth thinking about because the fact of the matter is, things like expensing, you go, oh, that is a Republican thing. I think Barack Obama was one of the biggest advocates for it.

Understand, it is just good economics. Look, I have all sorts of charts that actually talk about the baseline effect, what happens when you have inflation. The fact of the matter is, in a time of inflation, it is one of the most efficient things you can do to get growth without inflation.

The fact of the matter is, if you had 4 percent baseline inflation and you went back and had 100 percent expensing, it is like 94,000 additional jobs in this society, which is actually part of the wage pressure, raising wages.

Part of my argument here is, if you wanted something that is very simple, that Congress could do almost immediately, we would fix the fact that, under current tax law, that ability to take that bonus depreciation is fading away. We would fix that right now.

We know full expensing, in the long run, has a substantial effect on longer run economic growth, a thing we call capital stock.

In a country where, functionally, we borrow $45,000 a second, and it is going to double, functionally, in 10 years, you need policies that grow in a way where the capital stock, when the available capital to basically be loaned for businesses, for people to start ventures, to take risk—we actually also see just the expensing, the immediate depreciation. Even in the basic scores we get from CBO and the Tax Foundation, it grows wages.

□ 2100

Now, if I have got 1.2 percent growth in wages from this—I am going to show a couple boards here that you get about a point-and-a-half from R&D expensing and what it does in the economy. You can almost start to make up, with just the clean-up of a couple of the tax provisions, the amount of lost wages Americans have because inflation has been higher than wage growth. We can fix much of the damage that the left has done to this economy by just cleaning up some things in the tax code.

I know this is thick, but it is important. This is just good economics, and it is simple. I often come here and talk about things, like if we would adopt certain policies and bring in new technologies. This is stuff we could do in an afternoon. This is just cleaning up some of the tax code.

If I come to you right now, did you realize that in 2022, last year, if your business is a drug company, an engineering company, a biotech company, a chip manufacturer, whatever it is, and you have been spending money on research and development, now you have to amortize that research and development. That cost you cannot take immediately; you have to amortize it out. This is a real problem.

Last week, I came and walked some folks through this. Part of it was from an article from The Economist last week, if anyone wants to geek out. It talks about the United States is still the most dynamic, big economy in the world. We have almost double the wages of people in Western Europe. I think we are like 20 or 25 percent higher than Japan. A lot of that was because of this velocity in the economy, the risk-taking, research and development, and bringing in new products.

What happens when that research and development really slows up because it doesn't make sense to make those capital expenditures because now you have spent all this money, now you have got to depreciate it out?

All of a sudden you are functionally paying taxes today on money you don't have. That is what is happening.

Well, you start to take a look at the stuff, and you start to realize that in the United States now, it is not like it was back in the 1970s where government was the primary funder of research and development. It hasn't been that way in like 40 years.

You look where we are today. This orange line is business, and you start to see the cycle over here. We were doing amazing things with the breakthroughs that were coming.

We are actually starting to track now that this is starting flatline because the tax code has changed. Fix it. Research and development, make it 100 percent expensing instead of what has fallen back. We have gone back to the old, old tax code. We have lost the expensing.

Research and development. You say you want a dynamic economy. To my friends on the left who keep wanting to talk about clean energy, bless you. How would you like to actually keep having the research that actually creates the next breakthrough, the next super battery, or for those of us who have an absolute fixation that one of most moral things we can do in society is curing diseases?

I am going to circle back. Yes, I am going to talk a little bit about diabetes and research and development expensing. They do tie together. The single most expensive thing in our society right now is diabetes. Thirty-three percent of all healthcare is diabetes. Thirty-one percent of all Medicare is diabetes.

What would happen if you could actually disrupt prediabetic populations?

Heaven forbid, in the future—because we know it is in phase 1 right now—we have an actual cure.

Those are things that good tax policy brings venture capital in to help finance. It is moral. It would be one of the most powerful things you could do to close income inequality and crash the debt. But we seem to not be able to think out of a paper bag.

You look at the gain. If you actually look, business R&D grew faster after the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act because you turned it substantially into 100 percent expensing. You take a look at these huge step-ups where the United States was the innovator in the world, bringing on new products faster, better, and you could actually see this in wage growth.

There are certain things you and I can do in the tax code that in many ways are minimally expensive and incredibly productive in wages and growing the size of the economy.

Remember the first slide? We are living in a country where the CBO is telling us next year we are down to 1.2 percent economic growth. We have got to find a way to grow.

If you actually look at what is happening right now, the private R&D investment was growing and growing and

growing, and now it has begun to flatline out. This is a real problem.

If you want to live in a country that is dynamic, that is providing opportunity, that is curing the disease a family member has, the new piece of technology that changes our lives, that makes our living so much better and healthier, believe it or not, the path to that is fixing parts of the tax code.

Mr. Speaker, the only argument I am trying to make here is, I often come behind this microphone with absolutely dour, nightmarish discussions. The one I have gotten the most complaints about is I have been bringing the charts the last couple of months showing in 9 budget years, in 9 years, you can get rid of every dime of defense and all of what we call discretionary spending—no FBI, no Park Service, no FDA, no Congress, no White House, no Supreme Court—it is all gone, and you still have to borrow a couple hundred billion dollars. It may actually be worse than that because I haven't bothered to calculate in the fact that the Social Security trust fund is gone a year earlier. But we know if you backfill the Social Security trust fund, it is not a couple hundred billion; it is like $700 billion and there is no government.

We are functionally an insurance company with an Army. I say that over and over because that seems to click in some people's heads. If I get one more individual who has functionally been lied to over the decades by the political class: We can get rid of waste and fraud or by taxing the rich people more or if we got rid of foreign aid, we will be fine.

I have one woman who insists on texting me that if we should just get rid of Members of Congress' pensions and salaries. I did the math for her while she was on the phone with me. I took an entire year of borrowing and added up every dime that goes into Members of Congress and the Senate, their salaries and pensions, and I think we came up with 18 minutes' worth of borrowing for an entire year.

Come on, people. Buy a calculator. Stop living in a fantasy world. There are solutions here. We just need to embrace them and move forward.

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

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. SCHWEIKERT. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 9 o'clock and 7 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Wednesday, April 26, 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–787. A letter from the Admin Assistant, Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule — Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Threatened Species Status With Section 4(d) Rule for Egyptian Tortoise [Docket No.: FWS-HQ-ES-2020-0114; FF09E22000 FXES1111090FEDR 234] (RIN: 1018-BD04) received April 21, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

EC–788. A letter from the Chief, Regulations and Standards Branch, Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule — Risk Management, Financial Assurance, and Loss Prevention-Decommissioning Activities and Obligations [Docket ID: BSEE-2020-0016] 234E1700D2; ETISF000.EAQ000 EEEE500000] (RIN: 1082-AA02) received April 21, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

EC–789. A letter from the Chief, Branch of Domestic Listing, Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule — Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Designation of Critical Habitat for Pearl Darter [Docket No.: FWS-R4-ES-2020-0062; FF09E21000 FXES1111090FEDR 234] (RIN: 1018-BE55) received April 21, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

EC–790. A letter from the Chief, Branch of Domestic Listing, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule — Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Threatened Species Status With Section 4(d) Rule for Bracted Twistflower and Designation of Critical Habitat [Docket No.: FWS-R2-ES-2021-0013; FF09E21000 FXES11110900000 234] (RIN: 1018-BE44) received April 21, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

EC–791. A letter from the Chief Justice, Supreme Court of the United States, transmitting amendments and an addition to the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure that have been adopted by the Supreme Court, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. 2072 (H. Doc. No. 118—30); to the Committee on the Judiciary and ordered to be printed.

EC–792. A letter from the Chief Justice, Supreme Court of the United States, transmitting amendments and an addition to the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure that have been adopted by the Supreme Court, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. 2072 (H. Doc. No. 118—31); to the Committee on the Judiciary and ordered to be printed.

EC–793. A letter from the Chief Justice, Supreme Court of the United States, transmitting amendments and an addition to the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure that have been adopted by the Supreme Court, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. 2075; Public Law 88-623, Sec. 1 (as amended by Public Law 103-394, Sec. 104(f)); (108 Stat. 4110) (H. Doc. No. 118—32); to the Committee on the Judiciary and ordered to be printed.

EC–794. A letter from the Chief Justice, Supreme Court of the United States, transmitting amendments to the Federal Rules of Evidence that has been adopted by the Supreme Court, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. 2072 (H. Doc. No. 118—33); to the Committee on the Judiciary and ordered to be printed.

EC–795. A letter from the Chief Justice, Supreme Court of the United States, transmitting amendments to the Federal Rules of Appellate Procedure that have been adopted by the Supreme Court of the United States, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. 2072 (H. Doc. No. 118—34); to the Committee on the Judiciary and ordered to be printed.

EC–796. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; The Boeing Company Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2022-1170; Project Identifier AD-2022-00023-T; Amendment 39-22345; AD 2023-03-20] (RIN: 2120-AA64) 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:

Mrs. RODGERS of Washington: Committee on Energy and Commerce. H.R. 675. A bill to amend the Secure and Trusted Communications Networks Act of 2019 to prohibit the Federal Communications Commission from granting a license or United States market access for a non-geostationary orbit satellite system if the license or grant of market access would be held or controlled by an entity that produces or provides any covered communications equipment or service or an affiliate of such an entity, and for other purposes; with amendments (Rept. 118—41). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mrs. RODGERS of Washington: Committee on Energy and Commerce. H.R. 1339. A bill to require the Federal Communications Commission to review certain rules of the Commission and develop recommendations for rule changes to promote precision agriculture, and for other purposes (Rept. 118—42). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions of the following titles were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mr. ARRINGTON (for himself, Mr. COMER, Ms. GRANGER, Mr. GRAVES of Missouri, Ms. FOXX, Mr. MCHENRY, Mrs. RODGERS of Washington, Mr. SMITH of Missouri, Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, Mr. WESTERMAN, and Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas):

H.R. 2811. A bill to provide for a responsible increase to the debt ceiling, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committees on the Budget, Appropriations, Oversight and Accountability, Education and the Workforce, Agriculture, Energy and Commerce, the Judiciary, Rules, Transportation and Infrastructure, and Natural Resources, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. HIMES:

H.R. 2812. A bill to require the Securities and Exchange Commission to carry out a study of the costs associated with small- and medium-sized companies to undertake initial public offerings; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. GOOD of Virginia (for himself and Mr. WALBERG):

H.R. 2813. A bill to amend the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, the Public Health Service Act, and the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to exclude from the definition of health insurance coverage certain

medical stop-loss insurance obtained by certain plan sponsors of group health plans, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce, and in addition to the Committees on Energy and Commerce, and 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. MASSIE (for himself, Mr. BIGGS, Mr. BISHOP of North Carolina, Mr. BURCHETT, Mrs. BOEBERT, Mr. CLOUD, Mr. DAVIDSON, Mr. DUNCAN, Mr. GAETZ, Mr. GOLDEN of Maine, Mr. GOSAR, Mr. GREEN of Tennessee, Ms. GREENE of Georgia, Ms. HAGEMAN, Mr. HUFFMAN, Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ, Ms. MACE, Ms. PINGREE, Mr. ROSENDALE, Mr. ROY, Ms. SALAZAR, Mr. SMUCKER, Mrs. SPARTZ, and Ms. TENNEY):

H.R. 2814. A bill to amend the Federal Meat Inspection Act to exempt from inspection the slaughter of animals and the preparation of carcasses conducted at a custom slaughter facility, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Mr. CURTIS (for himself and Mr. PETERS):

H.R. 2815. A bill to direct the Secretary of Commerce to submit to Congress a report on the protection of consumer information in the possession of United States companies operating in Hong Kong and requests issued by the Government of Hong Kong to such companies for consumer information, content takedowns, or law enforcement assistance; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mrs. HARSHBARGER (for herself, Ms. SPANBERGER, Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS, and Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHI):

H.R. 2816. A bill to amend title XI of the Social Security Act to strengthen transparency requirements with respect to pharmacy benefit managers; 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. AMODEI (for himself and Mr. GOTTHEIMER):

H.R. 2817. A bill to amend title 31, United States Code, to save Federal funds by authorizing changes to the composition of circulating coins, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services, and in addition to the Committees on the Budget, and 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 Mr. BACON (for himself and Mr. PAPPAS):

H.R. 2818. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to increase the amount paid by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to veterans for improvements and structural alterations furnished as part of home health services; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. BUCSHON (for himself and Mr. RUIZ):

H.R. 2819. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to limit the liability of health care professionals who volunteer to provide health care services in response to a disaster; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. BUSH:

H.R. 2820. A bill to provide financial assistance to schools impacted by radioactive contaminants, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce, and in addition to the Committees on Energy and Commerce, and Transportation and Infrastructure, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. CARSON (for himself, Ms. LEE of California, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Mrs. BEATTY, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Ms. BROWN, Mr. CARBAJAL, Mr. CARTER of Louisiana, Mr. CASE, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, Ms. GARCIA of Texas, Mr. COHEN, Ms. CROCKETT, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania, Mr. DESAULNIER, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Mr. EVANS, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Mrs. HAYES, Ms. NORTON, Mr. KEATING, Ms. KUSTER, Mr. MCGOVERN, Ms. OMAR, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Ms. JACOBS, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. SABLAN, Ms. SCHOLTEN, Mr. SOTO, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Ms. TITUS, Ms. TLAIB, Ms. TOKUDA, Mr. TORRES of New York, Mr. TRONE, Mr. VEASEY, and Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN):

H.R. 2821. A bill to establish a grant program in the Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection to fund the establishment of centers of excellence to support research, development and planning, implementation, and evaluation of effective programs in financial literacy education for young people and families ages 8 through 24 years old, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services, and in addition to the Committee on Education and the Workforce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. CASAR (for himself, Ms. BUDZINSKI, Ms. TOKUDA, Ms. BALINT, Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE, Ms. SALINAS, Mr. ROBERT GARCIA of California, Mrs. FOUSHEE, Ms. LEE of Pennsylvania, Mr. LIEU, Mr. RASKIN, Ms. PINGREE, Mr. DELUZIO, Ms. HOYLE of Oregon, Ms. CROCKETT, Mr. HUFFMAN, Mrs. RAMIREZ, Ms. BROWN, Mr. POCAN, Mr. COHEN, Mr. CICILLINE, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. TONKO, Mr. MAGAZINER, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, Mr. DOGGETT, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. CLEAVER, and Ms. BUSH):

H.R. 2822. A bill to ensure that contractors of the Department of Agriculture comply with certain labor laws, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Mr. CASE (for himself, Mrs. KIGGANS of Virginia, Ms. TOKUDA, Ms. JACOBS, Mr. COSTA, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Ms. NORTON, Mr. PETERS, Ms. JAYAPAL, Mr. SOTO, Mr. VARGAS, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. KHANNA, Mr. SWALWELL, Ms. CHU, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, and Mr. LIEU):

H.R. 2823. A bill to exempt children of certain Filipino World War II veterans from the numerical limitations on immigrant visas, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. CASTRO of Texas (for himself and Mrs. KIM of California):

H.R. 2824. A bill to support prioritization and expanded use of innovation at the United States Agency for International Development, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. CLEAVER (for himself, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Ms. BROWN, Ms. LEE of California, Ms. CROCKETT, Mr. CARSON, Ms. ADAMS, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. NORTON, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Ms. TLAIB, Mr. CARTER of Louisiana, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, Ms. PRESSLEY, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mrs. CHERFILUS-MCCORMICK, Ms. BUSH, Mr. RASKIN, Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE, Mrs. FOUSHEE, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Mr. GREEN of Texas, Ms. LEE of Pennsylvania, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. MCGOVERN, and Mr. SABLAN):

H.R. 2825. A bill to establish a program to make grants for the establishment of prison libraries; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. COMER (for himself, Ms. FOXX, Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, Mr. CARTER of Georgia, Mrs. MILLER of Illinois, Mr. DONALDS, Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio, Ms. LETLOW, Mr. LATURNER, Mr. ELLZEY, Mr. WALBERG, Mr. MOOLENAAR, Ms. STEFANIK, Mr. ALLEN, Mr. FULCHER, Mr. BABIN, Mr. PERRY, Mr. DUNCAN, Mr. BOST, Mr. LANGWORTHY, Ms. MACE, Mr. OWENS, Mr. COLLINS, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mr. EDWARDS, Mrs. STEEL, Ms. LEE of Florida, Mr. MANN, Mr. TIMMONS, Mr. SMUCKER, Mrs. BOEBERT, Mrs. CAMMACK, Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana, Ms. GREENE of Georgia, Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS, Mr. CRAWFORD, Mr. HERN, Mr. BURCHETT, Mr. ROSE, Mr. GUTHRIE, Mr. FITZGERALD, Mr. KUSTOFF, Mr. BARR, Mr. JOYCE of Ohio, Ms. TENNEY, Mr. NORMAN, Mr. EZELL, Mr. GOOD of Virginia, Mr. KELLY of Mississippi, Mr. DUNN of Florida, Mr. BANKS, Mr. C. SCOTT FRANKLIN of Florida, Mr. BURLISON, Mr. MORAN, Mr. CRENSHAW, Mrs. HINSON, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. BURGESS, Mr. GOODEN of Texas, Mrs. HOUCHIN, and Mr. GUEST):

H.R. 2826. A bill to clarify the treatment of 2 or more employers as joint employers under the National Labor Relations Act and the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. CONNOLLY (for himself and Mrs. KIM of California):

H.R. 2827. A bill to provide high-skilled visas for nationals of the Republic of Korea, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. CONNOLLY (for himself, Ms. MACE, Ms. NORTON, and Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ):

H.R. 2828. A bill to require Federal employee health benefit plans to include assisted reproductive treatment benefits, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

By Mr. DUNCAN (for himself and Ms. DELBENE):

H.R. 2829. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to remove cost-sharing responsibilities for chronic care management 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. EDWARDS (for himself, Mr. PAPPAS, Mr. CRANE, and Ms. SPANBERGER):

H.R. 2830. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to revise the rules for approval by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs of commercial driver education programs for purposes of veterans educational assistance, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. ESPAILLAT (for himself and Mr. RASKIN):

H.R. 2831. A bill to award posthumously a Congressional Gold Medal to Robert Parris Moses, in recognition of his achievements and contributions to advancing American education and civil rights; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. FERGUSON (for himself and Mr. KILDEE):

H.R. 2832. A bill to require the Neighborhood Reinvestment Corporation to establish a national land bank network, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. FITZGERALD (for himself, Ms. VAN DUYNE, Mr. GAETZ, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. TIFFANY, Ms. STEFANIK, and Mr. FRY):

H.R. 2833. A bill to require the Director of the Bureau of Justice Statistics to submit to Congress a report relating to individuals granted bail and pretrial release in State courts, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. GARCIA of Texas (for herself, Mrs. BEATTY, Mr. NICKEL, Mr. GREEN of Texas, and Mr. VARGAS):

H.R. 2834. A bill to amend the Community Development Banking and Financial Institutions Act of 1994 to include in technical assistance provided by the Community Development Financial Institutions Fund resources for non-English speaking individuals, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Ms. GARCIA of Texas (for herself, Mrs. BEATTY, Mr. NICKEL, Mr. GREEN of Texas, and Mr. VARGAS):

H.R. 2835. A bill to require the Financial Literacy and Education Commission to carry out a study on the impact of language barriers to financial health, to require the website and toll-free telephone number of the Commission to be provided in the most commonly spoken languages in the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services, and in addition to the Committee on Education and the Workforce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. MIKE GARCIA of California:

H.R. 2836. A bill to prohibit States from utilizing a funding formula for public schools that is based on calculating the average daily attendance of students over a State-determined period of time; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. TONY GONZALES of Texas:

H.R. 2837. A bill to provide for higher minimum pay for certain U.S. Border Patrol agents, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

By Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana (for himself and Mr. JACKSON of North Carolina):

H.R. 2838. A bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the 75th anniversary of what is recognized as the first sanctioning body created to promote a unified series of competitions, with an organized group of race car drivers. The first such recognized race was held at Daytona Beach on February 15, 1948, under the sanctioning of the ''National Association for Stock Car Auto Racing'' (NASCAR); to the Committee on Financial Services, and in addition to the Committee on the Budget, 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. HOYLE of Oregon (for herself, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Ms. BONAMICI, Mrs. CHAVEZ-DEREMER, and Ms. SALINAS):

H.R. 2839. A bill to amend the Siletz Reservation Act to address the hunting, fishing, trapping, and animal gathering rights of the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Ms. KELLY of Illinois:

H.R. 2840. A bill to amend the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act to provide funding, on a competitive basis, for summer and year-round employment opportunities for youth ages 14 through 24; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Ms. KELLY of Illinois:

H.R. 2841. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to modify the work opportunity credit for certain youth employees; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Ms. MALLIOTAKIS:

H.R. 2842. A bill to require the Department of Housing and Urban Development to inspect certain public housing developments to ensure compliance with housing quality and safety standards, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Ms. MALLIOTAKIS:

H.R. 2843. A bill to prohibit the Administrator of the Transportation Security Administration from accepting warrants for the arrest of aliens as valid proof of identification at aviation security checkpoints, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security.

By Ms. MALLIOTAKIS:

H.R. 2844. A bill to require the Secretary of Homeland Security and the Secretary of Health and Human Services to make available to the public on the websites of their respective departments certain information relating to individuals processed through U.S. Customs and Border Protection or Department of Health and Human Services facilities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. MATSUI (for herself and Mr. NUNN of Iowa):

H.R. 2845. A bill to direct the Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency to establish a School Cybersecurity Improvement Program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security, and in addition to the Committee on Education and the Workforce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. PETERS (for himself, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. EVANS, Ms. BONAMICI, and Ms. NORTON):

H.R. 2846. A bill to amend the Fair Housing Act to prohibit discrimination based on source of income, veteran status, or military status; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. PRESSLEY (for herself, Mrs. BEATTY, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. BOWMAN, Ms. BUSH, Mr. CARSON, Mr. CASAR, Mr. CLEAVER, Ms. CROCKETT, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Mrs. FOUSHEE, Mr. FROST, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, Mr. GOMEZ, Mr. GREEN of Texas, Mr. IVEY, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Ms. JAYAPAL, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE, Mr. KHANNA, Ms. LEE of California, Ms. LEE of Pennsylvania, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. MOULTON, Ms. NORTON, Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ, Ms. OMAR, Mr. PAYNE, Ms. PINGREE, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Mr. TAKANO, Ms. TLAIB, Ms. TOKUDA, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, and Ms. WILSON of Florida):

H.R. 2847. A bill to amend the Revised Statutes to remove the defense of qualified immunity in the case of any action under section 1979, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. PRESSLEY:

H.R. 2848. A bill to direct the Secretary of Transportation to carry out a grant program to support efforts to provide fare-free transit service, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. RESCHENTHALER (for himself and Mr. SWALWELL):

H.R. 2849. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to establish a credit for the domestic production of rare earth magnets, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Ms. SALINAS (for herself, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Ms. HOYLE of Oregon, and Mrs. CHAVEZ-DEREMER):

H.R. 2850. A bill to amend the Grand Ronde Reservation Act to address the hunting, fishing, trapping, and animal gathering rights of the Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde Community, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. SCOTT of Virginia (for himself, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Mr. BACON, Mr. NORCROSS, Mr. BOST, Mr. POCAN, Mr. CAREY, Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ, Mrs. CHAVEZ-DEREMER, Mrs. MCBATH, Mr. D'ESPOSITO, Mr. DESAULNIER, Mr. GARBARINO, Ms. STEVENS, Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio, Mr. SABLAN, Mr. JOYCE of Ohio, Mr. COURTNEY, Mr. KEAN of New Jersey, Mrs. HAYES, Mr. LALOTA, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. LAWLER, Ms. ADAMS, Ms. MALLIOTAKIS, Ms. WILD, Mr. MILLER of Ohio, Ms. MANNING, Mr. MOLINARO, Mr. TAKANO, Mr. STAUBER, Ms. BONAMICI, Mrs. TRAHAN, and Ms. OMAR):

H.R. 2851. A bill to amend the Act of August 16, 1937 (commonly referred to as the ''National Apprenticeship Act'') to expand the national apprenticeship system to include apprenticeships, youth apprenticeships, and pre-apprenticeships registered under such Act and to promote the furtherance of labor standards necessary to safeguard the welfare of apprentices, and for other purposes; 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 Ms. SLOTKIN (for herself and Mr. BACON):

H.R. 2852. A bill to require the Secretary of Defense to provide to firefighters of the Department of Defense medical testing and related services to detect and prevent certain cancers; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. SMITH of Nebraska (for himself and Mrs. DINGELL):

H.R. 2853. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to expand access to clinical care in the home, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. SMITH of New Jersey (for himself, Mr. MEEKS, Mr. HILL, and Ms. WILD):

H.R. 2854. A bill to require the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development to submit a report on progress relating to malaria reduction, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. SOTO (for himself and Mr. BILIRAKIS):

H.R. 2855. A bill to direct the Director of the United States Geological Survey to establish a program to map zones that are at greater risk of sinkhole formation, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mrs. SPARTZ:

H.R. 2856. A bill to give the Federal Trade Commission authority over certain tax-exempt organizations; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mrs. SPARTZ:

H.R. 2857. A bill to direct the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation of the Department of Health and Human Services to conduct an annual study on health care competition and consolidation at the State level; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mrs. SPARTZ:

H.R. 2858. A bill to amend the Pension Funding Equity Act of 2004 to repeal the antitrust exemption applicable to graduate medical resident matching programs; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mrs. SPARTZ:

H.R. 2859. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to establish new community benefit standards for tax-exempt hospital organizations, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mrs. SPARTZ:

H.R. 2860. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to repeal the Obamacare ban on provider-owned hospitals, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mrs. SPARTZ:

H.R. 2861. A bill to require the Government Accountability Office to evaluate the effects of anticompetitive contracting clauses in contracts between health insurers and health care providers and to determine actions taken by the Federal Trade Commission and the Department of Justice relating to the use of such clauses in such contracts and to assess their ability to effectively enforce the Federal antitrust laws with respect to such use; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mrs. SPARTZ:

H.R. 2862. A bill to eliminate the inpatient-only service list; 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 Mrs. SPARTZ:

H.R. 2863. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act and title XXVII of the Public Health Service Act to address incorrect billing by off-campus hospital locations, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. STEFANIK (for herself and Mr. GALLAGHER):

H.R. 2864. A bill to amend the Secure and Trusted Communications Networks Act of 2019 to provide for the addition of certain equipment and services produced or provided by DJI Technologies to the list of covered communications equipment or services published under such Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. TIFFANY (for himself and Mr. GOODEN of Texas):

H.R. 2865. A bill to provide for the closure of the Consulate General of the People's Republic of China and the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office located in New York City, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. TORRES of New York:

H.R. 2866. A bill to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to establish Critical Technology Security Centers in the Department of Homeland Security to evaluate and test the security of critical technology, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security.

By Mr. TRONE (for himself, Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky, Mr. LAMBORN, and Mrs. PELTOLA):

H.R. 2867. A bill to establish an awareness campaign related to the lethality of fentanyl and fentanyl-contaminated drugs, to establish a Federal Interagency Work Group on Fentanyl Contamination of Drugs, and to provide community-based coalition enhancement grants to mitigate the effects of drug use; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. WALBERG (for himself, Ms. FOXX, Mr. GOOD of Virginia, Mr. ALLEN, Mr. CRENSHAW, and Mr. BURGESS):

H.R. 2868. A bill to amend the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 to clarify the treatment of certain association health plans as employers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ (for herself, Mrs. HAYES, and Mrs. MCBATH):

H.R. 2869. A bill to require the Secretary of Education, in consultation with the Attorney General and the Secretary of Health and Human Services, to publish an annual report on indicators of school crime and safety that includes data on school shootings, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. NORMAN (for himself, Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, Mr. FULCHER, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. DUNCAN, Mr. DONALDS, Ms. LETLOW, Mr. NEWHOUSE, Mr. CRAWFORD, Mr. SIMPSON, Mr. MOORE of Alabama, Mr. LAMALFA, Mr. KELLY of Mississippi, Mr. EZELL, Mr. ROUZER, Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana, Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana, Mr. JACKSON of Texas, Mr. CURTIS, Ms. STEFANIK, Mr. GUEST, Mrs. HARSHBARGER, Mr. GOOD of Virginia, Mr. LUCAS, Mr. ALFORD, Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota, Mr. BUCSHON, Mr. DUARTE, Mr. MOOLENAAR, Mr. PENCE, Mr. WESTERMAN, Mr. SMITH of Missouri, Mr. VALADAO, Mr. BAIRD, Mr. BOST, Mr. YAKYM, Mr. ARMSTRONG, Mr. ROSE, Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. TIMMONS, Mr. MANN, Mrs. CAMMACK, Mr. ALLEN, Ms. DE LA CRUZ, Mr. FEENSTRA, Mr. FRY, Mr. STRONG, Mr. GALLAGHER, Mr. OWENS, Ms. SALAZAR, Mr. CLINE, Mr. C. SCOTT FRANKLIN of Florida, Mr. CLYDE, Ms. MACE, and Mr. TONY GONZALES of Texas):

H.J. Res. 59. A joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Department of Labor relating to ''Adverse Effect Wage Rate Methodology for the Temporary Employment of H-2A Nonimmigrants in Non-Range Occupations in the United States''; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. STAUBER:

H. Con. Res. 34. Concurrent resolution expressing disapproval of the withdrawal by the Secretary of the Interior of approximately 225,504 acres of National Forest System lands in Cook, Lake, and Saint Louis Counties, Minnesota, from disposition under the United States mineral and geothermal leasing laws; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Ms. TOKUDA (for herself and Mr. CASE):

H. Con. Res. 35. Concurrent resolution authorizing the use of Emancipation Hall in the Capitol Visitor Center for an event to celebrate a King Kamehameha Day Lei Draping Ceremony; to the Committee on House Administration.

By Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ (for herself, Mr. BOWMAN, Mr. TAKANO, Mr. CASAR, Ms. PINGREE, Ms. LEE of California, Ms. CHU, Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, Mr. KHANNA, Ms. TLAIB, Ms. TOKUDA, Mr. ROBERT GARCIA of California, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Ms. JACOBS, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Ms. LEE of Pennsylvania, Mr. MFUME, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Ms. NORTON, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. HUFFMAN, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. SCHIFF, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Mr. MOULTON, Mr. GOMEZ, Ms. PORTER, Mr. CARBAJAL, Ms. PRESSLEY, Ms. ESCOBAR, Ms. MENG, Mr. SABLAN, Mr. CONNOLLY, Ms. ADAMS, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, Ms. BALINT, Mr. CICILLINE, Mr. DESAULNIER, Mrs. FOUSHEE, Mr. SHERMAN, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Ms. HOYLE of Oregon, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Ms. SÁNCHEZ, Mr. LIEU, Ms. STANSBURY, Mr. NADLER, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. GOLDMAN of New York, Mr. MULLIN, Mr. MAGAZINER, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Mr. POCAN, Ms. BONAMICI, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Ms. OMAR, Mr. VARGAS, Mr. SWALWELL, Mr. TORRES of New York, Mr. RASKIN, Ms. BUSH, Mr. GARAMENDI, Mr. DOGGETT, Mr. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, Mr. QUIGLEY, Ms. JAYAPAL, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE, Mr. PANETTA, Mrs. TRAHAN, Mr. FROST, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. HIGGINS of New York, Mr. PASCRELL, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Mr. COHEN, Mr. GREEN of Texas, Mr. MEEKS, Ms. WATERS, Ms. LOFGREN, Mrs. HAYES, Mr. NEGUSE, Mr. CASTRO of Texas, Mrs. RAMIREZ, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. KEATING, and Mr. LYNCH):

H. Res. 319. A resolution recognizing the duty of the Federal Government to create a Green New Deal; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Science, Space, and Technology, Education and the Workforce, Transportation and Infrastructure, Agriculture, Natural Resources, Foreign Affairs, Financial Services, the Judiciary, Ways and Means, and Oversight and Accountability, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. STEIL (for himself and Mr. MORELLE):

H. Res. 321. A resolution permitting official photographs of the House of Representatives to be taken while the House is in actual session on a date designated by the Speaker; to the Committee on House Administration.

By Mr. WILSON of South Carolina (for himself, Mr. COHEN, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. QUIGLEY, Mr. LAMBORN, Mr. PASCRELL, Ms. SALAZAR, Mr. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, Mr. LAWLER, Mr. DOGGETT, Mr. HUDSON, Ms. ROSS, Mr. COSTA, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. TRONE, Mr. MORELLE, and Ms. WILD):

H. Res. 322. A resolution expressing the sense of the House of Representatives on Ukrainian victory; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. DIAZ-BALART (for himself, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Ms. MALLIOTAKIS, Mr. MOONEY, Mr. GIMENEZ, Ms. SALAZAR, and Mrs. GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN):

H. Res. 323. A resolution commemorating the 62d anniversary of the Bay of Pigs operation and remembering the members of Brigada de Asalto 2506 (Assault Brigade 2506); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Ms. JAYAPAL (for herself, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. BOWMAN, Mr. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, Mr. CASAR, Ms. CRAIG, Mr. DESAULNIER, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Mr. EVANS, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Ms. LEE of Pennsylvania, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. NORCROSS, Ms. NORTON, Mr. POCAN, Ms. SÁNCHEZ, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Ms. SCHOLTEN, Ms. TOKUDA, Mr. TONKO, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Ms. WILSON of Florida, and Mr. HIGGINS of New York):

H. Res. 324. A resolution expressing support for the staff of this Nation's public, school, academic, and special libraries and the essential services they provide to our communities, recognizing the need for funding commensurate with the broad scope of social services and community supports provided by libraries, preserving the right of all citizens to freely access information and resources in their communities, supporting a strong union voice for library workers, and defending the civil rights of library staff; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mrs. KIM of California (for herself, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. CASE, Mr. WESTERMAN, and Mr. TONKO):

H. Res. 325. A resolution supporting the goals and ideals of Mathematics and Statistics Awareness Month; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mrs. MILLER of West Virginia:

H. Res. 326. A resolution expressing support for the designation of the week of April 24–29, 2023, as ''Small Businesses in For-Hire Transportation Week''; to the Committee on Small Business.

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. ARRINGTON:

H.R. 2811.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

Addressing America's debt

By Mr. HIMES:

H.R. 2812.

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 requires the Securities and Exchange Commission to study and report on the costs encountered by small- and medium-sized companies when undertaking initial public offerings and certain offerings exempt from securities registration requirements.

By Mr. GOOD of Virginia:

H.R. 2813.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

Self-funded insurance

By Mr. MASSIE:

H.R. 2814.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

Regulatory Reform

By Mr. CURTIS:

H.R. 2815.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1 Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

Reporting on the demands that Hong Kong authorities are making of U.S. businesses

By Mrs. HARSHBARGER:

H.R. 2816.

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:

Healthcare

By Mr. AMODEI:

H.R. 2817.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The constitutional authority on which this bill rests is the power of Congress to authorize appropriations under Article I, Section 9 of the United States Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is:

This bill will save Federal funds by authorizing changes to the composition of circulating coins.

By Mr. BACON:

H.R. 2818.

Article 1, Section 8.

The single subject of this legislation is:

This bill would amend title 38, United States Code, to increase the amount paid by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to veterans for improvements and structural alterations furnished as part of home health services.

By Mr. BUCSHON:

H.R. 2819.

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:

Health

By Ms. BUSH:

H.R. 2820.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Section I Article 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

Requiring the cleanup of Jana Elementary School and directing the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) to test all Hazelwood School District properties for radioactive waste.

By Mr. CARSON:

H.R. 2821.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Clause 18 of section 8 of Article I of the Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is:

This bill a grant program in the Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection to fund the establishment of centers of excellence to support research, development and planning, implementation, and evaluation of effective programs in financial literacy education for young people and families ages 8 through 24 years old

By Mr. CASAR:

H.R. 2822.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1 of the US Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

To ensure that contractors of the Department of Agriculture comply with certain labor laws, and for other purposes.

By Mr. CASE:

H.R. 2823.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1 Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

Reunites the families of Filipino World War II Veterans.

By Mr. CASTRO of Texas:

H.R. 2824.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article One, Section Eight of the Constitution of the United States

The single subject of this legislation is:

The purpose of the bill is on the issue of international affairs and international development.

By Mr. CLEAVER:

H.R. 2825.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I of the U.S Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

Prison Libraries

By Mr. COMER:

H.R. 2826.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

clause 3 of section 8 of article 1 of the Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

the definition of a joint employer relationship

By Mr. CONNOLLY:

H.R. 2827.

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:

To improve business ties between the U.S. and South Korea

By Mr. CONNOLLY:

H.R. 2828.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Clause I of section 8 of article I of the Constitution, and clause 18 of section 8 of article I of the Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is:

Directs OPM to require coverage of assisted reproductive treatments in Federal Employees Health Benefits program plans.

By Mr. DUNCAN:

H.R. 2829.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8.

The single subject of this legislation is:

This legislation eliminates cost-sharing for chronic care management services under Medicare.

By Mr. EDWARDS:

H.R. 2830.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3:

[The Congress shall have Power . . .] To regulate Commerce with foreign Nations,

and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes; . . .

The single subject of this legislation is:

To expand access to commercial driver education programs for veterans using the G.I. Bill.

By Mr. ESPAILLAT:

H.R. 2831.

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 award posthumously a Congressional Gold Medal to Robert Parris Moses, in recognition of his achievements and contributions to advancing American education and civil rights.

By Mr. FERGUSON:

H.R. 2832.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 (Necessary and Proper)

The single subject of this legislation is:

Real Estate

By Mr. FITZGERALD:

H.R. 2833.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

clause 18 of section 8 of article I of the Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is:

This bill requires the Department of Justice to submit a report detailing indiviuals granted bail and pretrial release in State courts.

By Ms. GARCIA of Texas:

H.R. 2834.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Section 8 Article I of the Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

CFDI Fund technical assistance

By Ms. GARCIA of Texas:

H.R. 2835.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Section 8 Article I of the Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

Orders the Financial Literacy Education Commission to conduct a study on limited English proficiency and financial health

By Mr. MIKE GARCIA of California:

H.R. 2836.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, clause 1

The single subject of this legislation is:

To prohibit a certain formula for the purposes of allocating funding of public schools.

By Mr. TONY GONZALES of Texas:

H.R. 2837.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8: ''To make all laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into execution the foregoing powers, and all other powers vested by this Constitution in the government of the United States, or in any department or officer thereof.''

The single subject of this legislation is:

To provide for higher minimum pay for certain U.S. Border Patrol agents.

By Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana:

H.R. 2838.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, clause 6 empowers Congress to coin money.

The single subject of this legislation is:

This bill would provide for the minting of a single commemorative coin to celebrate the 75th anniversary of the founding of NASCAR. The bill has no other provisions.

By Ms. HOYLE of Oregon:

H.R. 2839.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3 of the United States Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is:

The single subject of this legislation is Tribal Affairs.

By Ms. KELLY of Illinois:

H.R. 2840.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause I of the Constitution of the United States.

The single subject of this legislation is:

Labor

By Ms. KELLY of Illinois:

H.R. 2841.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause I of the Constitution of the United States.

The single subject of this legislation is:

Tax

By Ms. MALLIOTAKIS:

H.R. 2842.

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 Department of Housing and Urban Development to inspect certain public housing developments to ensure compliance with housing quality and safety standards, and for other purposes.

By Ms. MALLIOTAKIS:

H.R. 2843.

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 prohibit the Administrator of the Transportation Security Administration from accepting warrants for the arrest of aliens as valid proof of identification at aviation security checkpoints, and for other purposes.

By Ms. MALLIOTAKIS:

H.R. 2844.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, section 8, Clauses 1 and 18

The single subject of this legislation is:

To require the Secretary of Homeland Security and the Secretary of Health and Human Services to make available to the public on the websites of their respective departments certain information relating to Individuals processed through U.S. Customs and Border Protection or Department of Health and Human Services facilities, and for other purposes.

By Ms. MATSUI:

H.R. 2845.

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 direct the Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency to establish a School Cybersecurity Improvement Program, and for other purposes.

By Mr. PETERS:

H.R. 2846.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

Housing

By Ms. PRESSLEY:

H.R. 2847.

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:

Bill strengthens constitutional rights

By Ms. PRESSLEY:

H.R. 2848.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1 Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

Bill supports public transportation equity

By Mr. RESCHENTHALER:

H.R. 2849.

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 the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to establish a credit for the domestic production of rare earth magnets, and for other purposes.

By Ms. SALINAS:

H.R. 2850.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3 of the United States Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is:

Tribal issues.

By Mr. SCOTT of Virginia:

H.R. 2851.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution of the United States.

The single subject of this legislation is:

To expand and improve the National Apprenticeship Act.

By Ms. SLOTKIN:

H.R. 2852.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18: To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

The single subject of this legislation is:

To require the Secretary of Defense to provide to firefighters of the Department of Defense medical testing and related services to detect and prevent certain cancers.

By Mr. SMITH of Nebraska:

H.R. 2853.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

Health care in the home

By Mr. SMITH of New Jersey:

H.R. 2854.

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:

International Development

By Mr. SOTO:

H.R. 2855.

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:

This bill directs the United States Geological Survey (USGS) to establish a program to study the short-term and long-term mechanisms that cause sinkholes and to develop maps depicting the zones that are at greater risk of forming sinkholes.

By Mrs. SPARTZ:

H.R. 2856.

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:

To give the Federal Trade Commission authority over certain tax-exempt organizations.

By Mrs. SPARTZ:

H.R. 2857.

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:

To direct the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation of the Department of Health and Human Services to conduct an annual study on health care competition and consolidation at the State level.

By Mrs. SPARTZ:

H.R. 2858.

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:

To amend the Pension Funding Equity Act of 2004 to repeal the antitrust exemption applicable to graduate medical resident matching programs.

By Mrs. SPARTZ:

H.R. 2859.

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:

To amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to establish new community benefit standards for tax-exempt hospital organizations.

By Mrs. SPARTZ:

H.R. 2860.

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:

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to repeal the Obamacare ban on provider-owned hospitals.

By Mrs. SPARTZ:

H.R. 2861.

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:

To require the Government Accountability Office to evaluate the effects of anticompetitive contracting clauses in contracts between health insurers and health care providers and to determine actions taken by the Federal Trade Commission and the Department of Justice relating to the use of such clauses in such contracts and to assess their ability to effectively enforce the Federal antitrust laws with respect to such use.

By Mrs. SPARTZ:

H.R. 2862.

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:

To eliminate the inpatient-only service list.

By Mrs. SPARTZ:

H.R. 2863.

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:

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act and title XXVII of the Public Health Service Act to address incorrect billing by off-campus hospital locations.

By Ms. STEFANIK:

H.R. 2864.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the US Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

Adding telecommunications or video surveillance services provided by Shenzchen DaJiang Innovations Science and Technologies Company Limited to Federal Communications Commission's Covered List.

By Mr. TIFFANY:

H.R. 2865.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1 , Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

Foreign relations

By Mr. TORRES of New York:

H.R. 2866.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8.

The single subject of this legislation is:

Cybersecurity

By Mr. TRONE:

H.R. 2867.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution of the United States

The single subject of this legislation is:

This bill is about drugs.

By Mr. WALBERG:

H.R. 2868.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Artide I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution, specifically Clause 1 (relating to providing for the general welfare of the United States), Clause 3 (relating to the power to regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes), and Clause 18 (relating to the power to make all laws necessary and proper for carrying out the powers vested in Congress)

The single subject of this legislation is:

To amend the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 to clarify the treatment of certain association health plans as employers, and for other purposes.

By Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ:

H.R. 2869.

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 study and collect data on indicators of school crime and safety pertaining to gun violence

By Mr. NORMAN:

H.J. Res. 59.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

Resolution of Disapproval under the Congressional Review Act (CRA) for the Department of Labor's Final Rule entitled, ''Adverse Effect Wage Rate Methodology for the Temporary Employment of H–2A Nonimmigrants in Non-Range Occupations in the United States.''

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions, as follows:

H.R. 7: Mr. CISCOMANI, Mr. TONY GONZALES of Texas, and Mr. ALFORD.

H.R. 32: Ms. VAN DUYNE.

H.R. 33: Ms. BARRAGÁN and Mr. FROST.

H.R. 34: Mr. MCGOVERN and Ms. DELAURO.

H.R. 45: Mr. KEATING.

H.R. 53: Mr. BURLISON.

H.R. 82: Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania, Mr. YAKYM, Ms. DELBENE, Ms. MENG, Ms. STRICKLAND, and Mr. GOLDMAN of New York.

H.R. 173: Mr. BOST.

H.R. 309: Ms. SALINAS.

H.R. 335: Ms. MALLIOTAKIS, Mrs. BOEBERT, Mr. LATURNER, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mr. BACON, Mr. C. SCOTT FRANKLIN of Florida, and Mr. BEAN of Florida.

H.R. 341: Mr. BOST.

H.R. 357: Mr. BIGGS.

H.R. 396: Ms. SHERRILL and Mr. CASE.

H.R. 408: Mr. POCAN and Mrs. HAYES.

H.R. 451: Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina, Mr. GREEN of Texas, and Mrs. LUNA.

H.R. 491: Mrs. RAMIREZ.

H.R. 506: Mr. JAMES and Mr. CARTER of Georgia.

H.R. 528: Mr. DONALDS.

H.R. 533: Ms. MALLIOTAKIS.

H.R. 536: Mr. GOLDMAN of New York.

H.R. 537: Mr. DUNN of Florida, Mrs. FOUSHEE, Ms. WILD, and Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia.

H.R. 542: Mr. LYNCH, Mr. CICILLINE, Mr. CASAR, Mr. SWALWELL, Ms. SHERRILL, Ms. BUDZINSKI, Ms. NORTON, Mr. MRVAN, Ms. CARAVEO, and Mr. MORELLE.

H.R. 544: Ms. SHERRILL, Ms. STRICKLAND, Ms. NORTON, and Mr. PHILLIPS.

H.R. 549: Mr. MFUME, Mrs. HAYES, Mr. WILLIAMS of New York, and Mr. VALADAO.

H.R. 559: Mr. JACKSON of Texas and Ms. PINGREE.

H.R. 589: Mr. CARTER of Georgia, Mr. VAN DREW, Mr. KEAN of New Jersey, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Mr. BURCHETT, Mr. MILLER of Ohio, and Mr. MOOLENAAR.

H.R. 594: Mr. CASTRO of Texas and Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin.

H.R. 619: Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Mr. HUFFMAN, Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, Mr. SCHNEIDER, Mr. COHEN, Ms. PINGREE, Mr. QUIGLEY, Mr. POCAN, and Mr. KEATING.

H.R. 630: Ms. NORTON, Mr. COHEN, Mr. HUFFMAN, Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ, and Mr. STANTON.

H.R. 648: Ms. SLOTKIN and Ms. PEREZ.

H.R. 652: Ms. NORTON.

H.R. 662: Mr. VALADAO.

H.R. 697: Mr. FROST.

H.R. 709: Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ.

H.R. 716: Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois.

H.R. 723: Mr. DONALDS.

H.R. 735: Mr. MOOLENAAR and Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia.

H.R. 791: Mr. GREEN of Tennessee.

H.R. 807: Mr. POSEY and Mr. COLE.

H.R. 835: Mr. VARGAS and Mr. LAWLER.

H.R. 846: Mr. DONALDS.

H.R. 884: Ms. LEE of Pennsylvania, Mr. THANEDAR, Ms. ESHOO, Mrs. TRAHAN, and Mr. GOLDMAN of New York.

H.R. 892: Mr. DONALDS.

H.R. 926: Ms. TOKUDA, Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia, Ms. PRESSLEY, Ms. BROWN, Mr. NICKEL, Mr. DOGGETT, Mr. GOLDMAN of New York, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHI, Mr. GOMEZ, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Mr. DESAULNIER, Ms. PORTER, Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. HIGGINS of New York, Mrs. TRAHAN, Mr. MULLIN, Mr. CROW, and Ms. CRAIG.

H.R. 927: Mr. TONKO, Mr. MCGOVERN, Ms. TOKUDA, Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia, Ms. PRESSLEY, Ms. CRAIG, Ms. BROWN, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHI, Mr. NICKEL, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. KILDEE, Mr. GOMEZ, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Ms. PORTER, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. HIGGINS of New York, Mrs. TRAHAN, and Mr. CROW.

H.R. 939: Mr. STEWART, Mr. FALLON, Mr. VALADAO, Mr. DESJARLAIS, Mrs. BICE, Mr. OBERNOLTE, and Mr. KELLY of Mississippi.

H.R. 981: Ms. NORTON and Mr. DESAULNIER.

H.R. 982: Mr. CÁRDENAS.

H.R. 983: Mr. CRANE.

H.R. 987: Mr. JAMES, Mr. GIMENEZ, Mr. CARTER of Georgia, Mr. JORDAN, Ms. LEE of Florida, Mr. SOTO, Mr. CRANE, Mr. SCHNEIDER, and Ms. SLOTKIN.

H.R. 1024: Mr. GOTTHEIMER and Mr. NEGUSE.

H.R. 1045: Mr. HIGGINS of New York, Mr. BILIRAKIS, and Mr. RUTHERFORD.

H.R. 1069: Mr. DONALDS.

H.R. 1105: Mr. CLEAVER.

H.R. 1118: Mrs. FLETCHER, Mr. NICKEL, Ms. SCHOLTEN, and Ms. CROCKETT.

H.R. 1121: Mr. DONALDS.
H.R. 1146: Mr. BEAN of Florida.
H.R. 1147: Mrs. HAYES.
H.R. 1171: Mr. DONALDS.
H.R. 1184: Mr. COHEN, Ms. ROSS, Mrs. GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN, and Mr. HARRIS.
H.R. 1202: Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS, Mr. RYAN, Ms. NORTON, and Mr. MOOLENAAR.
H.R. 1218: Mr. HUNT.
H.R. 1228: Mr. WALBERG.
H.R. 1262: Mr. HUNT.
H.R. 1263: Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas, Mr. RASKIN, and Mr. SESSIONS.
H.R. 1277: Mr. MANN, Mr. DIAZ-BALART, Mr. JOYCE of Ohio, Ms. CHU, Ms. SÁNCHEZ, Mr. KILMER, Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, and Mr. COLE.
H.R. 1278: Mr. KILDEE.
H.R. 1293: Mr. POCAN and Ms. CRAIG.
H.R. 1294: Ms. DE LA CRUZ, Mr. HIMES, Mrs. HAYES, and Ms. SCHOLTEN.
H.R. 1296: Mr. EDWARDS.
H.R. 1339: Mr. ALLEN.
H.R. 1351: Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas, and Ms. SCHAKOWSKY.
H.R. 1359: Mr. AUCHINCLOSS.
H.R. 1372: Ms. SLOTKIN and Mr. NUNN of Iowa.
H.R. 1385: Mrs. WAGNER and Mr. BOST.
H.R. 1387: Mr. EVANS.
H.R. 1399: Mr. RESCHENTHALER, Mr. DONALDS, Mr. GAETZ, Mr. JACKSON of Texas, and Mr. TONY GONZALES of Texas.
H.R. 1403: Mr. LYNCH and Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania.
H.R. 1408: Mr. GROTHMAN.
H.R. 1409: Mr. ALFORD.
H.R. 1410: Mr. ALFORD and Mr. MANN.
H.R. 1411: Mr. ALFORD and Mr. HUIZENGA.
H.R. 1414: Mr. NICKEL.
H.R. 1421: Mr. GOLDMAN of New York.
H.R. 1435: Mr. COMER, Mr. MCHENRY, Ms. DE LA CRUZ, Mrs. LESKO, Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota, and Mr. ESTES.
H.R. 1440: Mr. YAKYM.
H.R. 1450: Mr. ZINKE.
H.R. 1462: Mr. BALDERSON.
H.R. 1465: Ms. SCHOLTEN.
H.R. 1477: Ms. VAN DUYNE.
H.R. 1499: Mr. NEGUSE and Mr. SOTO.
H.R. 1505: Ms. SALAZAR and Mr. DIAZ-BALART.
H.R. 1509: Mr. PAYNE, Mr. MCGOVERN, Ms. TOKUDA, Ms. PINGREE, Mr. BLUMENAUER, and Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN.
H.R. 1510: Ms. PRESSLEY, Mr. EVANS, Ms. MATSUI, Ms. BROWNLEY, Mr. POCAN, Mr. VARGAS, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. KILMER, and Ms. OMAR.
H.R. 1571: Mr. GRIJALVA.
H.R. 1572: Mr. BISHOP of Georgia and Mr. CURTIS.
H.R. 1608: Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas.
H.R. 1613: Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS.
H.R. 1624: Ms. SHERRILL, Ms. DELAURO, Ms. SLOTKIN, and Mr. GOTTHEIMER.
H.R. 1628: Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia.
H.R. 1629: Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia.
H.R. 1634: Mr. KHANNA, Mr. PETERS, and Mr. COHEN.
H.R. 1637: Mr. TRONE.
H.R. 1666: Mr. BOST, Mrs. LEE of Nevada, Mr. FINSTAD, Mr. AMODEI, Mr. MANN, Ms. WILD, and Mr. HUFFMAN.
H.R. 1668: Mr. GOLDMAN of New York, Mr. COHEN, Mr. POCAN, Mr. CASE, and Ms. TOKUDA.
H.R. 1672: Mr. KILDEE.
H.R. 1689: Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHI.
H.R. 1690: Mrs. WAGNER, Mr. MCCORMICK, Mr. SELF, Mrs. RADEWAGEN, Mr. MILLS, Mr. MORAN, Mr. BAIRD, Mrs. KIM of California, Mr. MAST, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, and Mr. WALTZ.
H.R. 1699: Mr. TONKO.
H.R. 1705: Mr. FROST, Mr. LYNCH, and Mr. BEYER.
H.R. 1721: Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. FITZPATRICK, and Ms. BROWN.
H.R. 1724: Mr. MOOLENAAR.
H.R. 1728: Mr. LALOTA.
H.R. 1735: Ms. STEVENS.
H.R. 1742: Mr. GRIJALVA.
H.R. 1761: Mr. OGLES and Mr. TIMMONS.
H.R. 1770: Ms. DEGETTE and Mr. CURTIS.
H.R. 1776: Mrs. CHERFILUS-MCCORMICK.
H.R. 1785: Ms. PLASKETT.
H.R. 1788: Ms. SHERRILL and Ms. SLOTKIN.
H.R. 1809: Mr. VASQUEZ and Ms. PEREZ.
H.R. 1818: Mr. BACON, Mr. YAKYM, and Mr. GROTHMAN.
H.R. 1822: Mr. KELLY of Mississippi, Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS, and Mr. LAMBORN.
H.R. 1827: Mr. BRECHEEN.
H.R. 1832: Ms. NORTON.
H.R. 2388: Mr. GOLDMAN of New York and Mr. MULLIN.
H.R. 2390: Ms. SHERRILL.
H.R. 2400: Mr. IVEY, Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania, Mr. MOULTON, and Mr. NORCROSS.
H.R. 2403: Ms. SHERRILL and Mr. CROW.
H.R. 2413: Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois and Mr. QUIGLEY.
H.R. 2423: Mr. LANGWORTHY.
H.R. 2426: Mr. LAMBORN.
H.R. 2447: Mrs. LEE of Nevada, Ms. SHERRILL, and Mr. LAWLER.
H.R. 2451: Mr. SESSIONS, Ms. VAN DUYNE, and Mr. BANKS.
H.R. 2539: Mr. VEASEY, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. PHILLIPS, Mr. BACON, Ms. PINGREE, and Mrs. FISCHBACH.
H.R. 2548: Mr. BACON and Mr. KILDEE.
H.R. 2553: Ms. HAGEMAN and Mrs. BOEBERT.
H.R. 2555: Mrs. HAYES, Ms. PORTER, Mr. NORCROSS, and Mr. PAYNE.
H.R. 2567: Ms. MENG, Mr. GOTTHEIMER, Ms. NORTON, and Ms. TOKUDA.
H.R. 2572: Ms. NORTON.
H.R. 2604: Ms. BONAMICI, Ms. PORTER, Ms. STEVENS, Ms. NORTON, Mr. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, Ms. CHU, Ms. UNDERWOOD, and Ms. LEE of Pennsylvania.
H.R. 2630: Mr. HUDSON, Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas, Mr. NADLER, and Mrs. LUNA.
H.R. 2663: Ms. NORTON, Mr. POCAN, Mr. SHERMAN, Ms. PORTER, Ms. CHU, Mr. CASTRO of Texas, Mr. HUFFMAN, Mr. LYNCH, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Ms. SLOTKIN, Mr. EVANS, Mr. KILMER, Mrs. DINGELL, Mr. KILDEE, Ms. UNDERWOOD, Ms. SEWELL, Mr. DESAULNIER, Mr. GRIJALVA, and Ms. GARCIA of Texas.
H.R. 2673: Ms. TENNEY, Mr. KILMER, Mrs. STEEL, Mr. PAPPAS, Mrs. FISCHBACH, Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, Mr. MEUSER, Ms. HOULAHAN, Mr. CRENSHAW, Mr. NORCROSS, Mr. MCCAUL, and Ms. SÁNCHEZ.
H.R. 2693: Mrs. PELTOLA, Mr. GARAMENDI, Ms. NORTON, and Mr. CARSON.
H.R. 2696: Mr. HUDSON.
H.R. 2700: Ms. MACE and Mr. FITZGERALD.
H.R. 2705: Ms. NORTON.
H.R. 2712: Mr. ROY.
H.R. 2714: Mrs. DINGELL, Mr. GARAMENDI, Mr. KHANNA, and Mr. TONKO.
H.R. 2718: Mr. PASCRELL, Mrs. CHERFILUS-MCCORMICK, and Mr. MORELLE.
H.R. 2725: Ms. NORTON and Mr. LEVIN.
H.R. 2728: Mr. FITZPATRICK, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, and Mr. HARDER of California.
H.R. 2732: Mr. CLEAVER.
H.R. 2736: Mr. DESAULNIER and Mr. SWALWELL.
H.R. 2747: Ms. NORTON.
H.R. 2755: Ms. PEREZ.
H.R. 2764: Ms. BUSH and Mr. THANEDAR.
H.R. 2792: Mr. TORRES of New York, Mr. LAWLER, and Mr. CASTEN.
H.R. 2793: Mr. LAWLER.
H.R. 2797: Mr. LAWLER.
H.R. 2803: Mr. NORCROSS, Mr. KHANNA, Mrs. KIM of California, Mr. TRONE, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. ESPAILLAT, and Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN.
H.R. 2808: Mr. SWALWELL and Mr. EVANS.
H.R. 2810: Ms. LEE of Pennsylvania and Mr. GRIJALVA.
H.J. Res. 11: Mrs. BICE.
H.J. Res. 12: Mr. GROTHMAN.
H. Con. Res. 5: Mr. LALOTA.
H. Con. Res. 28: Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio, Mr. LUETKEMEYER, Mr. GARBARINO, and Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS.
H. Res. 81: Mr. ALLRED, Ms. HOULAHAN, Mr. COSTA, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mr. PASCRELL, and Mr. LIEU.
H. Res. 154: Ms. NORTON, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, and Mr. EVANS.
H. Res. 219: Ms. BALINT and Mr. MCGARVEY.
H. Res. 259: Mr. POCAN.
H. Res. 265: Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. CROCKETT, Ms. SÁNCHEZ, and Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia.
H. Res. 268: Mrs. MILLER of West Virginia and Ms. DELBENE.
H. Res. 276: Mr. TIMMONS.
H. Res. 311: Mr. RESCHENTHALER, Mr. SORENSEN, Mr. CURTIS, Mr. BACON, Mr. JOYCE of Ohio, Mr. MOSKOWITZ, Mrs. MCCLAIN, Mr. BILIRAKIS, Ms. VAN DUYNE, Mr. KILEY, Mr. SMITH of Nebraska, Mr. TRONE, Mrs. RODGERS of Washington, Mr. VALADAO, Mr. BARR, and Ms. SEWELL.
H. Res. 315: Ms. OMAR and Ms. KAPTUR.
H. Res. 320: Ms. NORTON and Mr. COSTA.

CONGRESSIONAL EARMARKS, LIMITED TAX BENEFITS, OR LIMITED TARIFF BENEFITS

Under clause 9 of rule XXI, lists or statements on congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits were submitted as follows:

OFFERED BY MR. ARRINGTON

The provisions that warranted a referral to the Committee on the Budget in H.R. 2811 do not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9 of rule XXI.

OFFERRED BY MR. COLE

The provisions that warranted a referral to the Committee on Rules in H.R. 2811 do not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9 of rule XXI.

OFFERED BY MR. COMER

The provisions that warranted a referral to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability in H.R. 2811, the Limit, Save, Grow Act of 2023, do not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9 of rule XXI.

OFFERED BY MS. FOX

The provisions that warranted a referral to the Committee on Education and the Workforce in H.R. 2811, the Limit, Save, Grow Act of 2023, do not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9 of rule XXI.

OFFERED BY MS. GRANGER

The provisions that warranted a referral to the Committee on Appropriations in H.R. 2811 do not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9 of rule XXI.

OFFERED BY MR. GRAVES OF MISSOURI

The provisions that warranted a referral to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure in H.R. 2811, the Limit, Save, Grow Act of 2023, do not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9 of rule XXI.

OFFERED BY MR. JORDAN

The provisions that warranted a referral to the Committee on the Judiciary in H.R. 2811 do not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9 of rule XXI.

OFFERED BY MRS. RODGERS

The provisions that warranted a referral to the Committee on Energy and Commerce in H.R. 2811, the Limit, Save, Grow Act, do not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9 of rule XXI.

OFFERED BY MR. SMITH OF MISSOURI

The provisions that warranted a referral to the Committee on Ways and Means in H.R. 2811 do not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9 of rule XXI.

OFFERED BY MR. THOMPSON OF PENNSYLVANIA

The provisions that warranted a referral to the Committee on Agriculture in H.R. 2811, the Limit, Save, Grow Act, do not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9 of rule XXI.

OFFERED BY MR. WESTERMAN

The provisions that warranted a referral to the Committee on Natural Resources in H.R. 2811 do not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9 of rule XXI.

United States of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 118th CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 169 WASHINGTON, TUESDAY, APRIL 25, 2023 No. 69

Senate

The Senate met at 3 p.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore (Mrs. MURRAY).

PRAYER

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

Let us pray.

Eternal Spirit, send Your peace into our hearts. Hasten the day when nations will live in friendship with each other, united by their allegiance to You.

May the Members of this body seek to build with You a world without dividing walls. Keep our lawmakers faithful in their efforts to unite our Nation and world. Lord, strengthen them to work together for the common good, as You place Your peace that passes all understanding in their hearts. Empower our Senators to set country above party and place Your will above all else.

We pray in Your great Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The President pro tempore led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

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

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

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

CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Morning business is closed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate will proceed to executive session to resume consideration of the following nomination, which the clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read the nomination of Joshua David Jacobs, of Washington, to be Under Secretary for Benefits of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. WELCH). The Senator from Washington.

NOMINATION OF JOSHUA DAVID JACOBS

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, I come to the floor this afternoon to urge all of my colleagues to join me in voting to confirm Joshua Jacobs to serve as Under Secretary for Benefits at the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.

Mr. Jacobs is an exceptionally qualified pick to fill this role, who will work day in and day out to make sure our Nation lives up to its obligation to take care of its veterans. I should know because that is exactly what he did when he worked in my office.

Joshua came to work every day focused on Washington State veterans and their families and helped to prepare the VA for an influx of veterans, to expand clinics and facilities, and to ensure veterans had the services they needed to transition to civilian life, especially when it comes to employment. That track record is why I was thrilled to have him return to work for me as deputy staff director on the Veterans Affairs Committee later, when I became chair, and why I was so excited to join my colleagues on the committee earlier this year to advance this nomination in a bipartisan way.

When I was chair, Mr. Jacobs helped lead the efforts to get veterans more mental health services, expand and support services for women veterans, and ensure veterans had a seamless transition from the DOD to the VA, where too often our servicemembers and veterans faced too much redtape and the VA faced too little accountability.

Given his drive back then, it is no surprise to me that the work he has done since shows his deep commitment to serving those who served our Nation and why he is such a strong fit and trusted choice for this role.

When Mr. Jacobs was a Senior Advisor to the Office of the VA Secretary under President Obama, he was awarded the Secretary's Meritorious Service Award. When President Biden was elected, he was chosen to serve on the incoming administration's VA transition team. After Mr. Jacobs returned to the Department as a Senior Advisor in 2021, he improved its decision-making process by establishing and leading the new Evidence-based Policy Council and developing a new interagency policy development process to coordinate and implement more than 50 interagency policy efforts.

As a Senior Advisor for Policy who carried out the responsibilities of the Under Secretary for Benefits, Mr. Jacobs has taken on the enormous task of coordinating a team of 25,000 people and 56 regional offices, processing centers, and headquarters as they worked to manage over $100 billion in benefits and to make good on our promise to millions of veterans and their families.

He knows full well how important a smoothly functioning VA is to the Americans who are relying on the benefits our Nation promised them. I have no doubt he will go to work every day determined to make sure our Nation lives up to those promises.

I know Mr. Jacobs, who is a Washington State native and graduate of the University of Washington, will do great work for America's veterans as Under Secretary for benefits.

I am proud to support his nomination. I look forward to working with him once he is confirmed.

I yield the floor.

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

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RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Republican leader is recognized.

DEBT CEILING

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, for over 2 years, the Biden administration has failed to attend to some of the most basic governing duties. Stable prices, secure borders, and safe streets are three of the most fundamental responsibilities that any government owes its people.

But Washington Democrats neglected the basics for their pet priorities. They spent trillions of dollars on government goodies that nobody asked for, triggered the worst inflation in 40 years, and turned a blind eye to the border crisis and a crime wave, all occurring on their watch.

They caused the damage on partyline votes, without any input from the Republican side. In response, the American people flipped the House and chose a closely divided Senate. The voters dialed up the checks and the balances. The people went to the ballot box and demanded the Democrats start negotiating and compromising.

But the President is refusing to engage. Even as his own advisers say the debt ceiling is approaching fast, the White House is totally MIA. His position has been no negotiation, no reforms.

It is such an absurd position that even fellow Democrats are not buying it. The senior Senator from West Virginia, a Democrat, has publicly called on the President to sit down with Speaker MCCARTHY and negotiate.

Listen to the House Democrats: ''Get to work and get it done for the sake of the country,'' says one. ''They've got to do it soon,'' says another.

Just a few years ago, the Democratic leader said debt limit talks were an ''opportunity for bipartisanship.''

And what about President Biden himself? Here is what then-Vice President Biden said about the debt ceiling back in 2011. ''Some of them are still unwilling to budge . . . taking an absolute position: my way or no way. . . . That's not governing,'' said the Vice President in 2011.

My goodness, that is harsh criticism for the 2023 version of President Biden from the 2011 version of Vice President Biden.

The Democrats' reckless policies have already dealt far too much damage to our country. This administration's inflation has hammered working families' budgets. Their anti-energy policies have raised gas prices and utility bills. Their attempt to reinvent cash welfare without work requirements hurt small businesses by worsening labor shortages and hurt families by promoting dependence.

So the working people of this country have already paid a heavy enough price for Democrats' failures. We should not even come within a mile of flirting with a Democratic debt default on top of all the rest.

It is time for President Biden to stop the partisan stubbornness, join Speaker MCCARTHY at the grownups' table, and get talking.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The majority leader is recognized.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I move to proceed to legislative session.

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

The motion was agreed to.

REMOVING THE DEADLINE FOR THE RATIFICATION OF THE EQUAL RIGHTS AMENDMENT—Motion to Proceed

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I move to proceed to Calendar No. 3, S.J. Res. 4.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the motion.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

Motion to proceed to Calendar No. 3, S.J. Res. 4, a joint resolution removing the deadline for the ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. SCHUMER. I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the motion to proceed to Calendar No. 3, S.J. Res. 4, a joint resolution removing the deadline for the ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment.

Charles E. Schumer, Benjamin L. Cardin, Margaret Wood Hassan, Richard Blumenthal, Sherrod Brown, Tim Kaine, Christopher A. Coons, Alex Padilla, Tina Smith, Elizabeth Warren, Cory A. Booker, Gary C. Peters, Jack Reed, Angus S. King, Jr., Brian Schatz, Mazie K. Hirono, Amy Klobuchar.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 22.

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

The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The legislative clerk read the nomination of Anthony Devos Johnstone, of Montana, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Ninth Circuit.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

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. 22, Anthony Devos Johnstone, of Montana, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Ninth Circuit.

Charles E. Schumer, Richard J. Durbin, Alex Padilla, Tim Kaine, Margaret Wood Hassan, Ben Ray Luján, Raphael G. Warnock, Tammy Duckworth, Jack Reed, Sheldon Whitehouse, John W. Hickenlooper, Catherine Cortez Masto, Tammy Baldwin, Brian Schatz, Christopher Murphy, Tina Smith, Debbie Stabenow.

Mr. SCHUMER. I ask unanimous consent that the mandatory quorum calls for the cloture motions filed today, April 25, be waived.

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

DEBT CEILING

Mr. SCHUMER. Now, Mr. President, for months, the American people have demanded House Republicans stop their hostage-taking and show us a plan to avoid default.

Last week, House Republicans failed in their assignment yet again. Speaker MCCARTHY rolled out a wish list straight out of the Freedom Caucus playbook. It might as well be called the ''Default on America Act'' because that is exactly what it is: DOA.

Instead of doing what both sides have done many times before—avoiding default without preconditions—Speaker MCCARTHY and House Republicans want to force working Americans to accept either a punch to the gut or a blow to the head. Either the United States defaults on national debt for the first time in American history or MAGA Republicans get their way and America defaults on everything else—on our future and our security, on our promise to care for veterans and law enforcement and the American middle class. Either way, Republicans are promising real pain for American families when they bring their Default on America Act to the House floor this week. According to one study by Moody's Analytics, the DOA could send us into a damaging recession.

So let me say it one more time. What Republicans released last week was not so much a plan as it was a threat to default on America. Either we default on the national debt or we default on everything else through extreme cuts that will harm millions of people. That is so unpopular with the American people that the Republican House has had to hide it.

For all of the GOP's lipservice about public safety, the House DOA Act defaults on America's law enforcement and first responders. Nearly 30,000 law enforcement jobs across the country would be cut under the Republicans' DOA Act. Over $8 billion in funding for the DOJ would be eliminated. Donald Trump called for Republicans to defund law enforcement, and now it looks like House Republicans are following through.

But that is just the start. The House Default on America Act would also spell disaster for American families and American healthcare. Parents who struggle affording childcare would see over 100,000 childcare slots eliminated under the GOP proposal, preventing moms and dads from getting a job or finishing their education since they can't afford to pick up their kids in daycare. Over 21 million Americans would be at risk of losing their health coverage—21 million Americans losing health coverage—while hospitals would see billions in funding disappear. Hospitals, patient groups, doctors—you name it, they are all coming out in droves to oppose this measure.

We just endured a global pandemic that claimed the lives of over 1 million Americans, and House Republicans want to cut funding for healthcare and hospitals? Utterly revolting.

But the damage isn't just limited to American families. The Republican DOA Act would cripple America's ability to stay ahead of the Chinese Communist Party.

After all the work we did last year on CHIPS and Science, the Republican bill would slash billions—billions—from cutting-edge research and prevent us from fully implementing CHIPS and Science. The damage would be measured in countless jobs lost and billions in squandered private investment. That is the last thing we can afford as President Xi and the CCP work to outcompete America on the world stage—squandering all that great private investment that is now coming to America.

Let's not forget, should this Republican DOA bill go into effect, taxes will go up for small businesses that no longer benefit from the green energy tax credits Democrats passed last year. Many of these green tax credits support job creation in Republican districts—jobs that Republicans are happy to take credit for while working behind the scenes to destroy them. It is the dictionary definition of ''hypocrisy.''

Finally, the House Default on America Act would break America's promise to our veterans, gutting funding for new VA facilities, funding for housing and food security and addiction treatment, and even endangering 81,000 jobs across the Veterans' Administration. How could House Republicans possibly think it is OK to cut funding for our veterans in exchange for lifting the debt ceiling? What kind of message does that send to our military families, our servicemembers?

If MAGA Republicans want to sell their cuts to the American people, they should not do so in the middle of discussions to avoid default. That discussion properly belongs in conversations about the budget, not here. And we will be happy to discuss those cuts with them, oppose them, as we might, in the budget—not as a prelude to default.

In the meantime, I urge Speaker MCCARTHY to stop wasting any more time on this DOA—dead on arrival—bill. Time is running out for Congress to work together to avoid catastrophe.

BUSINESS BEFORE THE SENATE

Mr. President, now Senate business and the ERA. The Senate is set to have a very busy week on the floor.

Later this afternoon, we will begin with a cloture vote on the nomination of Joshua Jacobs to serve as VA Under Secretary for Benefits. Mr. Jacobs comes before the Senate at a critical moment for the VA, as he will be the one responsible for overseeing the implementation of PACT Act benefits. To date, the VA has already completed 191,000 PACT claims, 80 percent of which have been granted, I am proud to say. As senior adviser, Mr. Jacobs has already done great work at the VA pushing these benefits out the door, and he is clearly the right man for the position.

Later today, I will also file cloture on Anthony Johnstone, an outstanding nominee to serve a lifetime appointment as circuit court judge for the Ninth Circuit. I want to thank Senator TESTER for championing this strong nominee. The Senate will take it up later this week.

Finally and importantly, a few moments ago, I took the first procedural step for the Senate to take up a monumental resolution regarding the ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment. The Senate will vote to take up this historic ER measure on Thursday.

It has been exactly 100 years since the first Equal Rights Amendment was proposed here in Congress. Despite the progress America has made in the advancement of women's rights, we have yet to take one fundamental step: ratification of the ERA to guarantee gender equality under the Constitution. The Senate has a chance this week to bring our country one step closer to equal justice under the law by passing this bipartisan ERA resolution.

Three-quarters of the States have already ratified the ERA, just not in the requisite time set decades ago. The resolution would remove the arbitrary deadline and formally recognize that 38 States—the number required under the Constitution—have ratified the ERA.

Anyone who thinks the ERA isn't necessary at a time like this is not paying attention to the terrible things happening in this country. In the past year alone, the Supreme Court has eliminated the protections of Roe v. Wade, our courts have targeted drugs like mifepristone, and we have seen over a dozen hard-right States enact near-total bans on abortions. We need the ERA more than ever, ever before.

I want my daughters and granddaughter to live in a country where they never have to worry about being discriminated against simply because of their gender. While, sadly, that is not the case today, we have a great opportunity to make significant progress on ERA ratification this week so we can enshrine the rights of generations of women to come.

I want to thank Senator CARDIN, who has spearheaded this, along with Senator MURKOWSKI—it is bipartisan—and thank them for championing this ERA resolution, and I look forward to advance its voting this Thursday.

Finally, in a few minutes, my colleague from Massachusetts will take the floor to ask unanimous consent that some of our brave military leaders get the promotions they deserve. It is absolutely outrageous that the Senator from Alabama is playing with the security of America—playing with the lives of these military leaders, whose lives are being disrupted by his harsh action.

He believes strongly that women in the military shouldn't have the right to abortion. Almost all Americans disagree with him. But no matter how strongly he feels, to hold up the promotion of military leaders, many of whom—most of whom have dedicated decades of their lives to protecting our country, and now leaving those positions vacant, risking our security, is one of the most abominable and outrageous things I have seen ever done in this Chamber, witnessed by the fact that no one has ever had the temerity, the gall to do this before.

So I salute the Senator from Massachusetts for bringing these names up. Everyone in this Chamber should exalt them. Members of this Chamber from the other side should go plead with the Senator from Alabama to stop this headstrong, nasty, and unneeded action.

I again thank our Senator from Massachusetts, who is chair of the subcommittee that is relevant, for bringing this issue to floor and showing America what the Senator from Alabama is exactly doing.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Massachusetts.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUESTS—EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Ms. WARREN. Mr. President, I want to thank the leader for his strong words about the importance of making sure we advance our military leaders when they have been approved for promotion and pay increases.

You know, most people are aware that the Senate votes on nominees who have been appointed by the President to occupy top roles in almost all parts of the Federal Government—Cabinet Secretaries, judges, Ambassadors. Less well known is the fact that the Senate must also vote to approve thousands of military promotions every year. So if a colonel has done well on the job and their service's promotion board decides they are ready to be a brigadier general, the Senate must vote to approve

this promotion before it can go through.

Now, typically, this vote is a formality. These promotions are processed in big batches rather than one at a time, and they usually happen without even taking a recorded vote. But right now, the Senator from Alabama has imposed a hold on all, every single senior military nomination and promotion. That means that one Senator is personally standing in the way of promotions for 184 of our top-level military leaders. One Senator is holding up pay raises for men and women in uniform. One Senator is blocking key senior military leaders from taking their posts. One Senator is jeopardizing America's national security.

Think for a minute about what this looks like. These holds deprive military families of the pay increases they have earned, because the nominee's new pay cannot take effect until the promotion goes through. Without formally being assigned to a change of duty, families can't make decisions right now about moving or enrolling kids in a new school for the next school year.

The Chief of Staff of the Army has said: What it really does, it affects the families and some of the kids. And they are trying to figure out where they are going to school, where they are going to move. And all those things kind of come into the readiness of the force. For families with special needs, there may be even more significant delays to access important services.

Secretary Austin has stated that this delay ''creates a ripple effect through the Force that makes us far less ready than we need to be.''

So why is one Senator—one Senator—punishing 184 dedicated men and women who actively serve in our military, all because he personally disagrees with a single policy decision from the Pentagon?

Now, look, it is no secret that I disagree with a lot of policy decisions from the Pentagon. As Senators, we have a lot of tools to shape and influence government policies—tools that we can use without putting our national defense at risk. We can pass laws. We can conduct oversight. We can meet with administration officials. We can hold hearings. Occasionally, a Senator may object to an individual nomination, usually to indicate opposition to that appointment or to insist on answers to questions from a Federal Agency. I have done this myself in the past, as have many of my colleagues on both sides of the aisle. But that is not what the Senator from Alabama is doing. Instead, he is blocking every single top military leader from advancing indefinitely. He snared all 184 top-level servicemembers who are currently slated for advancement, and he stopped every single one of them dead in their tracks.

Like me, the Senator from Alabama serves on the Senate Armed Services Committee. As a consequence, he has many more opportunities than most Senators to influence DOD policy. He has many more opportunities to question witnesses, many more opportunities to receive briefings, and many more opportunities to influence the annual Defense bill that Congress passes every single year to govern Pentagon operations. He has many opportunities that do not actively threaten our national security. He has not raised any individual objections to the 184 servicemembers whose promotions are now held up in the Senate, and he has not raised any objections to the process by which these men and women were vetted and nominated. No. The Senator is blocking 184 top military promotions because he disagrees with the Department of Defense policy to help servicemembers and their families access needed healthcare—specifically, to travel to access abortion care. I disagree with the Senator on that issue, but if he wants to press for votes to reverse DOD's healthcare policies, he can do that. I will oppose him. But if I lose and if Congress changes the law, then DOD will change its policies. That is how democracy works.

Holding up the promotion of every single military nominee isn't democracy; it is extortion, and that kind of extortion has serious consequences for our national defense. These holds pose a grave threat to our national security and to our military readiness. They actively hurt our ability to respond quickly to threats around the world.

Just take a look at the list of 184 people who have already been approved for promotions. The 184 people whom the Senator from Alabama has blocked so far include nominations for the next commander of the U.S. Fifth Fleet in the Middle East, nomination for the next commander of the Seventh Fleet in the Pacific, our next military representative to NATO, and the current Director of Intelligence for U.S. Cyber Command. It includes our next Deputy Chief of Staff for Strategic Deterrence and Integration for the Air Force. It includes a top official in Birmingham's Army Reserves. And it includes the former Chief of Staff for Operation Warp Speed, a program the Senator from Alabama has repeatedly credited for saving millions of American lives.

In fact, the Senator from Alabama is singlehandedly holding up 11 three-star commanders, three recipients of Silver Stars, and three Purple Heart recipients. These are brave servicemembers who deserve better than to be stuck in an administrative hell, waiting for a single Senator to release them to the promotions and the assignments and the pay increases that their military leaders determined that they have already earned.

The Department of Defense has warned that these blanket holds are making the United States more vulnerable to threats from foreign actors like China, North Korea, and Iran. In the coming months, approximately, 80 three- and four-star generals and admirals, including the leaders of the Army, Navy, and Marine Corps, will reach the end of their current terms, and new nominees will be slotted to replace them.

In addition, if the Senator's reckless hold is not lifted and if the Senate cannot confirm a new Chair of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, the President may be without a principal military adviser. By the end of this year, we could have 650 generals and flag officers waiting for Senate confirmation.

The Senator from Alabama's response to his actions is to say that he will keep these holds in place ''until hell freezes over'' unless DOD changes its healthcare travel policy. I sincerely hope that is not true because holding hostage nearly the entire military leadership of the U.S.A. at a time when we are facing military threats around the world and our allies are literally engaged in war in Europe is dangerous; it is reckless; and it needs to stop right now.

As chair of the Senate Armed Services Subcommittee on Personnel, I care deeply about protecting our servicemembers and the integrity of our promotion system. These holds are depriving families of pay raises that they have earned. We are talking about grocery money for families. These servicemembers are being treated disrespectfully—people who should be treated with dignity and respect. And unless there is some specific problem with an individual nominee, those who have been nominated for a new rank or a new post should get the advancement that the Pentagon has already recommended for them.

No more politics. I am here today to respectfully ask my colleague from Alabama to let these promotions move forward and to find other ways to continue advocating for the policy changes that he wants to see. I am hopeful that he will set aside politics and do what is the right thing and allow these servicemembers to carry out their responsibilities to our Nation.

In a moment, I will be asking the Senate to confirm Calendar No. 90. If confirmed, this nominee would be America's military representative to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization Military Committee. This Boston University graduate was the first woman to serve as president of the Naval War College. At this critical juncture of Russia's illegal invasion of Ukraine, we need her leadership in NATO now more than ever.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of Calendar No. 90; that the Senate vote on the nomination without intervening action or debate; that if confirmed, the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate; that any statements related to the nomination be printed in the RECORD; and that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

The Senator from Alabama.

Mr. TUBERVILLE. Mr. President, reserving the right to object. I want to start by reminding everyone why this is happening. It is not about abortion. It is not about the Dobbs decision. This is about a tyrannical executive branch walking all over the U.S. Senate and doing our jobs.

In November, I got word that the Pentagon was thinking about spending taxpayer dollars to facilitate elective abortions. This goes beyond what the law—which was passed here—the law allows. The law only allows the Department of Defense to facilitate and fund abortions in the cases of rape, incest, and the life of the mother.

Now, I warned Secretary Austin that if he did this and changed this, I would put a hold on his highest level nominees. Secretary Austin went through with the policy anyway in February of this year. So I am keeping my word. This was Secretary Austin's choice, not mine. He knew the consequences for several months. Nothing in the law allows Secretary Austin to facilitate elective abortions. In fact, the law just says the opposite. So this was Secretary Austin's choice.

Secretary Austin thought abortion is more important than his highest level military nominations. Secretary Austin could end the policy today, and I would lift my hold. Secretary Austin has chosen not to do that.

This is the fourth time the Democrats have come to the floor to try to break this hold. I will come down here as many times as it takes.

The Senator from Massachusetts claims that my hold on the Pentagon nominations is affecting readiness and so have the other Senators who have come to this floor. Senator SCHUMER said last week on this floor multiple times that it was affecting readiness. Several other Senators have said the same thing. Democrats keep repeating the same talking points and the same opinion, but not one of them has cited any facts—not one.

I even asked the Pentagon to explain to me how this affects readiness. All I have heard is opinions like we just heard from Senator WARREN. The senior Senator has been asking questions from the Pentagon.

On April 6, the senior Senator sent this letter to Mr. Austin. The full letter may be found at https://www.warren.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/2023.04.06%20Letter%20to%20DoD%20on%20Tuberville%20Holds.pdf.

The letter asks about the effects of my hold on military readiness. I will answer right now. My hold has no effect on readiness, none.

In an Armed Services Committee hearing last week, Senator REED asked two of the military top combatant commanders what impact would my hold have on readiness. ADM John Aquilino said: ''No impact.'' John Paul LaCamera agreed. There is no impact on readiness or operations.

Experts have known for more than a decade that the military is topheavy. We do not suffer from a lack of generals. Democrats are concerned with promotions of generals but have shown very little to no concern about our historic recruitment crisis—and it is a crisis. Right now, the military is missing more than 20,000 enlisted soldiers from last year's short on recruiting. That is in addition to another 8,000 that President Biden, for some reason, kicked out of the military over vaccine mandates.

So we are missing 28,000 enlisted troops right now, and the Democrats are panicking about 180 generals and admirals.

Last week, a report showed that the Army, Navy, and Air Force—all of them are preparing to miss their recruitment goals this year, and nobody is talking about it. They will miss their goals by thousands and thousands of new servicemembers. Yet I don't hear Democrats say a word about it. They are worried about 180 top-level generals and admirals. We have plenty of generals.

When my dad served in World War II, we had one general for every 6,000 troops. Think about that—1 for every 6,000. Now we have 1 general for every 1,400 enlisted servicemembers. That is more than four times the ratio of generals to troops. That is a lot of money. We won plenty of wars with a lower ratio. Again, bipartisan experts have shown this for more than a decade.

Let me mention a few examples. Here is an article from Ben Freeman of the Project of Government Oversight from 2011. It is entitled: ''The Most Top-Heavy Force in U.S. History,'' found at https://www.pogo.org/analysis/2011/11/todays-military-most-top-heavy-force-in-us-history.

The author talks about testifying before the Senate on this issue. He also mentioned a nearly 25-percent increase in three-star and four-star generals in the previous decade. Over the same time, the increase in enlisted members was just 2 percent—2 percent. People who actually do the work.

I have a report from Third Way from 2013, which may be found at https://www.thirdway.org/report/star-creep-the-costs-of-a-top-heavy-military.

Here is what this centrist organization said in their report 10 years ago. It is called ''Star Creep: The effects of the top-heavy military.''

The story says:

> America's armed forces have far too many generals and admirals—a situation that wastes money and creates a drag on military effectiveness. Although the U.S. military is 30% smaller now than it was at the end of the Cold War, it has almost 20% percent more three and four-star officers. [Twenty percent.] The layers of bureaucracy to support them have grown as well, slowing down decision-making and burdening the warfighter.
>
> We need to trim the fat, which will make our military both leaner and more effective.

That was 10 years ago.

Here is another article. This one is from the Washington Times in 2016, which may be found at https://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2016/apr/5/ash-carter-says-us-military-too-top-heavy-aims-cut.

The title of the article: ''Ashton Carter says U.S. military too 'top heavy,' aims to cut ranks of generals and admirals.''

Ash Carter was President Obama's Department of Defense Secretary. He felt the military was also topheavy. Both of President Obama's Secretaries of Defense agreed with that. The late Senator John McCain agreed with that statement. Again, this has been common knowledge in military circles for a decade. Yet now my Democratic colleagues have selective memories.

Finally, I will just mention one more article from the Washington Times from this past January. It is called ''Top Heavy: U.S. military bloated by brass as officer-to-enlisted ratio dwarfs Cold War era,'' which may be found at https://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2023/jan/29/top-heavy-us-military-bloated-brass-officer-enlist.

Here are a few numbers from the article. In World War I, we had one officer for every 15 enlisted. In World War II, it was one of every ten. Today the ratio is 1 to 4.

Today we have more admirals than we have ships. Let me repeat that: We have more admirals in our military than we have ships.

Yet the Democratic side of the aisle is in panic that we don't have enough admirals; it just doesn't make sense. In the first century of this Nation, we only had a handful of three-star generals ever. George Washington and Ulysses S. Grant were the first two three-star generals in our history. Today we have more than 160 three-star generals. Overall, there are more than 650 generals today. ''Star creep'' is putting this very mildly.

This hysteria on the other side of the aisle has absolutely no basis in fact. They have complained about my holds for weeks, but they still haven't shown me one single fact.

So I am looking forward to Secretary Austin's response to Senator WARREN. I can't wait to read it. In the meantime, I am not going to budge. I will come down here as many times as it takes day and night to vote. I am not afraid to vote. We are working a 3-day week this week. We just took a 2-week recess earlier this month. And if Democrats are so worried about the military readiness, then why are we taking days off? Let's vote. We can vote these. I mean, it is not like I am holding them and they can't be confirmed.

We can vote on every one of these people. Just call them up on the floor. We can vote on them. Everybody needs to vote. I am not afraid to work. I will stay here as long as it takes. And let me remind my colleagues that we just voted—and confirmed—last week a military nominee, the way we are supposed to do it, instead of a hundred at a time.

Clearly, we are capable of voting on military nominees and promotions. We

could also be voting on legislation that expands the DOD's abortion policy. We can bring it right here and vote. That is our job—instead of the Secretary of Defense playing Congress and doing bills on his own. That is not how this place is supposed to work. In fact, that is how this should be done in a democracy.

So, finally, let me remind my Democratic colleagues again: I gave the Pentagon fair warning. I told them if they imposed this policy on our country, then I would hold these nominees. They chose to go forward with this policy anyway. They forced my hand. This was the Biden administration's choice. All I am doing is keeping my word, and that is why I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The objection is heard.

The Senator from Massachusetts.

Ms. WARREN. Mr. President, let's be clear what is at issue here. The Department of Defense has said if a servicemember requires reproductive healthcare for themselves or for a member of their family, care that is not available in the location where the member is currently stationed, the member can request time away from the base to travel elsewhere for treatment.

As Pentagon leaders have testified, military commanders respect the privacy of servicemembers and do not request information about the specific medical treatment or who it is for.

The Senator from Alabama doesn't like that. He is worried that a servicemember might—might—be seeking an abortion for themselves or for a family member. And he doesn't think the Department of Defense should participate in that in any way. Fine.

The Senator from Alabama can advocate for a bill to invade the medical privacy of every single servicemember. He can advocate for a bill that requires every commanding officer to do what no private employer can do, and that is to rifle through a servicemember's personal medical information. The Senator from Alabama can seek to change Federal law so that a commanding officer interrogates a servicemember with questions like: Do you need time off because you are having trouble getting pregnant? Has your wife had a miscarriage? How many weeks pregnant are you? Was your daughter raped?

These are not questions that commanding officers want to ask, nor should they be authorized or required to ask them.

Now, Senator TUBERVILLE can push for a vote on the bill he cosponsors to ban the Department from providing paid leave or transportation to access reproductive care. Frankly, I don't think the Senator has enough support in Congress to pass any bill like that.

And I understand the Senator's frustration. Many of us have proposals to change Pentagon policies that don't have enough support in Congress to pass, but that is not an excuse to jeopardize our active military operations all around the world.

I confess, I am a little stunned by the Senator from Alabama's argument here. I had not been aware that it was a controversial view that our military needs officers in charge of the Fifth Fleet or the Seventh Fleet, our fleets in the Pacific and in the Middle East.

It is pretty alarming to hear the Senator suggest that we don't need leaders running the Army, the Navy, and the Marine Corps. Every President since World War II would probably disagree that there is no need for a chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

Now, look, if the Senator from Alabama thinks that there should be fewer high-level leaders in the Armed Forces, he could advance legislation to reform our leadership structures. But blocking leaders from taking the jobs to which they have been assigned is reckless.

Not only that, these delays are felt throughout the ranks since this creates, as Secretary Austin described it, a ripple effect throughout the military. It is cruel to our servicemembers. Just because you are not going to run the Army does not mean that your promotion does not matter. As Army Chief of Staff McConville recently testified to the Senate Armed Services Committee, these delays affect both the families and some of the kids. They are trying to figure out where they are going to school, where they are going to move.

I think back to my own three brothers. All three of them served in the military. My oldest brother was career military. I cannot imagine a circumstance where he had worked, he had put his life on the line, he served in combat off and on for 6 years, and yet to be told that although the Air Force thought he was ready, had served, had been an exemplary member of the military, that he could not have his promotion, he could not have his pay increase, he could not go to his next assignment all because one Senator decided to hold it up over a different discussion about policy.

I would urge my colleague from Alabama to find another way to press for the policy changes that he wants at the Department. I heard him say that he had read the letter that I had sent to Secretary Austin asking about the impact on our military. Secretary Austin has already spoken to that, but I hope he will be responding soon to my letter.

But I hope that these words from the Senator, that he is looking forward to Secretary Austin's response, have at least opened the door, that if Secretary Austin says: This has an effect on our military readiness, that the Senator from Alabama will be prepared to lift his objection and let what are, currently, 184 members of the military go forward and the ones who need to go forward in the future.

So I hope he has left the door open for that. The Senator from Alabama and I fundamentally disagree on the issue of abortion. We disagree on Department of Defense policies. But all of us should be able to agree that a blockade of the promotion of every single senior member of our Nation's military creates unacceptable risks to our national security, and it needs to stop right now.

In a moment, I will be asking the Senate to confirm Calendar No. 94. Collectively, these 37 nominees in Calendar No. 94 have served in the Army for nearly a thousand years.

This list includes a commanding officer stationed in South Korea, the head of plans for central command, and the deputy chief of staff in the fight against ISIS. The list also includes the deputy provost marshal general for the Office of the Provost Marshal General, which is responsible for all—all—of the Army's policing functions.

There is also a graduate of Auburn University, where the Senator from Alabama was once head coach. And I am sure that this servicemember never expected that his promotion would be blocked by the Senator from Alabama.

Mr. President, I renew my request with respect to Calendar No. 94.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

The Senator from Utah.

Mr. LEE. Mr. President, I stand here before my friend and colleague, the senior Senator from Alabama. He stands in opposition, as do I, to the plan of the Department of Defense to use Federal funds to facilitate the performance of abortions.

Now, let's remember what we are looking at here. This has been in place for a long time. Congress enacted a law. Codified 10 USC section 1093. Let's just brief that here.

1093 part (a) says:

> Restriction on use of funds. Funds available to the Department of Defense may not be used to perform abortions except where the life of the mother would be endangered if the fetus were carried to term or in a case in which the pregnancy is the result of an act of rape or incest.

Part (b) reads as follows:

> No medical treatment facility or other facility of the Department of Defense may be used to perform an abortion except where the life of the mother would be endangered if the fetus were carried to term or in a case in which the pregnancy is the result of an act of rape or incest.

Look, this policy has been in place for a long time—for decades, in fact. It is accompanied by other policies restricting the use of Federal funds on issues related to abortion.

You know, the American people, yes, are divided on questions, many questions, regarding abortion. There are a lot of gradations of that. Some would put restrictions here; others restrictions there; others would insist on no restrictions whatsoever.

But one thing that does tend to unite Americans, more than any other topic within the area of abortion, is that we don't want the use of Federal taxpayer dollars going to facilitate or fund abortions. We don't want that.

Overwhelmingly, that holds really, really well. Democrats and Republicans

alike believe that it is unfair, understand that it is unjust, especially on an issue that is as divisive as abortion is.

To take money at the point of a gun, which is what we do when we collect tax revenue, essentially. You know, that if you don't pay your taxes, at some point people with guns will show up, and you have got to do what they say.

So when you are taking money at the point of a gun—as you do when you are collecting tax revenue—you have a sacred responsibility to handle that well. And if the American people don't want it, that is why they enacted a Congress that has put this in law, that we don't use Federal funds to fund abortion.

So along comes Secretary Austin and the current Department of Defense, and they decide, well, we really want to do this. And so I can only imagine how this conversation must have gone internally. Obviously, I wasn't part of those conversations. I was not made privy to them. They didn't invite me to them, we will just say.

But I would imagine they more or less went something like this, hey, what can we do to, you know, help people get abortions using Federal funds. And I am sure someone brought up, well, 10 USC section 1093 prohibits that. So they said, what could we do that arguably could circumvent that, something that Congress may not have specifically identified.

And at some point, someone said, well, there is nothing in here that directly categorically prohibits the use of travel funds or the availability of leave time for people seeking abortions.

So, bingo, they came up with this idea. Let's just give people who want abortions, women who want abortions in the military 3 weeks of paid leave and an expense account to handle out-of-state travel during that 3-week period, and that circumvents, technically speaking, the restriction. This is, of course, a major policy change, and it is a policy change on a topic that many Americans feel passionately about—and, by many Americans, I mean not just Republicans. Republicans and Democrats don't like the idea that U.S. taxpayer dollars should be used for abortions, and they have put this in place—this being a major policy change, a major policy change affirmatively at odds with the spirit, if not also the letter, of various provisions of Federal law. Respect for the Constitution itself, for the separation of powers, and for the sacred role of the legislative branch to make laws should have commanded that the burden of making this policy change should be on those who would want Congress to act, and that we not give special privilege to an executive branch Department—here, the U.S. Department of Defense—to undertake such a major policy change that they knew they could never get past the Congress. They couldn't. It wouldn't pass. There is not a chance it would get past the House. It wouldn't get past the Senate either. They knew this, and that is why they did it by executive action—just executive fiat.

If Secretary Austin, the Secretary of Defense—if he wants to make law, he should run for Congress. He should run for the House. He should run for the Senate. I would welcome him here as a colleague or as a counterpart, down the hall in the House. I genuinely would. Then he would be in a position to do this. But he may not and must not be allowed to legislate from the E-Ring of the Pentagon. That is not how we do things in this country.

Now, as you look at the arguments that have been exchanged today, we have talked about military readiness. I agree with my colleague from Alabama. I haven't seen anything indicating that military readiness commands this, much less commands it in a way that justifies departing from the spirit, if not the letter, of Federal law.

I have also heard the argument made, quite counterintuitively, that if the Senator from Alabama, Senator TUBERVILLE, wants to change the law, he should run legislation to that effect. He should be required to pass a statute.

That is not how our system works. We have got laws. This is a major departure from established policy set in existing law. The burden is not on Senator TUBERVILLE.

You see, it is this body that gets to change laws, to change policy. We are the policymaking organ of the Federal Government, and to pass a law—any law—article I, section 1, and clause 1, the very first operative provision of the U.S. Constitution, right after the preamble and all the initial language, it says that ''all legislative Powers herein granted shall be vested in a Congress of the United States, which shall consist of a Senate and a House of Representatives.''

Article I, section 7, makes it clear how you make a Federal law, and it is not made by the Secretary of Defense or any other executive branch official. It is made, under article I, section 7—the only way you can make a Federal law—when the House of Representatives and the Senate both agree on the same legislative text, then presents that legislation to the President of the United States, who may sign it or acquiesce to it—after 10 days, if he acquiesces, it becomes law—or he can veto it. If he vetoes, it can become law only after two-thirds of both Houses have overridden that veto. Those are the only ways you can change Federal law.

The onus is not on those of us opposing this policy. Nor should the onus be on Senator TUBERVILLE to establish that he is not the one impacting military readiness. This is untrue. It is unproven. It is contrary to fact. But even if it were not so, this is not on him. You see, because to whatever degree this is impacting military readiness, that argument goes right back on Secretary Austin in a heartbeat. It goes right back on him because he doesn't have to impose this policy. He doesn't have to force this change in policy amounting to a hostile act against the spirit, if not the letter, of this law. He doesn't have to do that. He could and should allow Congress to make this determination in due course, as Congress does. And it just so happens that we are coming up, in the coming weeks and months, on an opportunity to do precisely that, through a committee—through legislation that comes through a committee—on which both the Senator from Massachusetts and the Senator from Alabama serve, the Senate Armed Services Committee.

This legislative vehicle of which I am speaking, of course, is the National Defense Authorization Act. It is an opportunity that we use every year, for many, many decades, to make policy decisions involving the Pentagon.

So, if this issue is so important to military readiness, let Secretary Austin and those around him come to Congress and ask us to approve that, to make that policy choice—recognizing, as they should have done already without having to be told, that it is wildly inappropriate for them to make this policy change so wildly in conflict with the spirit, if not also the letter, of existing statute.

So that is what he could do. He can come to us and make that argument in connection with the National Defense Authorization Act. If he can persuade enough Members of the House and enough Members of the Senate to get it passed, it would be done.

In the meantime, unless or until such time as he can do that, especially to the degree that this is impacting military readiness—these objections—then, what he should do is abundantly clear: Suspend implementation of these policies until such time as Congress acts to change them. That is not an unreasonable demand—not in the slightest.

Look, it is also apparent that Secretary Austin and the Department of Defense have become hostile toward female members of the military who choose to have children. That is the message this sends—undeniably, unequivocally. When you tell people: You know, you are pregnant, and it sure would be convenient for us if you didn't have this baby—so inconvenient, in fact, that we will give you 3 weeks of paid leave and a travel account so that you can go somewhere else, you know, so that you cannot have that child—think about what that does. That creates a hostile work environment for our female servicemembers, and I find it repugnant, and so do the American people.

That is why we have a prohibition in law.

For these reasons, Mr. President, I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

The Senator from Massachusetts.

Ms. WARREN. So, Mr. President, I have great respect for the Senator from Utah. I appreciate that he is very careful about citing law and often comes to

this body to talk about reading the actual words of a statute. And so he read to us 10 U.S.C. 1093(a), which prohibits Federal funds—and he should look back at the verb—''to perform'' abortion. It also, in section (b), prohibits using military facilities—bases, hospital rooms, clinics—to perform abortions.

Now, I appreciate that the Senator from Utah read those words because it is pretty clear from those words that DOD policy here does not violate congressional prohibitions on the Federal Government paying for abortions or permitting them to happen in Federal facilities other than the exceptions noted in the statute. All that is happening in this particular bill is clarifying that servicemembers who need to travel out of State to access any kind—and I want to underline ''any kind''—of reproductive healthcare that is not available where they are stationed, can request time off and go get that care for themselves or a family member.

Servicemembers remain personally responsible for bearing the full medical cost for abortions that fall outside the narrow exceptions provided by law.

Now, I will say it again as clearly as I can: I oppose congressional restrictions on funding for basic medical care. I would like Congress to end those restrictions, but that hasn't happened, and I am not about to hold up every major military promotion in the United States and hold them hostage to try to force it to happen.

Any one Senator has the right to hold up every military promotion, but it is irresponsible, and it endangers our national security.

Now, the Senator from Utah suggested that somehow the Department of Defense did not already have authority to do that.

The Department of Defense clearly has the authority to carry out the policy in question. Multiple statutes have provided the Secretary of Defense with broad statutory authority to pay for the travel and transportation expenses of servicemembers and other authorized travelers. It has been in place for a long time and has been used repeatedly.

I want to make another point here, though. Limiting the authority to do that should be considered very, very carefully if we don't want to endanger the ability of the Department to respond to unexpected threats.

Again, if the Senator from Utah or the Senator from Alabama thinks that the DOD has exceeded its authority or that the authority didn't exist in the first place, then that Senator can conduct oversight or seek to change the law. The place for that debate is through the legislative and oversight process, not in blocking the promotions of every single military official in this country.

I am shocked to hear the Senator from Utah repeat the argument that somehow it doesn't matter if 184 leaders in the military are blocked from going to their next posts, are blocked from receiving their promotions, are blocked from receiving their pay increases. I would remind, with respect, both of my colleagues that we are talking about here the next commander of the Fifth Fleet in the Middle East. We are talking about the next commander of the Seventh Fleet in the Pacific. We are talking about our next military representative to NATO. We are talking about the current Director of Intelligence for U.S. Cyber Command, and on and on and on. Taking hostages like this does not promote the national security. It endangers our national security.

I just want to say that the argument that the Senator from Utah has used that somehow by providing the full range—access to the full range—of reproductive healthcare services means that the military is trying to tell women not to have babies is downright insulting. First of all, reproductive healthcare services include efforts to get pregnant. It also includes enough privacy that nobody—no commanding officer—is asking about your current circumstances on whether you are trying to get pregnant, whether it is succeeding, how much trouble you are having, what kind of services you have used, and why you want to go somewhere else to get them.

It means treating people with respect, and treating people with respect means treating them like grownups to make their own decisions. And if they can't get the services they need because they are stationed in a place where those services are not available, they don't have the choice to pick a different place to work. They go where their commanders tell them. What this policy says is that they have the right to ask their commanding officer, without additional information, for an opportunity to leave the area and go somewhere else where they can get access to the services they need. I believe that that is the way we show respect for people who have babies.

I also want to say, if the Senator from Utah and the Senator from Alabama are hard on the question of supporting people in our military, women having more babies, then, by golly, join us in the fight to put more money into pre-K and more money into DOD schools, more money into flexible spending accounts to cover childcare costs, more money into promoting new parental leave policies to provide 12 weeks of paid leave when a woman has a baby.

As the Senator from Utah has acknowledged, DOD's travel policy covers people who are doing more than having abortions. Travel policy is not a vacation. Servicemembers, under this policy, are limited to—and I will read the words—''the minimum number of days essential to receive the required care and travel'' as quickly as possible.

The message this policy sends is that the Department of Defense, unlike the Senator from Utah and unlike the Senator from Alabama, supports women in making their own healthcare decisions. This policy was based on conversations and support groups and focus groups with servicemembers. This is what servicemembers said they needed. This is the support they want.

I am much more troubled by the signal sent by Republican Senators who are holding up the Department of Defense from protecting women's healthcare.

I look forward to working with the Senator from Utah and the Senator from Alabama in order to work on more policies to support military families.

In a moment, I will be asking the Senate to confirm Calendar No. 84. If confirmed, this nominee would command the Fifth Fleet, which operates in the Middle East.

Unless the Senator from Alabama thinks that the Fifth Fleet doesn't matter, I would remind him that, last year, the Fifth Fleet prevented an Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps navy vessel from confiscating a Fifth Fleet unmanned surface vessel in the Arabian Gulf. If we want to ensure that the Islamic Revolutionary Guard doesn't take other U.S. assets in the region, we cannot possibly support leaving this command post vacant.

Mr. President, I renew my request with respect to Calendar No. 84.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

The Senator from Utah.

Mr. LEE. Mr. President, in reserving the right to object, first of all, my friend and colleague, the distinguished Senator from Massachusetts, a moment ago, referred to the Pentagon's policy as a bill. Perhaps this was a Freudian slip, but one way or another, it was an acknowledgment of the fact that it is a change in policy—a change in policy that is in conflict with the spirit if not also with the letter of Federal law. So, as a bill—and I think it is fair to characterize it as such—it ought to have to be passed through Congress.

Now, my friend from the State of Massachusetts has used the language of the text of statute 10 U.S.C., section 1039 in much the same way, I would imagine, that Secretary Austin and his advisers parsed it and cribbed it and manipulated it in their development of this policy.

But let's remember the reason I say that it violates the spirit if not also the letter of it. It is that there is an argument to be made here that it is. Funds available to the Department of Defense may not be used to support abortions. How is this money being used? Well, with the extra leave time that you wouldn't get in the absence of this and with the travel to another State, it is for the purpose of an abortion. It is conditioned on your getting an abortion.

My friend and colleague from Massachusetts points out that it is also there with respect to fertility treatments—IVF or otherwise. Well, all that may be the case, and I have a couple of responses to that.

No. 1, I do not and would never object to that if that is what this were. In fact, I would relinquish my objections altogether if this policy were about helping military women gain access to fertility treatments. There is no provision in Federal law—not in title 10 and not anywhere else that I am aware of—that prohibits the Secretary of Defense from doing that. That would, moreover, not amount to a major departure from established policy. So, if that is really what is on the table here, I wouldn't object to that at all.

But it is the part about abortion. The Senator is conditioning the use of these funds—the receipt of additional leave time, the receipt of an expense account, and 3 weeks off—to go have an abortion. That is using Federal funds to get an abortion, to fund an abortion, because that is part of that.

Moreover, the suggestion that this applies evenhandedly, equally—that it was equally intended to promote access by military women to fertility treatments—is at odds with and belied by the fact that the President, ever since the Dobbs opinion was released at the end of the last term of the Supreme Court, has been calling this an all-of-government cause—an all-of-government cause—to make sure that they can get around Dobbs in any way that they possibly can. This is, was, always has been, and always will be about abortion.

Like I say, the rest of it would be unobjectionable. I wouldn't raise any objection to it. I can't imagine my friend and colleague from Alabama would anyway. So that is a bit of a red herring, and it is a bit of a smokescreen to say that this is about fertility treatment. It is not about that.

With respect to the readiness component of it, look, I get it. As for the hard-working men and women of the military, for whom I have deep respect, in having gained promotions, we want to be able to promote them and approve their promotions. Yes, that needs to happen. And to the extent that any one of those people really needs to be processed and approved very quickly, there are ways to do that. We could tick these off one after the other. Senator TUBERVILLE mentioned that we took care of one just in the last week or so on the floor. We could be doing that right now. If you want to see where the Senate's legislative priorities are, they are not with this. They are with other things. If this really were a priority, we would, through the leadership of the Democratic majority leader, be in a position to do that. He has chosen different priorities and not this one.

Look, at the end of the day, this thing—you could dress it up any way you want, but this is a major change in policy that is utterly at odds with the spirit if not also the letter of Federal law. As such, changing it should require a change in statute. If he wants to push for that, he is free to do so. If it doesn't pass, then he is stuck with that. If he is not content with being able to advocate for it from the outside, he should run for the House, or he should run for the Senate. He must not be allowed to legislate from the E-Ring of the Pentagon.

Mr. President, I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

The Senator from Massachusetts.

Ms. WARREN. Mr. President, I listen to the Senator from Utah as he works mightily to twist the language of the statute, which is entirely clear: The Federal Government cannot perform abortions. Federal money cannot be used to ''perform.'' That is the relevant verb here. Under this policy from the Department of Defense, the individual who gets an abortion or whose family member gets an abortion is responsible for all of the costs of the performance of that abortion. That part is clear.

But I am very troubled by what the Senator from Utah said about fertility treatments. He said he would be glad to remove all objections if he knew that someone were going to get a fertility treatment or fertility treatments but just not if someone were going to get an abortion. I would like to suggest, with respect, a couple of things here.

The first one is, you may want to understand the science a little bit better because one of the consequences of many fertility treatments is that it doesn't work and results in an abortion, in which case, someone who goes for fertility treatments knows that they may be signing up down the line for an abortion because, although they very much wanted to have a baby, it did not work out. This is where they find themselves medically and is the decision that they want to be able to make for themselves—a decision that the Senator from Utah wants to take away from them.

I also want to make the point about—we asked this in committee, the Senator may remember, in the Senate Armed Services Committee hearings, to the commanders to the military commanders, the commanding officers: Do they want to ask these questions? And the answer was, across the board, no, they don't want to be in the business of asking why it is that you need reproductive healthcare services and then making the careful calculation about whether or not your wife is in the middle of what appears to be a miscarriage and she needs to go somewhere where she can get treatment because she can't get it where the base is located. That is a stunningly intrusive question to ask—one that, by the way, no private employer could ask.

If the Senator from Utah and if the Senator from Alabama want to change the law and say that it should be the job of commanding officers to ask each woman who says, ''I need time to travel elsewhere for reproductive services,'' and to inquire into detail about their healthcare needs and substitute their own decisions about what is the appropriate healthcare response, they could try to promote a bill for that. I don't think the Senators are going to get the votes in the U.S. Senate.

Put it up if that is what you want to do, but you don't get to do it through the backdoor by saying, when it now turns out that servicemembers find out they need reproductive care that is not available near the bases where they have been stationed by their military command, that they cannot travel elsewhere for that care.

The Senator talks about the spirit of the law. The spirit of the law is that we respect our servicemembers and that we respect the women of the military to make their own healthcare decisions. That is what this rule from the Department of Defense is all about.

So, in a moment, I will be asking the Senate to confirm Calendar No. 49. This is a person who was the Chief of Staff for Operation Warp Speed, one of the greatest achievements of the Trump administration to rapidly develop tests and distribute lifesaving COVID vaccines. We should all be grateful for his leadership, not hold up his promotion to play political games.

I will also be asking the Senate to confirm Calendar No. 113. If confirmed, this would be the commander for the Naval Sea Systems Command, which manages 150 acquisition programs and billions of dollars in foreign military sales. This role is crucial to making sure the Navy gets the ships it needs on time and on cost, and holding it up only hurts great power competition with China.

In a moment, I will be asking the Senate to confirm Calendar No. 82. These 27 Air Force nominees have collectively served their country for over 600 years. Among the nominees is a NASA astronaut who received his master's degree from MIT and commanded NASA's third longest duration commercial crew mission.

In a moment, I will be asking the Senate to confirm Calendar No. 85. If confirmed, this nominee would command the Seventh Fleet, which operates in the Pacific and is the Navy's largest forward-deployed fleet. If our country wants to check Chinese aggression, we must ensure this post is filled with strong and capable leadership.

In a moment, I will be asking the Senate to confirm Calendar No. 47. If confirmed, this nominee would be the commanding general for the U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command and the U.S. Army Forces Strategic Command. This nominee has held air and missile defense assignments throughout the Middle East, the Indo-Pacific, and Europe. America needs someone with this kind of experience to be confirmed for this post.

In a moment, I will be asking the Senate to confirm Calendar No. 97. Collectively, these 60 nominees have served in the Navy for more than 400 years. Among these nominees is an MIT graduate who served as the commander of the USS Gerald Ford—the

first new aircraft carrier class we have built in over 40 years. He has logged 2,600 hours in 22 different aircraft. He is eager to serve his country, and he is being held up by one man in the U.S. Senate.

In a moment, I will be asking the Senate to confirm Calendar No. 46. This nominee studied at the Air War College at Maxwell Air Force Base in Alabama. He currently serves as commander of the 10th Medical Group and commands surgeons at the U.S. Air Force Academy. Leaders like her ensure the health and readiness of our military.

In a moment, I will be asking the Senate to confirm Calendar No. 83. This nominee studied at the Squadron Officer School at Maxwell Air Force Base in Alabama, as well as the Air Command and Staff College and the Air War College in Alabama. Alabama has invested a lot in her. She is now capable and ready to serve as the Chief of Staff for the Air Mobility Command at Scott Air Force Base in Illinois. She should be confirmed.

In a moment, I will be asking the Senate to confirm Calendar No. 48. If confirmed, she would serve as Deputy Chief of Staff for the Army's G–4, which is responsible for the Army's strategy policy plans and programming for logistics and sustainment. If we want to be ready to fight, we need to confirm her position.

In a moment, I will be asking the Senate to confirm Calendar No. 50. Collectively, these two women—two women—have served the Army for over 60 years. They deserve to be promoted.

In a moment, I will be asking the Senate to confirm Calendar No. 51. If confirmed, he would serve as Deputy Chief of Staff for Strategic Deterrence and Nuclear Integration for the Air Force. As we contend with Russia's reckless threats to use nuclear weapons against Ukraine and China rising as a nuclear power, we need sober and expert advice to keep Americans safe from the threat of nuclear weapons. We need to confirm him.

In a moment, I will be asking the Senate to confirm Calendar No. 52. If confirmed, this nominee would be the Military Deputy and Director for the Army Acquisition Corps. The Army is not only leading and modernizing our own forces, they are playing an essential role in making sure Ukraine has all of the munitions and weapons for victory against Russia. We cannot—cannot—allow this post to become vacant.

In a moment, I will be asking the Senate to confirm Calendar No. 86. Collectively, these 11 nominees have served over 275 years in the Air Force. Among these nominees is the commander of the 439th Airlift Wing at Westover Air Reserve Base in Massachusetts, the largest Air Reserve base in our Nation.

In a moment, I will be asking the Senate to confirm Calendar No. 87. Collectively, these two nominees have served the Air Force for over 55 years. One of the nominees currently serves as mobilization assistant to the command surgeon for Air Combat Command, which is responsible for the health of 81,000 Active-Duty and civilian personnel.

The holds imposed by the Senator from Alabama are punishing the people who make sure that those who serve are healthy enough to combat any threat to U.S. national security.

In a moment, I will be asking the Senate to confirm Calendar No. 88. Collectively, these 10 nominees have served over 280 years, with nearly 20,000 flying hours of experience. These nominees include a Special Operations forces commander, a mobilization assistant to the commander responsible for training 293,000 students a year, and another mobilization assistant to the commander of Space Operations Command.

I know how important space operations are to the Senator from Alabama. I cannot believe he is willing to jeopardize these essential missions to train and lead our forces.

In a moment, I will be asking the Senate to confirm Calendar No. 89. This nominee is currently commanding the largest Army command in the Caribbean. That promotion was particularly significant for him personally because he is from Puerto Rico. During his promotion ceremony, he said that he assumed the command ''fully aware of the dire consequences to our Nation and to our freedom if we fail to sustain a high level of readiness in a world in which security challenges are becoming more complex.'' Blocking his promotion only exacerbates those security challenges.

In a moment, I will be asking the Senate to confirm Calendar No. 91. This nominee is currently serving in Birmingham, AL, as the Chief of Staff, United States Army Reserve Deployment Support Command. This is a constituent of the Senator from Alabama who cannot receive the promotion he deserves.

In a moment, I will be asking the Senate to confirm Calendar No. 92. This nominee is currently the Director for Joint Reserve Intelligence Support Element for Europe and Eurasia for the Defense Intelligence Agency, helping to make sure Ukraine and our allies in Europe have the critical national security information they need to be victorious on the battlefield. Yet she can't receive the promotion she deserves because the Senator from Alabama is playing politics with women's healthcare.

In a moment, I will be asking the Senate to confirm Calendar No. 93. This nominee is currently the deputy commander for support for providing security assistance to Ukraine. He is doing everything he can to make sure Ukraine defeats Russia. Yet the Senator from Alabama is making sure he doesn't advance to the promotion he has clearly earned.

In a moment, I will be asking the Senate to confirm Calendar No. 95. Collectively, these eight nominees have served in the Marine Corps for over 200 years. They deserve their promotions.

In a moment, I will be asking the Senate to confirm Calendar No. 96. Collectively, these nominees have served the Navy for over 55 years. Both are currently serving in the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery, making them responsible for the health and safety of our sailors, our marines, and their families. The pandemic has already driven so many skilled healthcare professionals out of the workforce. We need to retain and promote these kinds of professionals to continue to protect the readiness of our forces.

In a moment, I will be asking the Senate to confirm Calendar No. 98. Collectively, these two nominees have served the Navy for 55 years. Both nominees are making sure the Navy has the supplies needed to be ready, including one currently serving as the Chief of Staff for Navy logistics who supports our fleet in the Pacific. A mother of three, she has fought to make sure the Navy is supporting other mothers who serve.

The Department has done the right thing to support women's rights, while the Senator from Alabama is fighting to take those rights away.

In a moment, I will be asking the Senate to confirm Calendar No. 99. These two nominees have collectively served the Navy for over 60 years. Both nominees have extensive experience managing our major weapons programs, and this promotion would place one of them in charge of aircraft carrier programs. Making sure our weapons work and enhance security is one of the most important missions, and we need to retain that experience if we want to keep our Nation safe. The Senator from Alabama's actions threaten to drive people like these nominees out of the military.

In a moment, I will be asking the Senate to confirm Calendar No. 100. This nominee is currently serving as the Director of Health and Training at the Defense Health Agency and is a recognized member of the American Board of General Dentistry. If he is confirmed, he will be the Deputy Chief of the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery. Our servicemembers deserve the best healthcare we can deliver, and promoting people like this nominee ensures that we uphold the highest standards of care.

In a moment, I will be asking the Senate to confirm Calendar No. 101. If confirmed, this nominee would be the commander of Naval Supply Systems Command, which makes sure the Navy has everything they need to serve all around the world.

The rear admiral who helped Americans understand the importance of naval power to national security put it best when he said that logistics was ''as vital to military success as daily food is to daily work.''

The Senator from Alabama's actions deprive our Navy of the leadership the Navy counts on so that they will reliably have the tools they need to succeed militarily.

In a moment, I will be asking the Senate to confirm Calendar No. 102. These 13 nominees have collectively served in the Navy for over 400 years. These nominees include multiple commanders of carrier strike groups, including one born in Springfield, MA. Another nominee is the Deputy Director of Special Operations and Counterterrorism for the Joint Staff. If confirmed, one nominee would command the Naval Surface Force, which is responsible for manning, training, and equipping the entire surface force. If my colleagues want to protect the seas and fight terrorists, they should not stand in the way of these promotions.

In a moment, I will be asking the Senate to confirm Calendar No. 103. This nominee is currently the executive assistant for the Director of the Defense Intelligence Agency. If we want to continue to make sure the United States has the best information about current and future threats, we should confirm people like this, not hold up the promotions they have already earned.

In a moment, I will be asking the Senate to confirm Calendar No. 104. These two nominees have collectively served the Navy for over 55 years. One nominee is currently serving as information warfare commander for Carrier Strike Group 5 in Yokosuka, Japan. The other is the Chief of Staff for U.S. Fleet Cyber Command and the Tenth Fleet. As we continue to see warfare expand to the information and cyber domains, we need to promote Navy captains like this.

In a moment, I will be asking the Senate to confirm Calendar No. 105. These four nominees have collectively served the Navy for over 100 years. They include a Boston University graduate managing the Navy's new frigate program and the commander of America's shipyard in Norfolk. The Senator from Alabama knows better than most how much work we need to do to reach the Navy's shipbuilding goals. Blocking the promotions of the very people working to make sure we have the ships we need to protect the global commons only endangers our national security.

In a moment, I will be asking the Senate to confirm Calendar No. 106. Collectively, these two nominees have served the Air Force for 65 years. One of the nominees earned her nursing degree at Boston College, to rise to become the chief nurse of the entire Air Force. Go get 'em. The other nominee currently serves as commander for the Air Force Medical Readiness Agency, making him responsible for leading over 44,000 personnel at 76 military treatment facilities. These nominees are providing critical care and leadership to keep our forces healthy, and they should not be punished because the Senator from Alabama thinks he knows more about healthcare than medical professionals do.

In a moment, I will be asking the Senate to confirm Calendar No. 107. Currently serving as the commanding general for Marine Corps forces in Japan, he would be the Deputy Commandant for Plans, Policies, and Operations for the Marine Corps if confirmed. As we approach competition with China, we need leaders with experience in the region to be promoted, not to have their careers stopped by politics.

In a moment, I will be asking the Senate to confirm Calendar No. 110. Collectively, these 23 nominees have served over 620 years of service in the Air Force. These nominees include the Director for Strategic Capabilities on the National Security Council, which makes him the principal adviser to the President on how to avoid a nuclear war, and it includes the adviser to the National Nuclear Security Administration, protecting the safety and reliability of our nuclear stockpile. Another nominee makes sure that we provide all the air and space power necessary to promote U.S. interests in the Pacific. The current Director of Intelligence of the U.S. Cyber Command is also held up by the Senator's antics.

Let me assure the Senator from Alabama: We do not want to play nuclear football.

Look, we have been at this for almost an hour and a half now, but these nominees—these 184 nominees—have been waiting for months. Holding them up and declaring that we just don't need people in these positions is an insult to them, and it undermines the safety and security of the United States of America.

If we want to be able to recruit the very best and the very brightest our country has to offer, we need to treat those people with a little respect. That means that when we are in it on politics, we do not drag 184 of our most able leaders into the middle of it and say: Your promotion, your pay, your next duty station are all on hold until one Senator gets his way on one DOD policy.

That is an incredibly dangerous approach, and the Senator from Alabama, as much as I respect him, I believe is acting in ways that are irresponsible and put our national defense at risk. I urge him to release his holds immediately and allow these senior military officers to get the promotions they have earned.

I renew my request with respect to each Calendar number I have raised.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Mr. TUBERVILLE. Mr. President, reserving the right to object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Alabama.

Mr. TUBERVILLE. Mr. President, I want to make something very, very clear here. None of these positions the Senator from Massachusetts has mentioned will go unfilled. Each role has its commander in place until the relief is confirmed. That is how the military works.

Mr. President, one thing very important to me and to our country is our military. There is only one thing more important, and that is our Constitution that they protect. For that reason, I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The objection is heard.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. MARKEY). The Senator from Illinois.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I have two statements for the RECORD that I want to enter into the RECORD, but I would like to say my debt of gratitude to the Senator from Massachusetts.

Members of the Senate go to parades and salute the military, and we give speeches on the floor about how much we appreciate them and their sacrifice. This is an illustration of the Senate at its worst. We should be standing behind these men and women who have given their lives to our country, who will risk their lives for our country, some earning Bronze Stars, Purple Hearts for doing it.

Listen, I want to tell you, if we are respecting these men and women, we should give them the promotions they have worked their whole lives to achieve and, in so doing, keep our military the strongest in the world. I respect these men and women, and I think what is happening on the floor of the Senate is not only dangerous but it is insulting. That is the only word that can be used for one Senator to hold up 184 men and women and their promotions in the military. I never thought I would see that day in the U.S. Senate.

Whatever the reason, it is time to bring the charade to an end. We can debate the policy in the committee and on the floor, wherever we wish; but when it comes to these individuals, do not hold these men and women in the military hostage to the political debate on the floor of the U.S. Senate.

I commend the Senator from Massachusetts for raising these issues.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Iowa.

LAW ENFORCEMENT

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, Leader SCHUMER said since last week that he intends to introduce a resolution purporting to support law enforcement.

In 2020, ''defund the police'' became the rallying cry of the radical left. Every day for the next 2 years, officers reported to duty despite a campaign saying that they didn't deserve money for even bulletproof vests; and 1,146 of those officers died protecting Americans. I don't remember Democrats taking to this floor to defend law enforcement back then. Instead, they blocked resolutions that condemned attacks against officers.

By April of 2021, antipolice protests and Democrat silence were all but routine. And we know what happened: Police morale plummeted.

Still, officers rushed toward danger that those of us in Congress should thank God that we never have to face. Iowa Sergeant Jim Smith was one of those officers. On a Friday night in April 2021, he got a call for backup. It took him to the house of Michael Lange. Lange had just assaulted another police officer and barricaded himself inside with a shotgun.

Sergeant Smith led the entry team. They had just cleared the basement and were about to reach the main floor when Lange ambushed them. Lange fired two shots into Sergeant Smith's chest. Then he gloated to the other officers, and this is what he said:

I'll kill you like I killed your buddy.

All Sergeant Smith ever wanted was to be a police officer. When the antipolice rioters came, he and his tactical team guarded the Iowa State Capitol. They were spat on and insulted. They had frozen water bottles and rocks thrown at them. But they held the line. And when the time came, Sergeant Smith laid down his life holding a thin blue thin.

He never got to see this pro-FBI resolution. He didn't witness the uptick in police popularity as blue cities descended into violent crime. But I would imagine that the folks who loved Officer Smith must be wondering where this all was back then and why the FBI seems to matter more than State and local officers.

Of course, this isn't to say that there aren't good FBI employees. There are plenty of them. I and my Republican colleagues have made our support for law enforcement clear time and again. I would, however, like to know where our Democratic colleagues have been with respect to the blatant political bias in the leadership of the FBI and the Department of Justice.

On March 1 of 2023, Senator GRAHAM and I wrote to Attorney General Garland and Director Wray regarding the more than 130 attacks on Catholic churches since the Supreme Court decision in Dobbs and the fact that the FBI has largely failed to investigate those violent attacks by leftist extremist groups. Instead, as we wrote to Director Wray, elements of the FBI have labeled Catholics as extremists and lumped them together with violent White supremacists with no justification.

There is nothing extreme or suspicious about worshipping God according to the dictates of your conscience.

Our letter also pointed out that the Biden Department of Justice has aggressively targeted pro-life advocates for selective prosecution. This includes the Department's political prosecution of Mark Houck for allegedly violating the Freedom of Access to Clinic Entrances Act. He had an altercation with an abortion clinic volunteer who allegedly verbally harassed his 12-year-old son.

Even though local authorities declined to press charges, Mr. Houck was arrested—arrested at gunpoint—by the FBI in front of his terrified family. He was eventually found not guilty by a jury after a very short deliberation.

Let's also not forget that, for many years, our Democratic colleagues politically weaponized the FBI against my and Senator JOHNSON's Biden family investigation. On July 13, 2020, then-Minority Leader SCHUMER, Senator WARNER, then-Speaker PELOSI, and then-Chairman SCHIFF sent a letter with classified attachments to the FBI. The letter targeted the Grassley-Johnson Biden family investigation to try and falsely tie it to Russian disinformation.

On July 16, 2020, mere days after the July 13 letter, then-Ranking Members WYDEN and PETERS wrote a letter to me and Senator JOHNSON asking for a briefing from the FBI's Foreign Influence Task Force. The FBI did the bidding of our Democratic colleagues and briefed us, accordingly, on August 6, 2020.

The contents of the FBI briefing were later leaked to the Washington Post, even though the FBI promised us confidentiality. The leak was just another act in a long line of efforts to falsely label the Grassley-Johnson good government oversight work as—you guessed it—Russian disinformation.

The Wall Street Journal editorial board hit the mark with their piece that they entitled ''The FBI's Dubious Briefing: Did the bureau set up two GOP Senators at the behest of Democrats?''

As I noted in the last Congress, protected whistleblower disclosures to my office make clear that the FBI has within its possession very significant, very impactful, and very voluminous evidence with respect to potential criminal conduct by members of the Biden family. Based on protected whistleblower allegations, I know the FBI falsely labeled that evidence as Russian disinformation to bury it.

To date, the Biden Justice Department and the FBI haven't challenged the accuracy of these allegations. They can't because my staff has independently reviewed records to support the allegations.

And you can't forget the now-debunked Steele dossier, a document funded and created by Democrats and the Clinton campaign, a document that was actually subject to Russian disinformation. The FBI's willing and disastrous use of it to investigate candidate and then-President Trump sent our country into a tailspin for years.

So let's not kid ourselves right here, right now, as we are talking about a resolution to back law enforcement. The facts bear out that it is our Democratic colleagues who have consistently used Federal law enforcement to their political benefit, and, in the process, they have degraded the trust the American people once placed in Federal law enforcement.

Accordingly, this resolution offered by my Democratic colleagues reeks of political gamesmanship. It is not a serious effort. Let's truly honor the heroes in law enforcement and the daily sacrifices they make for the American people by offering more than a tone-deaf political resolution that further divides the country.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New Hampshire.

Mrs. SHAHEEN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Senator COLLINS and I are allowed to complete our remarks before the vote that is scheduled for 5:30.

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

INSULIN ACT

Mrs. SHAHEEN. Mr. President, I am really pleased to be able to come to the floor today with my cochair in the Diabetes Caucus and friend and colleague Senator COLLINS to discuss an issue that is near and dear to both of us and to the entire Diabetes Caucus, and that is what Congress can do to improve the lives of those living with this chronic disease.

More than 37 million Americans live with diabetes, and millions more are at risk for developing it. I think most people in this Chamber probably know someone who has been affected by this chronic disease, and they get a chance to see very briefly the challenges that those with diabetes face every day.

I understand those personal struggles all too well because my granddaughter Elle was diagnosed with type 1 diabetes in 2007, shortly after her 8th birthday. As a type 1 diabetic, she needs daily access to insulin. Maintaining healthy glucose levels is a worry that has kept her and her mother—her whole family—up too many nights. Without insulin, Elle would not be here because there is no alternative treatment.

There is no cure that can free her from those daily injections. Insulin truly is a lifesaving drug, and it has been for over 100 years. The 100th anniversary of insulin was 2 years ago.

When the Canadian researchers who discovered insulin realized what they had—a drug that would turn a death sentence into a manageable, chronic condition—they decided to sell the patent for $1 each.

They knew the drug they had was revolutionary, and they chose not to chase profits over the good of humankind. Unfortunately, that is not the reality that we live with today. Over the last several decades, insulin prices have skyrocketed beyond the reach of too many Americans.

I hear from far too many people about how they have to ration their needed insulin until the next paycheck or until their insurance coverage kicks in.

Let's be clear about what this means. Americans are literally risking their lives to stretch their insulin as far as possible because the costs are so great. And the cost burden is even heavier for uninsured Americans who have to pay fully out of pocket.

These costs quickly number into the thousands of dollars. The challenges

aren't new, but, fortunately, we are making some progress. Congress last year capped Medicare beneficiaries' insulin costs at $35 a month. And, recently, the three largest insulin manufacturers announced they will finally lower their list prices.

Now, Senator COLLINS and I have commended those manufacturers for finally taking steps to make their insulins more affordable. But until patients are given true financial security and certainty with insulin pricing, the work remains unfinished. Those manufacturers could, at any time, decide again to raise the price of insulin.

There have to be mechanisms in place to systemically address the full scope of this issue. We need to lower costs, and we need to be able to keep those costs down. Insulin costs must be addressed across the board. We must address the root causes of the high cost of insulin.

That is what brings me to the floor today, to discuss legislation that Senator COLLINS and I recently introduced: the Improving Needed Safeguards for Users of Lifesaving Insulin Now—or INSULIN—Act.

First, I want to thank my friend and colleague Senator COLLINS for her longstanding partnership and leadership. Senator COLLINS and I cochair the Diabetes Caucus, but it was Senator COLLINS who founded the caucus in 1997, years before I got here, and there is no more fearless and relentless advocate for those living with diabetes than Senator COLLINS.

We began working on the INSULIN Act in 2019, recognizing that without a comprehensive bill to address the root causes of skyrocketing insulin prices, patients would never have long-term relief. At that time, unfortunately, there weren't a lot of people in Congress who were advocating for comprehensive insulin pricing reforms.

Since then, more and more Members of Congress have begun pressing for insulin reform legislation. That is encouraging. And it is a message of the commitment in this Chamber to finally get something done on this issue.

I am glad the issue is finally getting the attention it deserves, because we are long past time for Congress to act. Our INSULIN Act takes an across-the-board approach to insulin pricing.

First, our bill caps insulin out-of-pocket costs at $35 or 25 percent of list price monthly. That means that a patient could see monthly costs capped for as little as $15 to $20.

And that provision, which we did for Medicare last year, was actually something that has been promoted by the diabetes community, the JDRF—Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation—and other diabetes advocacy groups.

Second, our bill addresses one of the root causes of insulin price increases—ever-growing rebates collected by pharmacy benefit managers, or PBMs. Our bill mandates that PBMs pass 100 percent of rebates negotiated on the plan sponsors. So that benefits patients by lowering premiums.

Finally, our bill takes several steps to increase biosimilar competition, which is proven to lower list prices and improve patient access to their medications.

That includes legislation that I have championed for several years, the Ensuring Timely Access to Generics Act, which is designed to prevent pharmaceutical manufacturers from gaming the FDA's citizen petition process to delay generic drug approvals.

Now, Senator COLLINS and I have developed what we believe is a good piece of bipartisan legislation, and it has been done in consultation with drug-pricing experts and with the diabetes advocacy community.

Since 2019, we have been working on this. Last year, we invited input from lawmakers, stakeholders, and advocates, including the members of this Chamber.

This bipartisan bill is the product of countless conversations and negotiations to produce a bill that will be the most effective in lowering costs and keeping them there. And it will entice, we believe, the broadest coalition of lawmakers to get behind it.

In particular, I want to thank the American Diabetes Association, the JDRF, and the Endocrine Society for their input and for their endorsement of our legislation.

I look forward to working with the diabetes community, with Senator COLLINS, and with the rest of the Members of this Chamber and Congress to finally pass this comprehensive bill to give financial relief to all Americans living with diabetes. There is no more time to waste. And I urge the HELP Committee and Senate leadership to bring this bill to the floor as soon as possible.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Maine.

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I am pleased to rise this evening with my colleague and dear friend Senator JEANNE SHAHEEN to discuss the compelling need to lower the cost of insulin for Americans with diabetes by reforming the system for getting the drug from the manufacturer to the consumer and by capping the out-of-pocket price.

I want to commend Senator SHAHEEN for her longstanding devotion and hard work on this issue. For her, this is both a matter of policy and personal, as she has described. And I could have no better cochair of the Senate Diabetes Caucus than my colleague from New Hampshire.

We are focused on policies that will improve the lives of those who are living with diabetes. Building on our past efforts, we have introduced a new bill, the Improving Needed Safeguards for Users of Lifesaving Insulin Now—or the INSULIN—Act of 2023.

A little background may be useful. As my colleague from New Hampshire has mentioned, when a team of three scientists at the University of Toronto first isolated insulin in 1921, they sold the patent for $1 each to the university—an act intended to ensure that those in need of insulin would always have an affordable access.

They explicitly stated that profit was not their goal nor their motive. And yet in recent years, the cost of insulin has soared, and insulin costs have become unaffordable for far too many individuals with diabetes.

Between 2007 and 2018, the average list price of insulin increased by 262 percent. In 2019, nearly 9 percent of patients with private insurance paid, on average, $403 per month for their insulin.

This shows the huge increase in the list price between 2012 and 2021. This is the net price. I will explain that in a moment.

Tens of millions of Americans rely on insulin as part of their daily treatment. For children, teens, and adults with type 1 diabetes, insulin is not optional. It is literally a matter of life and death. About 20 percent of those with type 2 diabetes rely on insulin.

I have heard far too many stories from people in my State and from across the country who, because of the escalating cost, have had to ration their insulin—an extremely dangerous practice. These drastic measures can result in major risks that can compromise their health and even jeopardize their lives.

Let me share one such story. Recently, I met with Bek Hoskins of Chelsea, ME, through her advocacy with JDRF. Bek was diagnosed with type 1 diabetes at age 10. When we discussed insulin affordability, Bek shared her insulin story. As a young adult, shortly after she was no longer covered by her parents' insurance, Bek was forced to ration her insulin to make it last longer because she simply could not afford the exorbitant price.

In one profoundly memorable instance, Bek pushed her body's limit too far. Her husband, Barrett, rushed her through a snowstorm to an emergency room as she was in excruciating pain. Bek nearly died because she tried to go without her lifesaving, fast-acting insulin for 2 days.

The situation that Bek faced, sadly, is not an isolated example. We simply must address this problem.

Senator SHAHEEN and I have long led action in the Senate to improve the lives of those living with diabetes and to reduce insulin prices. We spearheaded the bipartisan INSULIN Act last Congress to comprehensively reform the system that determines the cost of this lifesaving drug. And I am pleased that the market has been responding to our efforts.

The recent decisions by the three major manufacturers of insulin to cut list prices is certainly encouraging, but there is more work to be done. We need legislation to reform the fundamental factors that distort the insulin market, including a purchasing system that is rife with perverse incentives, conflicts

of interest, and very limited biosimilar competition.

And we have introduced legislation to do just that. It would guarantee out-of-pocket limits for patients with commercial insurance, encourage biosimilar development to lower list prices through competition and reform the practices of Pharmacy Benefit Managers. That would improve the insulin market, giving patients long-term benefits.

First, our bill would limit cost sharing to no more than $35, or 25 percent of the list price per month, starting in 2024, for at least one insulin in each type or dosage form. Under our bill, insurers and Pharmacy Benefit Managers, known as PBMs, would be prohibited from placing utilization obstacles—such as prior authorizations or step therapy—on products with capped costs. These important protections deliver immediate out-of-pocket relief.

Second, our bill would tackle the perverse incentives that encourage the high list prices. Many people wonder why price variations of a product that has been available for more than 100 years has increased dramatically, and the answer is that the market is rife with conflicts of interest and lacks transparency. What happens is the PBMs negotiate discounts from the list price to the net price of insulin.

Well, what happens to the money that is in between? There is an incentive for the pharmacy benefit manager to select the high-cost insulin because they are paying based on a percentage of the cost in many cases. So that is what you see here. A lot of the benefit of this lower net price that has been negotiated does not reach the consumer.

In 2018, as chair of the Senate Aging Committee, I held a hearing that examined the role of PBMs and rebates and the insulin supply chain and their effect on the increasing insulin prices. At the hearing, an American Diabetes Association expert displayed this chart that I am showing on the Senate floor, which is called ''Insulin Supply Chain: A Complex System.'' I think that understates the situation. This is so convoluted and lacks transparency that no wonder we end up with a system that is rife with conflicts of interest.

One thing is clear: The way that the rebate functions in the current market is a key factor, not in lowering the cost to the consumer but in driving up insulin costs. The way the rebate system works encourages PBMs to select a higher priced insulin for an insurer's formulary. PBMs often choose the highest cost insulin because, as I mentioned, their compensation in the form of sharing part of the rebates is based frequently on percentage of the list price.

Let me now give you one case study that involves biosimilars. Biosimilar products are generic forms of biologics like insulin. And like generics, they are lower costs. But the PBM incentive structure can be stacked against them.

For example, Sanofi manufactures a popular product called Lantus. In 2021, Viatris launched two identical versions of its interchangeable biosimilar for Lantus. One was a branded interchangeable product with a high list price. The second was an unbranded interchangeable biosimilar with a low list price. The higher priced version of the exact same insulin-interchangeable drug was selected for formularies that are run by the insurers, while the lower price one was not.

Think about that.

This proves the perverse incentives in the system. No major formulary preferred the lower list price version, even though it is the exact same product and costs less. That is how this system operates. Rebating practices have slowed biosimilar adoption, and lower priced products are still struggling to compete. To date, no major formulary prefers the lower list price versions of the branded products.

Insulin rebates average between 30 and 50 percent and can reach as high as 70 percent for the most commonly used insulin products, significantly higher than the average rebate for other types of drugs.

Our INSULIN Act addresses the current distortions in the market that decrease affordability for patients by requiring PBMs to pass through 100 percent of the insulin rebates. By removing the PBM share of the rebate, the INSULIN Act would eliminate the incentive for PBMs to choose the higher list price product.

Finally, our bill takes a number of steps to promote biosimilar competition. More choices in the insulin market would drive down prices by creating competition.

The INSULIN Act would create a new expedited FDA pathway to promote biosimilar competition. This provision is modeled after a successful law I authored with former Senator Claire McCaskill in 2017 to improve competition for generic drugs. According to the FDA, nearly 200 products have benefited from the process we created. Let's extend that to biosimilars as the Shaheen-Collins bill would do.

The INSULIN Act would take similar steps to enhance that regulatory certainty for biosimilar drug companies. It is ironic that there is a biosimilar insulin available in Canada and Europe right now that cannot be produced for U.S. distribution because the FDA has taken nearly 10 months to reinspect the safety of the facility where the drug is being manufactured. What we want to do is expedite the regulatory process.

We know regulatory barriers are not the only challenge for biosimilars. The incentives in the current insulin market for PBMs often prohibit biosimilars from securing fair formulary placement as indicated by the example I described earlier.

One other step that our bill would take to ease some of the access challenges for biosimilar drugs is to provide CMS with the authority to approve midyear Medicare Part D formulary changes when a biosimilar enters the market.

The INSULIN Act of 2023 would address the fundamental issues facing the insulin market: convoluted and opaque rebates pocketed by PBMs, a lack of biosimilar competition, and patient affordability.

Like Senator SHAHEEN, I am so pleased that our bill has been endorsed by the American Diabetes Association, JDRF, and the Endocrine Society. I thank them for their support of this bipartisan legislation. I encourage our colleagues to join us in supporting these much needed reforms.

NOMINATION OF JOSHUA DAVID JACOBS

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I will vote no on the nomination of Joshua Jacobs to be Under Secretary for Benefits at VA. I will do so for reasons I have already stated publicly in the RECORD when I paused consideration of his nomination last month. I placed that hold to bring attention to serious ethical lapses and the VA's complete stonewalling of my inquiry into those issues.

Veterans Affairs, for 2 years, has chosen the path of inattention and disrespect, not just to this Senator from Iowa, but more importantly to the Senate, the people I represent, and all Americans who believe in honest government.

I began my inquiry 2 years ago into serious conflicts of interest at the VA, concerns that it had failed to protect sensitive and confidential information about publicly traded companies, and the shocking and potentially illegal—and fully documented—termination of a person the VA suspected of being a whistleblower. The VA failed to cooperate on all counts.

These are matters that are in the VA's own best interest to resolve. It doesn't do the VA or anyone else any good, and it certainly does no good for our veterans, for these serious matters to be swept under the rug.

At my request, VA's inspector general investigated the serious allegations I raised of potentially criminal conflicts of interest and confirmed them to the extent possible. However, he wasn't able to finish his investigation and determine whether criminal activity occurred because the subjects refused to cooperate. The conflicts of interest were known to senior VA officials, who did nothing to stop them and instead assured the conflicted official they would make the issue go away, and they did, until I raised my inquiry. Documents show a VA official berated the whistleblower, removed their key duties, and then fired them.

VA did not cooperate with my investigation, and that has left serious questions unanswered. It waited nearly 9 months and after four letters to respond at all, and even then, it was only to refuse to provide answers. After 2 years, we are still waiting for those answers.

And if you think this is all old news, just last month, I raised new allegations obtained by my office about potential contract irregularities at VA. It appears from public records that the VA has awarded lucrative contracts to former VA officials who resigned under ethical clouds. We need answers to that and all the other questions I have raised, and I will not stop pushing for those answers. My staff counts over 30 questions that VA to date has not fully responded to, after six oversight inquiries from my office and multiple attempts to gain their cooperation.

Mr. Jacobs, the nominee before us today, served as a senior adviser to various VA Secretaries and was there as the VA obstructed my inquiry. He had a front row seat at VA through a string of failures and crises, from the Phoenix wait list scandal, to VA's failures in processing claims for victims of sexual trauma, veterans' claims backlogs, delays in the GI Bill modernization initiative, and a host of challenges and scandals.

Mr. Jacobs has never adequately explained his role in these matters or what potential role he may have played in VA's lack of responsiveness to congressional inquiries. In addition, for reasons I explained in my public hold statement on his nomination March 14, I found his responses to my questions for the record to be woefully inadequate and evasive. Where is the Senate Veterans Affairs Committee in making sure the VA and this nominee are held accountable? After 2 years of that same pattern from the VA, the Senate should not confirm this nominee. VA can and must do better in responding to congressional inquiries and fulfilling its role of serving veterans and the American people. I will vote no.

CLOTURE MOTION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Pursuant to rule XXII, the Chair lays before the Senate the pending cloture motion, which the clerk will state.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 64, Joshua David Jacobs, of Washington, to be Under Secretary for Benefits of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

Charles E. Schumer, Raphael G. Warnock, Ben Ray Luján, Tammy Duckworth, Jeff Merkley, Tim Kaine, Christopher A. Coons, Debbie Stabenow, Jon Tester, Sheldon Whitehouse, Tina Smith, Tammy Baldwin, Catherine Cortez Masto, Angus S. King, Jr., Mazie K. Hirono, John W. Hickenlooper, Margaret Wood Hassan.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. By unanimous consent, the mandatory quorum call has been waived.

The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that debate on the nomination of Joshua David Jacobs, of Washington, to be Under Secretary for Benefits of the Department of Veterans Affairs, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) and the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) are necessarily absent.

Mr. MCCONNELL. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. BARRASSO), the Senator from Tennessee (Mrs. BLACKBURN), the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. HAGERTY), and the Senator from Idaho (Mr. RISCH).

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 72, nays 22, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 95 Ex.]

YEAS—72

Baldwin	Graham	Padilla
Bennet	Hassan	Peters
Blumenthal	Heinrich	Reed
Booker	Hickenlooper	Romney
Boozman	Hirono	Rosen
Britt	Hoeven	Rounds
Brown	Hyde-Smith	Schatz
Budd	Johnson	Schumer
Cantwell	Kaine	Shaheen
Capito	Kelly	Sinema
Cardin	Kennedy	Smith
Carper	King	Stabenow
Casey	Klobuchar	Tester
Cassidy	Luján	Thune
Collins	Manchin	Tillis
Coons	Markey	Tuberville
Cortez Masto	Marshall	Van Hollen
Cotton	Menendez	Warner
Cramer	Merkley	Warnock
Cruz	Moran	Warren
Duckworth	Murkowski	Welch
Durbin	Murphy	Whitehouse
Fetterman	Murray	Wyden
Gillibrand	Ossoff	Young

NAYS—22

Braun	Lankford	Schmitt
Cornyn	Lee	Scott (FL)
Crapo	Lummis	Scott (SC)
Daines	McConnell	Sullivan
Ernst	Mullin	Vance
Fischer	Paul	Wicker
Grassley	Ricketts	
Hawley	Rubio	

NOT VOTING—6

Barrasso	Feinstein	Risch
Blackburn	Hagerty	Sanders

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. WARNOCK). On this vote, the yeas are 72, the nays are 22.

The motion is agreed to.

The Senator from New Jersey.

DIVERSITY IN BROADCASTING

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. President, I come to the floor to highlight what I consider to be a grave injustice, and I urge us to do something about it. I do so because I remain deeply concerned about an issue that often flies under the radar, which is our Nation's severe lack of diversity when it comes to broadcast station ownership.

Three years ago, The Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights published a report titled ''The Abysmal State of Media Ownership Diversity in America.'' That is an apt title, especially because, according to the Federal Communications Commission—the Agency responsible for regulating broadcasters—minorities in America make up less than 3 percent of all broadcast station owners. For women, the numbers aren't much better. They account for less than 6 percent of all station owners.

These abysmal figures from the FCC—consistently in the single digits—are unacceptable. They are an affront to the incredible diversity that makes America the exceptional Nation that it is. And simply put, we do ourselves an enormous disservice when the vast majority of TV and radio stations in America are predominantly owned by White men. This lack of diversity in broadcasting is a problem that materially affects the people I represent in New Jersey.

Even as trusted sources of local news continue to be decimated, broadcast media stations play a crucial role in educating the public. They are an invaluable source of information, a safe harbor, particularly for minority communities at a time when new consumers continue to be bombarded with misinformation and disinformation.

Very often—speaking in one element of the Hispanic community—radio is what the community turns to in the case of an emergency. During the pandemic, it is where they turned to to get trusted information about how to take care of themselves and their families. In storms, tornadoes, and hurricanes, they are the preferred entity.

So all of us in this Chamber have a duty to be responsible stewards of the public airwaves, and we do this by ensuring that the ownership of stations reflects the audiences they reach. When minority communities turn on the radio and the television, the programming should be about events in their community, very possibly in a language they understand, speaking about a culture they know, and addressing issues they care about the most. We can only achieve this by having broadcast station leaders with similar life experiences to their listeners and viewers alike.

Make no mistake, if we hope to raise the appalling numbers of minority-owned broadcast stations in America, it starts with seizing every opportunity in front of us to increase their ranks.

It is long past time that the regulators at the Federal Communications Commission prioritize diversity in broadcast ownership.

Right now, the FCC has before it the case of Soo Kim, a Korean-American entrepreneur who has applied to acquire TEGNA Broadcasting. Should the deal go through, it would make TEGNA the largest minority-owned broadcast station group in the country. However, for more than a year, this deal has been in limbo.

I am not here to speak about all the details of this deal or the pros and cons of its merits, but basic fairness dictates that the FCC should make a decision one way or another and not just veto it through, in essence, inaction. That is not the American way. A vote is a fair shot and a way to see how the Commission will react to diversity issues when they become available.

Diversity, for me, means the fullness of diversity. It means African Americans. It means Hispanic Americans. It means women. It means LGBTQ Americans. And, yes, it means Asian Americans.

We need the FCC Commissioners to commit to increasing diversity in media ownership not just in words but with actions. I, for one, will not support nominees for the FCC if they are unwilling to support diversity, including by acting in a way that denies a vote to a diverse applicant. They cannot argue that broadcast station owners should reflect their audiences, publicly saying—this is the FCC—''We need to do better.'' Well, that is great. Then you miss the opportunities to expand diversity in broadcasting when it is before you.

In the past, I have tried to address this issue head on through legislation. I will continue to follow that route as well.

Last Congress, alongside Senator PETERS, I introduced a bill, the Broadcast VOICES Act, that would help address the lack of diversity in the industry through innovations in our Tax Code. Through a Federal tax incentive, our bill would ensure that women- and minority-owned stations can compete on a level playing field to provide a benefit to audiences.

It would reestablish a program in order to reincentivize broadcast ownership. I say ''reincentivize'' because Congress has actually done this before. During the nearly two decades that this tax incentive as outlined in the Broadcast VOICES Act was active, minority ownership and diversity in the broadcast media industry grew fivefold. It grew fivefold. So think about where it was when I referred to the earlier percentages and where we are today. This tax provision helped increase it from virtually nothing to fivefold. That is right—the number of minority owners quintupled when the incentive was in place.

So make no mistake, the task in front of us is clear. Government regulators at the FCC have identified that there is a diversity problem in broadcast ownership. As I have said, there are steps this body can take to address it through the Broadcast VOICES Act, but the FCC has its share of the burden as well. It must more than talk the talk; it must walk the walk on the issue of diversity in media ownership.

I pushed for diverse candidates at every Agency. I will continue to do so. I am hopeful that the administration seizes the opportunity before them to nominate a diverse candidate to the Federal Communications Commission because part of taking proactive steps on industry diversity is ensuring that the regulator itself is more diverse.

My first question to any FCC nominee I meet will be ''What actions will you take, if confirmed, to expand diversity in broadcast ownership?'' If they are a present FCC Commissioner seeking to be reestablished at the Commission, voted on again to return to the Commission: ''What actions have you taken to expand diversity in broadcast ownership?''

Only if we as Members press this issue will things change. It is time to afford our communities the representation in media they deserve, not just representation that others think they deserve.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to legislative session and be in a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

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

TRIBUTE TO JEANNE KOHL-WELLES

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, I rise today to honor and congratulate Mrs. Jeanne Kohl-Welles on her retirement following 30 years of work in elected office. Jeanne retires from Washington's King County Council, where she has served as vice chair of the council and chair of the committee of the whole and been an extraordinary asset to our State and the greater Seattle-King County region for the last 30 years.

Under Jeanne's leadership, King County Council was able to address countless issues facing King County and its communities. From supporting our communities through the COVID pandemic by leveraging the 13 budgets she passed as budget chair, to leading the creation of the King County Regional Homeless Authority, Jeanne has been dauntless in facing down tough challenges, tackling complex problems head on to make meaningful progress for King County and its communities.

Jeanne's devotion to King County and the State of Washington as a whole started long before her tenure on the county council. Jeanne spent over two decades in the Washington State Legislature, first in the house and then in the senate. For many of her 20 years in the Washington State Senate, Jeanne chaired the senate higher education and labor and commerce committees and led legislative efforts to legalize medical marijuana and same-sex marriage, tackle income and gender inequality, and address human trafficking and child sexual abuse. Before that, she was an early advocate for addressing hate crimes and homelessness in Seattle.

A constant theme in Jeanne's work has been her tireless dedication to truly representing her constituents. Jeanne has organized many Women's History Month panels; expanded access to ballot drop boxes; implemented crucial investments in youth education; and worked with constituents countless times to introduce legislation that matters to them, like when she worked with middle-schoolers on legislation to regulate puppy-mills. Jeanne has shown a truly exceptional ability to champion what is important to those she represents. Whether it was pushing for the construction of the current stadium for our Seattle Seahawks, sponsoring legislation to make transit safe and available to all, or securing funding for the preservation of Washington State history—from Pike Place Market to the National Historic Landmark vessel S.S. *Virginia*—time and again, Jeanne has fought for the rights, needs, and histories of Washington State and King County communities.

Being a woman in politics isn't always easy; when I first got to the Senate, there wasn't even a women's bathroom off the Senate floor. Every day, we are having to fight for our most basic rights, even as we advocate for all of our constituents. But every day, women like Jeanne are setting an example for young girls that with hard work, they can follow their dreams and make a real difference. Jeanne's retirement won't be a quiet one; she has plans to not only spend more time with her a family and travel, but also to pursue other passions.

It has been a great privilege to work with Jeanne, a true trailblazer, over the last three decades. And it is my honor to thank her for her lifetime of dedicated service to people in King County, the State of Washington, and the entire country. I wish her the very best during her well-earned retirement.

TRIBUTE TO JOE McDERMOTT

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, I rise today to honor and congratulate Mr. Joe McDermott on his retirement following 22 years of public service. Joe retires from Washington's King County Council, where he has represented King County's eighth district and been an extraordinary asset to our State and the greater Seattle-King County region for his many years in both the Washington State Senate and House of Representatives.

Upon joining the State legislature in 2001, Joe marked the first time more than one openly gay legislator would serve in it. During his time, he contributed to unprecedented progress for the LGBTQ+ community through the addition of sexual orientation and gender identity to our State's antidiscrimination statutes and protections for transgender persons to our hate crime statutes, as well as recognition to domestic partnerships for same-sex couples. Joe's contributions have forever broadened the civil rights bill and paved the way to marriage equality.

Joe has also been a pivotal leader in safeguarding public safety. As a councilmember, Joe responded to the public health crisis of gun violence by recognizing the necessity of responsible firearm policy with the 2018 King County Gun Safety Action Plan. As

chair of the King County Board of Health, Joe established the first producer-paid Secure Medicine Return Program in Washington State and second in the Nation, addressing the opiate crisis and ensuring the safe disposal of unused medicines throughout King County. In just 5 years before the program became statewide and thanks to Joe's drive and commitment, 198 drop boxes were provided across the county, and over 115 tons of drugs destroyed.

As a sponsor of the original and 2021 renewal of Executive Dow Constantine's Best Starts for Kids Levy, Joe has played a momentous role in serving more than half a million King County children, youth, young adults, and families in partnership with 500 community-based organizations. He understands, as I do, that our young people are the future and our early investments in their lives will have growing returns for years to come.

The host of community-based proposals and progress throughout his career reflect Joe's extraordinary skills in developing compromise and recognizing individualized needs, even in the most difficult of circumstances. As a champion of the Health through Housing initiative to house 1,600 of the most challenged people facing homelessness and leader for support on long range hotel motel tax revenue allocation for affordable housing and public infrastructure, Joe has never wavered from the deep responsibility and value he holds for King County's low-income people.

Joe's work has been all-encompassing. From the expansion of the light rail service and the guarantee of its equitable fare enforcement, to the addition of new water taxis to meet higher passenger capacities, to the review and approval of King County's public participation in an arena proposal for NBA basketball and NHL hockey, the lengths to which Joe will provide for our communities seem endless.

It has been a great privilege to learn and collaborate with Joe over the last two decades, and it is my honor to thank him for his dedicated service to the people of King County, the State of Washington, and across the entire country. I wish him the very best during his well-earned retirement.

FEDERAL DEBT

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, if you thought the dangerous theatrics of the Trump years were behind us, I have some bad news. This week, Speaker MCCARTHY plans to gamble with the paychecks of millions of families, as well as the stability of our Nation's economy.

Instead of accepting one of the most basic duties of government—avoid default—Speaker MCCARTHY is choosing high stakes risk. He is threatening to default on America's debt for the first time in history unless Democrats agree to slash funding for working families, veterans, law enforcement, and small businesses across the country.

Now it goes without saying: This proposal is going nowhere in the Senate. And KEVIN MCCARTHY knows that. So the fact that he is still moving forward with it shows that he does not know the damage he could inflict on the American people. He is willing to hold our entire economy—and the fate of millions of Americans—hostage because, as long as he keeps the most radical fringes of his party happy, KEVIN MCCARTHY has nothing to worry about. But for everyone else, a Federal debt default would be disastrous.

It would wipe out trillions of dollars in household savings; it would lead to millions of Americans losing their jobs and businesses grinding to a halt; and it would crater our economy, likely throwing us into a recession.

Now all this chaos and destruction could be avoided today, if we wanted. Congress could pass a clean bill to pay our debts on time and uphold the full faith and credit of the United States. But of course, with the MAGA majority in the House, it is never that simple. Instead of sitting down with lawmakers across the aisle to find a sensible path forward, Speaker MCCARTHY is manufacturing a crisis. And really, he is giving the American people two unacceptable options: Either suffer the consequences of a disastrous debt default, or face devastating cuts to the services and programs millions of people rely on every day.

Just look at the proposal House Republicans will vote on this week. It is nothing more than a MAGA wish list that leaves every American behind, except the top 1 percent. To start, Speaker MCCARTHY's proposal would decimate funding for our Nation's veterans. It would cut hundreds of millions of dollars for expanding veteran's care, right after we just passed the PACT Act. And it would threaten housing and food security for our Nation's heroes.

And they are not alone because Speaker MCCARTHY's proposal would also gut funding for police officers and first responders. It would wipe out nearly 30,000 law enforcement jobs within the Justice Department alone. And it would require the government to furlough every single Border Patrol agent.

Can you imagine that? For years, Republicans have been saying Democrats want to defund the police and open our borders. And yet, here they are, supporting a proposal to abandon law enforcement and weaken border security.

Additionally, Speaker MCCARTHY's proposal would ship thousands of manufacturing jobs overseas, to countries like China. And perhaps worst of all, it would punish working families who are already struggling to get by. This Republican proposal would jeopardize healthcare coverage for 10 million Americans. And it could eliminate food assistance for more than 1 million families—including children—who are at risk of going hungry.

Now, this MAGA wish list is not bad news for everyone. In fact, there is one group of people in particular who would benefit from it. Can you guess who it is? I will tell you: the ultrawealthy. Speaker MCCARTHY's proposal would actually increase our deficit by allowing billionaires to avoid paying their fair share in taxes.

And it is not like they need any help. Today, there are a thousand billionaires in America who pay an average tax rate of 8 percent. Think about that. That is a lower tax rate than most school teachers and firefighters. Then again, it shouldn't be any surprise that Speaker MCCARTHY is siding with billionaires over working families.

After all, where was he just over a week ago? Was he meeting with working families and small business owners on Main Street who are worried about keeping their doors open? No. He was on Wall Street, meeting with wealthy traders and executives of big banks. And he personally assured them that Republicans will do everything they can to cut funding for hard-working families trying to make ends meet.

Now, here is the bottom line: We can—and should—have a debate on America's tax policy and Federal budget priorities. It is a debate Democrats win because we believe in investing in working families and ensuring the wealthy pay their fair share. Plain and simple. But now is not the time nor place for this debate because in the next several weeks, we have one responsibility: avoiding debt default—and the economic calamity that would follow. That is our obligation to the American people. And it is an obligation we have never once failed to meet in 230 years.

But today, sadly, many Americans are concerned that Speaker MCCARTHY is in over his head. Frankly, I share those concerns. He is leading a caucus that traffics in chaos and brinksmanship. And it is not clear that he can control the chaos.

So here is our promise, on behalf of congressional Democrats: We are ready to get to work. Let's avoid a disastrous debt default—as we always do. And then, let's engage in a fulsome debate on Federal spending priorities. The sooner we prevent a debt default, the sooner we can come together in good faith to work on behalf of the American people.

U.S. POSTAL SERVICE

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, we do a lot to protect our identity and financial security from scammers and thieves. We guard our PIN numbers and passwords. We shred bills and financial documents. We are on guard for phishing attacks and cyber scams.

But there is another, growing threat to our financial safety that many Americans are unaware of. Across the country, we are seeing a surge in armed robberies of letter carriers. In many of the attacks, the robbers steal

an ''arrow key.'' That is a master key that unlocks the blue collection boxes you drop your mail into, as well as cluster mailboxes in subdivisions and other multi-unit mailboxes. With an arrow key, a robber can open mailboxes and steal whatever is in there, including packages and prescription medications. And often, they steal checks. This can lead to identity theft, financial fraud, and other serious crimes.

Here is how it works: The robbers use the dark web and messaging apps to sell the stolen checks. The cyber criminals who buy the stolen checks then use nail polish remover to wash and rewrite the checks for any amount they choose. A $15 check to your doctor can become a $15,000 check to someone you have never heard of.

Listen to these figures from the U.S. Postal Inspection Service: Between 2018 and 2021, robberies of letter carriers more than tripled, and robberies involving a gun more than quadrupled.

And between March 2020 and February 2021, the Postal Inspection Service received 299,000 reports of mail theft, a 161-percent increase in mail thefts in just 1 year. And the problem is getting worse. In Chicago, at least a dozen postal carriers were robbed at gunpoint between early March and early April this year. Police say the robbers were armed with semi-automatic handguns. I have met with letter carriers in Chicago. They tell me they are fearful about what is happening. They worry that they could be next. And the looming threat of armed robbery is making it even harder to fill letter carrier vacancies.

And this is not just a Chicago problem. Last year in Orlando, FL, two men were caught on video approaching a letter carrier at a condo complex. The postal worker was found robbed and beaten with a severe head injury. In January of this year, a 66-year-old letter carrier was kidnapped and robbed in Charlotte, NC. The list goes on and includes nearly every State in the country. These are not simply random attacks. Police say organized crime groups and gangs appear to be driving the increase in letter carrier robberies.

We have seen something like this before. In 2011, after a similarly disturbing trend, I urged the former Postmaster General to implement a rapid alert system to inform letter carriers of any crimes committed in their vicinity. The alerts were a warning to letter carriers to be vigilant, and they helped. But now, the alerts have stopped. Now, I have serious concerns about many decisions by the current Postmaster General, but this decision seems especially wrong-headed.

Yesterday, I met in Chicago with members of the National Association of Letter Carriers' Illinois chapter. I told them that I was sending a letter to both Postmaster General Louis DeJoy and Attorney General Merrick Garland. I am asking the U.S. Postal Service and the Department of Justice to work together to prevent robberies of letter carriers—and punish those who commit the robberies. They also need to crack down on the cyber thieves who buy and sell checks, arrow keys, and other property stolen from the Postal Service.

And the Postal Service can act right now to reduce this surge in robberies by making some simple changes on its own. They should restart crime alerts to letter carriers. USPS also can reduce the financial motivation driving many of these robberies by investing in new technology that would enable two-factor authentication for dropboxes and cluster mailboxes.

Letter carriers are proud of their long tradition of braving rain, snow, and sleet to deliver the mail. But they cannot brave this threat on their own. USPS and DOJ must step up to better protect letter carriers and the tens of millions of American families and businesses that depend on the U.S. Postal Service.

NATIONAL INFERTILITY AWARENESS WEEK

Ms. HASSAN. Mr. President, I rise today to commemorate National Infertility Awareness Week, which since 1989 has honored the people, doctors, researchers, and others for their work in destigmatizing infertility and raising awareness of the challenges many people face when trying to start a family.

Creating life and starting and nurturing a family are, of course, foundational experiences that bring challenges, rewards, and great joy. For millions of people, however, infertility is a barrier to having children, affecting approximately one in five Americans. Thanks to the extraordinary efforts of doctors, scientists, and researchers though, our country has made great strides in helping better understand infertility and provide treatments and support for people who are struggling to start a family. Tens of thousands of children were born last year alone thanks to IVF. And organizations like Resolve: The National Infertility Association have been instrumental in supporting people who struggle with infertility, as well as raising awareness about this critical issue. Unfortunately, many couples still face financial and other barriers to using this procedure, and I urge my colleagues to consider ways that we can make it easier and more affordable for people to start a family in this way.

If we believe that everyone in our country counts and should be free to reach their full potential, then we need to do more to ensure that more Americans are able and free to start a family, so they too can partake in one of life's most rewarding journeys.

NATIONAL EDUCATION AND SHARING DAY

Mr. SULLIVAN. Mr. President, I rise today, along with Senator MURKOWSKI, to bring awareness to National Education and Sharing Day U.S.A., which we recognized on April 2, 2023. On this day, we acknowledged the Lubavitcher Rebbe, Rabbi Menachem Schneerson's global campaign to educate youth about our responsibility to be a moral and compassionate society.

Education and Sharing Day is observed each year on the Rebbe's birthday in recognition of his outstanding and lasting contributions toward the improvement of education, morality, and acts of charity around the world. It is a day to pause and reflect on our responsibility to ensure our youth have the foundation necessary to lead lives rich in purpose and fulfillment through service and good works.

This year's National Education and Sharing Day coincided with the 121st birthday of the Rebbe, one of the most significant Jewish leaders of the 20th century. The Rebbe was a global spiritual leader and leading advocate for the advancement of education. He stressed that a moral and ethical education empowers every individual to develop their full potential in making the world a better place. This year's Education and Sharing Day has even greater significance as this year is also a year of ''Hakhel,'' a biblical event of unity, education, and spiritual growth emphasizing how every person is crucial to perfecting the world.

The basis for the continuity of any society is education, and in the great State of Alaska, the education of our youth is a priority. We recognize that in order to achieve its highest goals, education must not only impart knowledge but also help our youth learn how to live meaningful lives by strengthening their moral character to make a better life for themselves as individuals and for society as a whole. Such education can nurture the unity of diverse peoples by encouraging increased acts of goodness and kindness, imbued with the awareness that even a single positive act of an individual can change the world.

We strongly affirm the purposes of National Education and Sharing Day U.S.A. and encourage educational institutions, businesses, community and civic associations, and all people of the United States to celebrate and promote National Education and Sharing Day U.S.A.

RECOGNIZING THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE U.S. GREEN BUILDING COUNCIL

Mr. WELCH. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize the 30th anniversary of the U.S. Green Building Council—USGBC—founded in April 1993. This member-led, nonprofit organization has helped schools, businesses, cities, and even countries build and operate better buildings that transform lives. USGBC's LEED certification program, short for Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design, has grown to become the world's most acclaimed and

widely used green building system, with 105,000 projects in more than 185 countries.

In the United States, over 400,000 housing units and more nonresidential projects have applied this system to achieve LEED certification. In Vermont, we have achieved more than 120 certifications, and at least 91 professionals have LEED credentials. These sustainable projects include K–12 schools and higher education, offices, multifamily housing, retail, manufacturing, and additional building types. More than 5 million square feet of space have received LEED certification.

As Americans contend with rising prices and energy costs, more green buildings mean more dollars back in the pockets of small business and families. That is because research has repeatedly found that energy-efficient, lower-waste green buildings benefit the bottom line. LEED-certified buildings reduce day-to-day costs year-over-year while benefiting our climate. They help building owners lower vacancies. Plus, they improve staff well-being and productivity.

When USGBC started, there was no agreement in the marketplace on what constituted ''green building,'' let alone any kind of accepted, codified mechanism to certify it. Now, 30 years later, USGBC has primed the market to value better-performing buildings that lower costs and waste, mitigate climate impacts, and improve health.

Congratulations to this incredible, member-led organization. Here is to another impactful 30 years.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO CAPRI SALAAM

● Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to outstanding educator Capri Salaam, the 2023 Arkansas Teacher of the Year.

As a social studies teacher at North Little Rock Middle School, since 2015, Capri has become known for her innovative teaching practices, her ability to connect with students, and her efforts to stay involved in their lives even after they leave her classroom. She reflects her love for education and her students in the unique ways she connects with her class and engages with history. She also demonstrates extraordinary compassion and support beyond her classroom by investing in their well-being, ensuring students have access to ACT preparation programs, financial aid workshops, and tutoring programs in high school. As a teacher to seventh and eighth graders, she appreciates seeing students grow emotionally, physically, and mentally during this critical age as they become young adults.

Capri's dedication to the field of education is not only evident in her teaching styles, but also in her passion for continuing to learn. In addition to receiving a bachelor of arts in English from the University of Central Arkansas, Capri has a master of arts in teaching in middle school education and a master of science in special education. She is also working on earning a learning systems technology education graduate certificate from the University of Arkansas at Little Rock and is licensed to teach social studies along with English and special education.

Outside of the classroom, Capri also continuously finds ways to be involved in her community. She is a member of the Junior League of North Little Rock and volunteers for Special Olympics, the Fellowship Baptist Church Special Needs Clothes Closet, and the North Little Rock Ole Main Clean-up.

Arkansas is fortunate to have an exceptional teacher like Capri representing the many great teachers in our State, as well as serving as a role model to future generations of educators. Capri demonstrates what it means to go above and beyond for her students. I congratulate her for this achievement and the positive impact she is making on the community and the entire State. Her passion and commitment offer an excellent example for others to follow. I am confident her efforts are inspiring future generations in the classroom and beyond.●

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 the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The messages received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 3:02 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 734. An act 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.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communication was laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and was referred as indicated:

EC–1085. A communication from the President of the United States to the President pro tempore of the United States Senate, transmitting, consistent with the War Powers Act, a report relative to an operation to evacuate United States personnel and others from Khartoum, Sudan, in response to the deteriorating security situation in Sudan, received during adjournment of the Senate on April 23, 2023; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. PETERS, from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, with an amendment:

S. 829. A bill to amend the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995 to clarify a provision relating to certain contents of registrations under that Act (Rept. No. 118–13).

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 Mrs. CAPITO (for herself and Ms. BALDWIN):

S. 1256. A bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to require certain air carriers to provide reports with respect to maintenance, preventative maintenance, or alterations, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. VAN HOLLEN (for himself and Mr. YOUNG):

S. 1257. A bill to authorize a new type of housing choice voucher to help achieve the goals of ending homelessness among families with children, increasing housing opportunities, and improving life outcomes of poor children; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Ms. ERNST (for herself, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. PAUL, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, and Mr. BRAUN):

S. 1258. A bill to require the Director of the Office of management and Budget to submit to Congress an annual report on projects that are over budget and behind schedule, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Ms. ERNST:

S. 1259. A bill to prohibit the provision of Federal assistance to transit and rail projects with significant cost overruns and that are projected to lose money, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. LEE (for himself and Mr. ROMNEY):

S. 1260. A bill to release the reversionary interest of the United States in certain non-Federal land in Salt Lake City, Utah, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. MARSHALL (for himself, Mr. BRAUN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. WICKER, Ms. LUMMIS, Mr. HAGERTY, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, and Mr. BUDD):

S. 1261. A bill to clarify the treatment of 2 or more employers as joint employers under the National Labor Relations Act and the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Ms. DUCKWORTH:

S. 1262. A bill to amend title 5, United States Code, to require Federal employee

health benefit plans to include assisted reproductive treatment benefits, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Ms. HIRONO (for herself, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. SULLIVAN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. BROWN, Ms. CANTWELL, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. SCHATZ, Mr. MERKLEY, and Ms. WARREN):

S. 1263. A bill to exempt children of certain Filipino World War II veterans from the numerical limitations on immigrant visas, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself, Mr. WELCH, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. MERKLEY, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. REED, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. KING, Ms. CANTWELL, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. BROWN, Mr. BOOKER, Ms. SMITH, Ms. WARREN, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. MARKEY, and Ms. DUCKWORTH):

S. 1264. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to strengthen the drug pricing reforms in the Inflation Reduction Act; to the Committee on Finance.

By Ms. HIRONO:

S. 1265. A bill to provide the United States District Court for the District of Columbia with original and exclusive jurisdiction over civil actions with a nationwide effect; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. MORAN (for himself, Mr. WARNOCK, Mr. COTTON, Ms. WARREN, and Ms. HIRONO):

S. 1266. A bill to amend titles 10 and 38, United State Code, to improve benefits and services for surviving spouses, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. KAINE (for himself, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. WELCH, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. BENNET, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Ms. SMITH, Mr. SANDERS, and Mr. WYDEN):

S. 1267. A bill to amend the Fair Housing Act to prohibit discrimination based on source of income, veteran status, or military status; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. REED (for himself and Mr. YOUNG):

S. 1268. A bill to amend the Education Sciences Reform Act of 2002 and the Educational Technical Assistance Act of 2002 to strengthen research in adult education; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself and Ms. COLLINS):

S. 1269. A bill to reduce the price of insulin and provide for patient protections with respect to the cost of insulin; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself and Ms. DUCKWORTH):

S. 1270. A bill to amend the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act to provide funding, on a competitive basis, for summer and year-round employment opportunities for youth ages 14 through 24; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina (for himself, Mr. BROWN, Mr. WICKER, and Mr. REED):

S. 1271. A bill to impose sanctions with respect to trafficking of illicit fentanyl and its precursors by transnational criminal organizations, including cartels, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. WYDEN (for himself, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Ms. CANTWELL, Ms. WARREN, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. KAINE, Mr. WELCH, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. CARDIN, and Mr. MARKEY):

S. 1272. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for examination and disclosure with respect to Presidential income tax returns, to amend the Ethics in Government Act of 1978 to require the disclosure of certain tax returns by Presidents and certain candidates for the office of the President, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Ms. ROSEN (for herself and Mr. LANKFORD):

S. 1273. A bill to require a study on Holocaust education efforts of States, local educational agencies, and public elementary and secondary schools, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mrs. FISCHER (for herself, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, and Mr. BROWN):

S. 1274. A bill to permanently exempt payments made from the Railroad Unemployment Insurance Account from sequestration under the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985; to the Committee on the Budget.

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. MERKLEY, and Mr. WELCH):

S. 1275. A bill to impose limitations on attorney fees for Federal causes of action relating to water at Camp Lejeune, North Carolina, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself and Ms. DUCKWORTH):

S. 1276. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to modify the work opportunity credit for certain youth employees; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. MCCONNELL:

S. 1277. A bill to modify the boundary of the Mammoth Cave National Park in the State of Kentucky, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Ms. STABENOW:

S. 1278. A bill to designate the Federal building located at 985 Michigan Avenue in Detroit, Michigan, as the ''Rosa Parks Federal Building'', and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. JOHNSON (for himself, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. BRAUN, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, and Mr. HAWLEY):

S. 1279. A bill to require the Director of the Bureau of Justice Statistics to submit to Congress a report relating to individuals granted bail and pretrial release in State courts, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. CRUZ (for himself and Mr. WELCH):

S. 1280. A bill to require coordinated National Institute of Standards and Technology science and research activities regarding illicit drugs containing xylazine, novel synthetic opioids, and other substances of concern, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Ms. CORTEZ MASTO (for herself, Mr. RISCH, Mr. CRAPO, Ms. SINEMA, and Ms. ROSEN):

S. 1281. A bill to amend the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1993 to provide for security of tenure for use of mining claims for ancillary activities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. MARKEY (for himself and Ms. WARREN):

S. 1282. A bill to direct the Secretary of Transportation to carry out a grant program to support efforts to provide fare-free transit service, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. CARDIN (for himself and Mr. CASSIDY):

S. 1283. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to conform to the intent of the Internal Revenue Service Restructuring and Reform Act of 1998 (Public Law 105–206), as set forth in the joint explanatory statement of the committee of conference accompanying Conference Report 105–599, that the National Taxpayer Advocate be able to hire and consult counsel as appropriate; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. WICKER (for himself, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. THUNE, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. YOUNG, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. BOOZMAN, and Mr. PETERS):

S. 1284. A bill to improve forecasting and understanding of tornadoes and other hazardous weather, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. BENNET:

S. 1285. A bill to direct the National Center for Education Statistics to produce an annual report on indicators of school crime and safety, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. MERKLEY (for himself and Mr. WYDEN):

S. 1286. A bill to amend the Siletz Reservation Act to address the hunting, fishing, trapping, and animal gathering activities of the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

By Mr. MERKLEY (for himself and Mr. WYDEN):

S. 1287. A bill to amend the Grand Ronde Reservation Act to address the hunting, fishing, trapping, and animal gathering activities of the Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde Community, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

By Mr. BOOKER (for himself and Mr. WELCH):

S. 1288. A bill to ensure that contractors of the Department of Agriculture comply with certain labor laws, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina (for himself, Mr. BUDD, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. WICKER, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. RISCH, Mr. RICKETTS, Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. CASSIDY, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Ms. LUMMIS, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. BRAUN, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Mrs. FISCHER, Mr. KENNEDY, Ms. ERNST, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. HAGERTY, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mrs. BRITT, Mr. TUBERVILLE, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. MCCONNELL, and Mr. MORAN):

S.J. Res. 25. A joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Department of Labor relating to ''Adverse Effect Wage Rate Methodology for the Temporary Employment of H–2A Nonimmigrants in Non-Range Occupations in the United States''; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. WICKER (for himself and Mr. COONS):

S. Res. 170. A resolution supporting the goals and ideals of World Malaria Day; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. CASSIDY (for himself and Mr. KENNEDY):

S. Res. 171. A resolution congratulating the Louisiana State University Fighting Tigers women's basketball team for winning the 2023 National Collegiate Athletic Association Division I Women's Basketball Tournament Championship; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. BLUMENTHAL (for himself, Mr. GRAHAM, and Mr. WHITEHOUSE):

S. Res. 172. A resolution expressing the sense of the Senate on Ukrainian victory; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. MARKEY (for himself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BOOKER, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Ms. WARREN, Mr. WELCH, and Mr. WYDEN):

S. Res. 173. A resolution recognizing the duty of the Federal Government to create a Green New Deal; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 82

At the request of Mr. SCOTT of Florida, the name of the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. SCOTT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 82, a bill to protect social security benefits and military pay and require that the United States Government to prioritize all obligations on the debt held by the public in the event that the debt limit is reached.

S. 106

At the request of Ms. BALDWIN, the name of the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING) was added as a cosponsor of S. 106, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to award grants to States to improve outreach to veterans, and for other purposes.

S. 132

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Ms. CORTEZ MASTO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 132, a bill to require a pilot program on activities under the preseparation 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 name of the Senator from Nevada (Ms. ROSEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 133, a bill to extend the National Alzheimer's Project.

S. 138

At the request of Mr. MERKLEY, the names of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) and the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BRAUN) were added as cosponsors of S. 138, a bill to amend the Tibetan Policy Act of 2002 to modify certain provisions of that Act.

S. 141

At the request of Mr. MORAN, the names of the Senator from Arizona (Mr. KELLY), the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW), the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING) and the Senator from Arizona (Ms. SINEMA) were added as cosponsors of S. 141, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve certain programs of the Department of Veterans Affairs for home and community based services for veterans, and for other purposes.

S. 154

At the request of Ms. KLOBUCHAR, the names of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) and the Senator from Missouri (Mr. SCHMITT) were added as cosponsors of S. 154, a bill to prevent the theft of catalytic converters and other precious metal car parts, and for other purposes.

S. 185

At the request of Mr. ROUNDS, the name of the Senator from Arizona (Mr. KELLY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 185, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the program for direct housing loans made to Native American veterans, and for other purposes.

S. 229

At the request of Mr. PETERS, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 229, a bill to require SelectUSA to coordinate with State-level economic development organizations to increase foreign direct investment in semiconductor-related manufacturing and production.

S. 234

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the names of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) and the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN) were added as cosponsors of S. 234, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permanently extend the new markets tax credit, and for other purposes.

S. 305

At the request of Mr. BLUMENTHAL, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 305, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the 250th anniversary of the United States Marine Corps, and to support programs at the Marine Corps Heritage Center.

S. 326

At the request of Mr. TESTER, the names of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. FETTERMAN), the Senator from Indiana (Mr. YOUNG), the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING), the Senator from Colorado (Mr. HICKENLOOPER), the Senator from Arizona (Ms. SINEMA), the Senator from Arizona (Mr. KELLY) and the Senator from Nevada (Ms. ROSEN) were added as cosponsors of S. 326, a bill to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to carry out a study and clinical trials on the effects of cannabis on certain health outcomes of veterans with chronic pain and posttraumatic stress disorder, and for other purposes.

S. 359

At the request of Mr. WHITEHOUSE, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. HASSAN) was added as a cosponsor 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. 380

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the name of the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. SCOTT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 380, a bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to punish the distribution of fentanyl resulting in death as felony murder.

S. 453

At the request of Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 453, a bill to prohibit the implementation of new requirements to report bank account deposits and withdrawals.

S. 537

At the request of Mr. YOUNG, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BRAUN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 537, a bill to preserve open competition and Federal Government neutrality towards the labor relations of Federal Government contractors on Federal and federally funded construction projects, and for other purposes.

S. 547

At the request of Mr. WHITEHOUSE, the name of the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. BARRASSO) 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. 596

At the request of Mr. KAINE, the names of the Senator from Arizona (Ms. SINEMA), the Senator from California (Mr. PADILLA) and the Senator from Iowa (Mr. GRASSLEY) 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. 657

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the name of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CRAMER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 657, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to establish a tax credit for neighborhood revitalization, and for other purposes.

S. 663

At the request of Mr. MURPHY, the names of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) and the Senator from West Virginia (Mrs. CAPITO) were added as cosponsors of S. 663, a bill to amend title II of the Social Security Act to eliminate the waiting periods for disability insurance benefits and Medicare coverage for individuals with metastatic breast cancer, and for other purposes.

S. 775

At the request of Ms. HASSAN, the name of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. HICKENLOOPER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 775, a bill to provide for

increased transparency in generic drug applications.

S. 785

At the request of Mrs. FISCHER, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mr. HAWLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 785, a bill to amend the Clean Air Act with respect to the ethanol waiver for Reid Vapor Pressure under that Act, and for other purposes.

S. 866

At the request of Ms. HASSAN, the names of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ) and the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. KENNEDY) were added as cosponsors of S. 866, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to enhance tax benefits for research activities.

S. 881

At the request of Mr. SCHATZ, the names of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) and the Senator from Vermont (Mr. WELCH) were added as cosponsors of S. 881, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide a credit for the purchase of certain new electric bicycles.

S. 886

At the request of Ms. BALDWIN, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 886, a bill to authorize the location of a monument on the National Mall to commemorate and honor the women's suffrage movement and the passage of the 19th Amendment to the Constitution, and for other purposes.

S. 967

At the request of Mr. LEE, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. SCOTT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 967, a bill to amend the Federal Reserve Act to limit the ability of Federal Reserve banks to issue central bank digital currency.

S. 1016

At the request of Mr. HEINRICH, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1016, a bill to address the impact of climate change on agriculture, and for other purposes.

S. 1027

At the request of Mr. SULLIVAN, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. SCOTT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1027, a bill to require the imposition of sanctions with respect to the People's Republic of China if the People's Liberation Army initiates a military invasion of Taiwan.

S. 1077

At the request of Mr. ROUNDS, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mrs. HYDE-SMITH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1077, a bill to establish a home-based telemental health care demonstration program for purposes of increasing mental health and substance use services in rural medically underserved populations and for individuals in farming, fishing, and forestry occupations.

S. 1111

At the request of Mrs. CAPITO, the name of the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. RICKETTS) was added as a cosponsor 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. 1146

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. HASSAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1146, a bill to amend part E of title IV of the Social Security Act to require the Secretary of Health and Human Services to identify obstacles to identifying and responding to reports of children missing from foster care and other vulnerable foster youth, to provide technical assistance relating to the removal of such obstacles, and for other purposes.

S. 1170

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. WELCH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1170, a bill to reauthorize and update the Project Safe Childhood program, and for other purposes.

S. 1181

At the request of Mr. REED, the name of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1181, a bill to amend the Federal Deposit Insurance Act to improve financial stability, and for other purposes.

S. 1183

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the names of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN) and the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. COTTON) were added as cosponsors of S. 1183, a bill to prohibit discrimination on the basis of mental or physical disability in cases of organ transplants.

S. 1194

At the request of Mr. CARPER, the names of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY), the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS), the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING), the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY), the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW), the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE), the Senator from Iowa (Mr. GRASSLEY) and the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO) were added as cosponsors of S. 1194, a bill to require the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to carry out certain activities to improve recycling and composting programs in the United States, and for other purposes.

S. 1201

At the request of Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, the name of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. HOEVEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1201, a bill to reform the labor laws of the United States, and for other purposes.

S. 1204

At the request of Mr. SCHATZ, the names of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. WELCH) and the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. FETTERMAN) were added as cosponsors of S. 1204, a bill to allow veterans to use, possess, or transport medical marijuana and to discuss the use of medical marijuana with a physician of the Department of Veterans Affairs as authorized by a State or Indian Tribe, and for other purposes.

S. 1206

At the request of Mr. BOOKER, the names of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. WELCH) and the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) were added as cosponsors of S. 1206, a bill to amend the Religious Freedom Restoration Act of 1993 to protect civil rights and otherwise prevent meaningful harm to third parties, and for other purposes.

S. 1220

At the request of Mr. KENNEDY, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. SULLIVAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1220, a bill to establish the position of Special Envoy to the Pacific Islands Forum.

S. 1237

At the request of Ms. ERNST, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MARSHALL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1237, a bill to restore the exemption of family farms and small businesses from the definition of assets under title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965.

S.J. RES. 15

At the request of Mr. SCOTT of Florida, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. CASSIDY) was added as a cosponsor of S.J. Res. 15, a joint resolution disapproving the rule submitted by the Department of Commerce relating to ''Procedures Covering Suspension of Liquidation, Duties and Estimated Duties in Accord With Presidential Proclamation 10414''.

S.J. RES. 22

At the request of Mr. CASSIDY, the name of the Senator from Texas (Mr. CRUZ) was added as a cosponsor 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. RES. 74

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 74, a resolution condemning the Government of Iran's state-sponsored persecution of the Baha'i minority and its continued violation of the International Covenants on Human Rights.

S. RES. 128

At the request of Ms. KLOBUCHAR, the name of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CRAMER) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 128, a resolution condemning the Russian Federation's kidnapping of Ukrainian children.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. REED (for himself and Mr. YOUNG):

S. 1268. A bill to amend the Education Sciences Reform Act of 2002 and the Educational Technical Assistance Act of 2002 to strengthen research in adult education; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Mr. REED. Madam President, I am pleased to introduce the bipartisan Strengthening Research in Adult Education Act with my colleague, Senator Young. We are in urgent need of identifying and disseminating innovative and effective methods for supporting adult learners. Our legislation will ensure that there is a strong research base to improve educational programs for adults seeking to advance their literacy, numeracy, and digital and information literacy skills.

The most recent data from the Program for the International Assessment of Adult Competencies show an urgent need for action in adult education, with an estimated 18 percent of adults ages 16 to 65 in the United States performing at the lowest levels of literacy; 28 percent at the lowest levels of numeracy; and 23 percent at the lowest levels of digital problem solving. This is a dire situation. These are essential skills for postsecondary education and the workplace. Beyond their value in the labor market, these skills are also correlated with health and civic participation, making adult education critically important to the health and well-being of our people, our economy, and our democracy.

In Rhode Island, it is estimated that more than 84,000 working-age adults have less than a high school education. Nearly 65,000 have limited English proficiency. Yet we are reaching just over 5,000 through the current adult education program. Clearly, we need more resources and innovative, research-based ways to reach more people.

The Strengthening Research in Adult Education Act will provide a critical foundation for improving the effectiveness and reach of adult education programs by ensuring that adult education is included in our national education research priorities. Specifically, the Strengthening Research in Adult Education Act will amend the Education Sciences Reform Act to require the Institute for Education Sciences and the National Center for Education Statistics to collect data and carry out research on successful State and local adult education and literacy activities, the characteristics and academic achievement of adult learners, and access to and opportunity for adult education, including digital and information literacy skills development, in communities across the country. It will also ensure that the Institute of Education Sciences draws on the expertise of adult educators when developing policies and priorities. Finally, the legislation will require that at least one research center focus on adult education.

These straightforward amendments to the Education Sciences Reform Act will go a long way to strengthening the research base that will support the improvement of adult education across the country. I was pleased to work with the adult education community and particularly the Coalition on Adult Basic Education and the National Coalition for Literacy in developing this legislation. I urge my colleagues to support the Strengthening Research in Adult Education Act and to work with me to ensure that its provisions are included in the reauthorization of the Education Sciences Reform Act.

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself and Ms. DUCKWORTH):

S. 1270. A bill to amend the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act to provide funding, on a competitive basis, for summer and year-round employment opportunities for youth ages 14 through 24; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

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

S. 1270

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 ''Assisting in Developing Youth Employment Act'' or the ''AID Youth Employment Act''.

SEC. 2. YOUTH EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES.

Title I of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act is amended—

(1) by redesignating subtitle E (29 U.S.C. 3241 et seq.) as subtitle F; and

(2) by inserting after subtitle D (29 U.S.C. 3221 et seq.) the following:

''Subtitle E—Youth Employment Opportunities

''SEC. 176. DEFINITIONS.

''In this subtitle:

''(1) ELIGIBLE YOUTH.—The term 'eligible youth' means an individual who—

''(A) is not younger than age 14 or older than age 24; and

''(B) is—

''(i) an in-school youth;

''(ii) an out-of-school youth; or

''(iii) an unemployed individual.

''(2) INDIAN TRIBE; TRIBAL ORGANIZATION.—The terms 'Indian tribe' and 'tribal organization' have the meanings given the terms in section 4 of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 5304).

''(3) IN-SCHOOL YOUTH; OUT-OF-SCHOOL YOUTH.—The terms 'in-school youth' and 'out-of-school youth' have the meanings given the terms in section 129(a)(1).

''(4) INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION.—The term 'institution of higher education' has the meaning given the term in section 101 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001). (A)

''(5) MARGINALIZED.—The term 'marginalized', used with respect to an individual, includes individuals who are homeless, in foster care, involved in the juvenile or criminal justice system, or are not enrolled in or at risk of dropping out of an educational institution and who live in an underserved community that has faced trauma through acute or long-term exposure to substantial discrimination, historical or cultural oppression, intergenerational poverty, civil unrest, a high rate of violence, or a high rate of drug overdose mortality.

''(6) SUBSIDIZED EMPLOYMENT.—The term 'subsidized employment' means employment for which the employer receives a total or partial subsidy to offset costs of employing an eligible youth under this subtitle.

''(7) TRIBAL AREA.—The term 'tribal area' means—

''(A) an area on or adjacent to an Indian reservation;

''(B) land held in trust by the United States for Indians;

''(C) a public domain Indian allotment;

''(D) a former Indian reservation in Oklahoma; and

''(E) land held by an incorporated Native group, Regional Corporation, or Village Corporation under the provisions of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (43 U.S.C. 1601 et seq.).

''(8) TRIBAL COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY.—The term 'tribal college or university' has the meaning given the term 'Tribal College or University' in section 316(b) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1059c(b)).

''(9) TRIBALLY DESIGNATED HOUSING ENTITY.—The term 'tribally designated housing entity', used with respect to an Indian tribe (as defined in this section), has the meaning given in section 4 of the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996 (25 U.S.C. 4103).

''SEC. 176A. ALLOCATION OF FUNDS.

''(a) ALLOCATION.—Of the funds appropriated under section 176E that remain available after any reservation under subsection (b), the Secretary may make available—

''(1) not more than $1,800,000,000 in accordance with section 176B to provide eligible youth with subsidized summer employment opportunities; and

''(2) not more than $2,400,000,000 in accordance with section 176C to provide eligible youth with subsidized year-round employment opportunities.

''(b) RESERVATION.—The Secretary may reserve not more than 10 percent of the funds appropriated under section 176E to provide technical assistance and oversight, in order to assist eligible entities in applying for and administering grants awarded under this subtitle.

''SEC. 176B. SUMMER EMPLOYMENT COMPETITIVE GRANT PROGRAM.

''(a) IN GENERAL.—

''(1) GRANTS.—Using the amounts made available under 176A(a)(1), the Secretary shall award, on a competitive basis, planning and implementation grants.

''(2) GENERAL USE OF FUNDS.—The Secretary shall award the grants to assist eligible entities by paying for the program share of the cost of—

''(A) in the case of a planning grant, planning a summer youth employment program to provide subsidized summer employment opportunities; and

''(B) in the case of an implementation grant, implementation of such a program, to provide such opportunities.

''(b) PERIODS AND AMOUNTS OF GRANTS.—

''(1) PLANNING GRANTS.—The Secretary may award a planning grant under this section for a 1-year period, in an amount of not more than $250,000.

''(2) IMPLEMENTATION GRANTS.—The Secretary may award an implementation grant under this section for a 3-year period, in an amount of not more than $6,000,000.

''(c) ELIGIBLE ENTITIES.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—To be eligible to receive a planning or implementation grant under this section, an entity shall—

''(A) be a—

''(i) State, local government, or Indian tribe or tribal organization, that meets the requirements of paragraph (2); or

''(ii) community-based organization that meets the requirements of paragraph (3); and

''(B) meet the requirements for a planning or implementation grant, respectively, specified in paragraph (4).

''(2) GOVERNMENT PARTNERSHIPS.—An entity that is a State, local government, or Indian tribe or tribal organization referred to in paragraph (1) shall demonstrate that the entity has entered into a partnership with State, local, or tribal entities—

''(A) that shall include—

''(i) a local educational agency or tribal educational agency (as defined in section 6132 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7452));

''(ii) a local board or tribal workforce development agency;

''(iii) a State, local, or tribal agency serving youth under the jurisdiction of the juvenile justice system or criminal justice system;

''(iv) a State, local, or tribal child welfare agency;

''(v) a State, local, or tribal agency or community-based organization, with—

''(I) expertise in providing counseling services, and trauma-informed and gender-responsive trauma prevention, identification, referral, and support (including treatment) services; and

''(II) a proven track record of serving low-income vulnerable youth and out-of-school youth; and

''(vi) if the State, local government, or Indian tribe or tribal organization is seeking an implementation grant, and has not established a summer youth employment program, an entity that is carrying out a State, local, or tribal summer youth employment program; and

''(vii) an employer or employer association; and

''(B) that may include—

''(i) an institution of higher education or tribal college or university;

''(ii) a representative of a labor or labor-management organization;

''(iii) an entity that carries out a program that receives funding under the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C. 5601 et seq.) or section 212 of the Second Chance Act of 2007 (42 U.S.C. 17532);

''(iv) a collaborative applicant as defined in section 401 of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11360) or a private nonprofit organization that serves homeless individuals and households (including such an applicant or organization that serves individuals or households that are at risk of homelessness in tribal areas) or serves foster youth;

''(v) an entity that carries out a program funded under the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006 (20 U.S.C. 2301 et seq.), including Native American programs funded under section 116 of that Act (20 U.S.C. 2326) and tribally controlled postsecondary career and technical institution programs funded under section 117 of that Act (20 U.S.C. 2327);

''(vi) a local or tribal youth committee;

''(vii) a State or local public housing agency or a tribally designated housing entity; and

''(viii) another appropriate State, local, or tribal agency.

''(3) COMMUNITY-BASED ORGANIZATION PARTNERSHIPS.—A community-based organization referred to in paragraph (1) shall demonstrate that the organization has entered into a partnership with State, local, or tribal entities—

''(A) that shall include—

''(i) a unit of general local government or tribal government;

''(ii) an agency described in paragraph (2)(A)(i);

''(iii) a local board or tribal workforce development agency;

''(iv) a State, local, or tribal agency serving youth under the jurisdiction of the juvenile justice system or criminal justice system;

''(v) a State, local, or tribal child welfare agency;

''(vi) if the organization is seeking an implementation grant, and has not established a summer youth employment program, an entity that is carrying out a State, local, or tribal summer youth employment program; and

''(vii) an employer or employer association; and

''(B) that may include one or more entities described in paragraph (2)(B).

''(4) ENTITIES ELIGIBLE FOR PARTICULAR GRANTS.—

''(A) ENTITIES ELIGIBLE FOR PLANNING GRANTS.—The Secretary may award a planning grant under this section to an eligible entity that—

''(i) is preparing to establish or expand a summer youth employment program that meets the minimum requirements specified in subsection (d); and

''(ii) has not received a grant under this section.

''(B) ENTITIES ELIGIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION GRANTS.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may award an implementation grant under this section to an eligible entity that—

''(I) has received a planning grant under this section; or

''(II) has established a summer youth employment program and demonstrates a minimum level of capacity to enhance or expand the summer youth employment program described in the application submitted under subsection (d).

''(ii) CAPACITY.—In determining whether an entity has the level of capacity referred to in clause (i)(II), the Secretary may include as capacity—

''(I) the entity's staff capacity and staff training to deliver youth employment services; and

''(II) the entity's existing youth employment services (as of the date of submission of the application submitted under subsection (d)) that are consistent with the application.

''(d) APPLICATION.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), an eligible entity desiring to receive a grant under this section for a summer youth employment program shall submit an application to the Secretary at such time, in such manner, and containing such information as the Secretary may require, including, at a minimum, each of the following:

''(A) With respect to an application for a planning or implementation grant—

''(i) a description of the eligible youth for whom summer employment services will be provided;

''(ii) a description of the eligible entity, and a description of the expected participation and responsibilities of each of the partners in the partnership described in subsection (c);

''(iii) information demonstrating sufficient need for the grant in the State, local, or tribal population, which may include information showing—

''(I) a high level of unemployment among youth (including young adults) ages 14 through 24;

''(II) a high rate of out-of-school youth;

''(III) a high rate of homelessness;

''(IV) a high rate of poverty;

''(V) a high rate of adult unemployment;

''(VI) a high rate of community or neighborhood crime;

''(VII) a high rate of violence; or

''(VIII) a high level or rate on another indicator of need;

''(iv) a description of the strategic objectives the eligible entity seeks to achieve through the program to provide eligible youth with core work readiness skills, which may include—

''(I) financial literacy skills, including providing the support described in section 129(b)(2)(D);

''(II) sector-based technical skills aligned with employer needs;

''(III) skills that—

''(aa) are soft employment skills, early work skills, or work readiness skills; and

''(bb) include social skills, communications skills, higher-order thinking skills, self-control, and positive self-concept; and

''(IV) (for the marginalized eligible youth) basic skills like communication, math, and problem solving in the context of training for advancement to better jobs and postsecondary training; and

''(v) information demonstrating that the eligible entity has obtained commitments to provide the non-program share described in paragraph (2) of subsection (h).

''(B) With respect to an application for a planning grant—

''(i) a description of the intermediate and long-term goals for planning activities for the duration of the planning grant;

''(ii) a description of how grant funds will be used to develop a plan to provide summer employment services for eligible youth;

''(iii) a description of how the eligible entity will carry out an analysis of best practices for identifying, recruiting, and engaging program participants, in particular the marginalized eligible youth;

''(iv) a description of how the eligible entity will carry out an analysis of best practices for placing youth participants—

''(I) in opportunities that—

''(aa) are appropriate subsidized employment opportunities with employers based on factors including age, skill, experience, career aspirations, work-based readiness, and barriers to employment; and

''(bb) may include additional services for participants, including core work readiness skill development and mentorship services;

''(II) in summer employment that—

''(aa) is not less than 6 weeks;

''(bb) follows a schedule of not more than 20 hours per week;

''(cc) pays wages at rates not less than the applicable Federal, State, or local minimum wage rate; and

''(dd) for employment involving construction, pays wages at rates not less than those previously on similar construction in the locality as determined by the Secretary in accordance with subchapter IV of chapter 31 of title 40, United States Code (commonly known as the 'Davis-Bacon Act'); and

''(v) a description of how the eligible entity plans to develop a mentorship program or connect youth with positive, supportive mentorships, consistent with paragraph (3).

''(C) With respect to an application for an implementation grant—

''(i) a description of how the eligible entity plans to identify, recruit, and engage program participants, in particular the marginalized eligible youth;

''(ii) a description of the manner in which the eligible entity plans to place eligible youth participants in subsidized employment opportunities, and in summer employment, described in subparagraph (B)(iv);

''(iii) (for a program serving the marginalized eligible youth), a description of workplaces for the subsidized employment

involved, which may include workplaces in the public, private, and nonprofit sectors;

''(iv) a description of how the eligible entity plans to provide or connect eligible youth participants with positive, supportive mentorships, consistent with paragraph (3);

''(v) a description of services that will be available to employers participating in the youth employment program, to provide supervisors involved in the program with coaching and mentoring on—

''(I) how to support youth development;

''(II) how to structure learning and reflection; and

''(III) how to deal with youth challenges in the workplace;

''(vi) a description of how the eligible entity plans to offer structured pathways back into employment and a youth employment program under this section for eligible youth who have been terminated from employment or removed from the program;

''(vii) a description of how the eligible entity plans to engage eligible youth beyond the duration of the summer employment opportunity, which may include—

''(I) developing or partnering with a year-round youth employment program;

''(II) referring eligible youth to other year-round programs, which may include—

''(aa) programs funded under section 176C or the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006 (20 U.S.C. 2301 et seq.);

''(bb) after school programs;

''(cc) secondary or postsecondary education programs;

''(dd) training programs;

''(ee) cognitive behavior therapy programs;

''(ff) apprenticeship programs; and

''(gg) national service programs;

''(III) employing a full-time, permanent staff person who is responsible for youth outreach, followup, and recruitment; or

''(IV) connecting eligible youth with job development services, including career counseling, resume and job application assistance, interview preparation, and connections to job leads;

''(viii) evidence of the eligible entity's capacity to provide the services described in this subsection; and

''(ix) a description of the quality of the summer youth employment program, including a program that leads to a recognized postsecondary credential.

''(2) INDIAN TRIBE; TRIBAL ORGANIZATIONS.—An eligible entity that is an Indian tribe or tribal organization and desires to receive a grant under this section for a summer youth employment program may, in lieu of submitting the application described in paragraph (1), submit an application to the Secretary that meets such requirements as the Secretary develops after consultation with the tribe or organization.

''(3) MENTOR.—For purposes of subparagraphs (B)(iv), (B)(v), and (C)(iv) of paragraph (1), a mentor—

''(A) shall be an individual who has been matched with an eligible youth based on the youth's needs;

''(B) shall make contact with the eligible youth at least once each week;

''(C) shall be a trusted member of the local community; and

''(D) may include—

''(i) a mentor trained in trauma-informed care (including provision of trauma-informed trauma prevention, identification, referral, or support services to youth that have experienced or are at risk of experiencing trauma), conflict resolution, and positive youth development;

''(ii) a job coach trained to provide youth with guidance on how to navigate the workplace and troubleshoot problems;

''(iii) a supervisor trained to provide at least two performance assessments and serve as a reference; or

''(iv) a peer mentor who is a former or current participant in the youth employment program involved.

''(e) AWARDS FOR POPULATIONS AND AREAS.—

''(1) POPULATIONS.—The Secretary shall reserve, from the amounts made available under section 176A(a)(1)—

''(A) 50 percent to award grants under this section for planning or provision of subsidized summer employment opportunities for in-school youth; and

''(B) 50 percent to award such grants to plan for planning or provision of such opportunities for out-of-school youth.

''(2) AREAS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—In awarding the grants, the Secretary shall consider the regional diversity of the areas to be served, to ensure that urban, suburban, rural, and tribal areas are receiving grant funds.

''(B) RURAL AND TRIBAL AREA INCLUSION.—

''(i) RURAL AREAS.—Not less than 20 percent of the amounts made available under section 176A(a)(1) for each fiscal year shall be made available for activities to be carried out in rural areas.

''(ii) TRIBAL AREAS.—Not less than 5 percent of the amounts made available under section 176A(a)(1) for each fiscal year shall be made available for activities to be carried out in tribal areas.

''(f) PROGRAM PRIORITIES.—In allocating funds under this section, the Secretary shall give priority to eligible entities—

''(1) who propose to coordinate their activities—

''(A) with local or tribal employers; and

''(B) with agencies described in subsection (c)(2)(A)(i) to ensure the summer youth employment programs provide clear linkages to remedial, academic, and occupational programs carried out by the agencies;

''(2) who propose a plan to increase private sector engagement in, and job placement through, summer youth employment; and

''(3) who have, in their counties, States, or tribal areas (as compared to other counties in their State, other States, or other tribal areas, respectively), a high level or rate described in subsection (d)(1)(A)(iii).

''(g) USE OF FUNDS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—An eligible entity that receives a grant under this section may use the grant funds for services described in subsection (d).

''(2) DISCRETIONARY USES.—The eligible entity may also use the funds—

''(A) to provide wages to eligible youth in subsidized summer employment programs;

''(B) to provide eligible youth with support services, including case management, child care assistance, child support services, and transportation assistance; and

''(C) to develop data management systems to assist with programming, evaluation, and records management.

''(3) ADMINISTRATION.—An eligible entity may reserve not more than 10 percent of the grant funds for the administration of activities under this section.

''(4) CARRY-OVER AUTHORITY.—Any amounts provided to an eligible entity under this section for a fiscal year may, at the discretion of the Secretary, remain available to that entity for expenditure during the succeeding fiscal year to carry out programs under this section.

''(h) PROGRAM SHARE.—

''(1) PLANNING GRANTS.—The program share for a planning grant awarded under this section shall be 100 percent of the cost described in subsection (a)(2)(A).

''(2) IMPLEMENTATION GRANTS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The program share for an implementation grant awarded under this section shall be 50 percent of the cost described in subsection (a)(2)(B).

''(B) EXCEPTION.—Notwithstanding subparagraph (A), the Secretary—

''(i) may increase the program share for an eligible entity; and

''(ii) shall increase the program share for an Indian tribe or tribal organization to not less than 95 percent of the cost described in subsection (a)(2)(B).

''(C) NON-PROGRAM SHARE.—The eligible entity may provide the non-program share of the cost—

''(i) in cash or in-kind, fairly evaluated, including plant, equipment, or services; and

''(ii) from State, local, tribal or private (including philanthropic) sources and, in the case of an Indian tribe or tribal organization, from Federal sources.

"SEC. 176C. YEAR-ROUND EMPLOYMENT COMPETITIVE GRANT PROGRAM.

''(a) IN GENERAL.—

''(1) GRANTS.—Using the amounts made available under 176A(a)(2), the Secretary shall award, on a competitive basis, planning and implementation grants.

''(2) GENERAL USE OF FUNDS.—The Secretary shall award the grants to assist eligible entities by paying for the program share of the cost of—

''(A) in the case of a planning grant, planning a year-round youth employment program to provide subsidized year-round employment opportunities; and

''(B) in the case of an implementation grant, implementation of such a program to provide such opportunities.

''(b) PERIODS AND AMOUNTS OF GRANTS.—The planning grants shall have the periods and amounts described in section 176B(b)(1). The implementation grants shall have the periods and grants described in section 176B(b)(2).

''(c) ELIGIBLE ENTITIES.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—To be eligible to receive a planning or implementation grant under this section, an entity shall, except as provided in paragraph (2)—

''(A) be a—

''(i) State, local government, or Indian tribe or tribal organization, that meets the requirements of section 176B(c)(2); or

''(ii) community-based organization that meets the requirements of section 176B(c)(3); and

''(B) meet the requirements for a planning or implementation grant, respectively, specified in section 176B(c)(4).

''(2) YEAR-ROUND YOUTH EMPLOYMENT PROGRAMS.—For purposes of paragraph (1), any reference in section 176B(c)—

''(A) to a summer youth employment program shall be considered to refer to a year-round youth employment program; and

''(B) to a provision of section 176B shall be considered to refer to the corresponding provision of this section.

''(d) APPLICATION.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), an eligible entity desiring to receive a grant under this section for a year-round youth employment program shall submit an application to the Secretary at such time, in such manner, and containing such information as the Secretary may require, including, at a minimum, each of the following:

''(A) With respect to an application for a planning or implementation grant, the information and descriptions specified in section 176B(d)(1)(A).

''(B) With respect to an application for a planning grant, the descriptions specified in section 176B(d)(1)(B), except that the description of an analysis for placing youth in employment described in clause (iv)(II)(bb) of

that section shall cover employment that follows a schedule—

''(i) that consists of—

''(I) not more than 15 hours per week for in-school youth; and

''(II) not less than 20 and not more than 40 hours per week for out-of-school youth; and

''(ii) that depends on the needs and work-readiness level of the population being served.

''(C) With respect to an application for an implementation grant, the descriptions and evidence specified in section 176B(d)(1)(C)—

''(i) except that the reference in section 176B(d)(1)(C)(ii) to employment described in section 176B(d)(1)(B) shall cover employment that follows the schedule described in subparagraph (B); and

''(ii) except that the reference to programs in clause (vii)(II)(aa) of that section shall be considered to refer only to programs funded under the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006 (20 U.S.C. 2301 et seq.).

''(D) With respect to an application for an implementation grant—

''(i) a description of how the eligible entity plans to provide mental health services, as needed, to eligible youth participants; and

''(ii) a description of how the eligible entity plans to address barriers to participation among eligible youth, including provding transportation and child care.

''(2) INDIAN TRIBE; TRIBAL ORGANIZATIONS.—An eligible entity that is an Indian tribe or tribal organization and desires to receive a grant under this section for a year-round youth employment program may, in lieu of submitting the application described in paragraph (1), submit an application to the Secretary that meets such requirements as the Secretary develops after consultation with the tribe or organization.

''(3) MENTOR.—For purposes of paragraph (1), any reference in subparagraphs (B)(iv), (B)(v), and (C)(iv) of section 176B(d)(1) to a mentor shall be considered to refer to a mentor who—

''(A) shall be an individual described in subparagraphs (A) and (C) of section 176B(d)(3);

''(B) shall make contact with the eligible youth at least twice each week; and

''(C) may be an individual described in section 176B(d)(3)(D).

''(4) YEAR-ROUND EMPLOYMENT.—For purposes of this subsection, any reference in section 176B(d)—

''(A) to summer employment shall be considered to refer to year-round employment; and

''(B) to a provision of section 176B shall be considered to refer to the corresponding provision of this section.

''(e) AWARDS FOR POPULATIONS AND AREAS; PRIORITIES.—

''(1) POPULATIONS.—The Secretary shall reserve, from the amounts made available under section 176A(a)(2)—

''(A) 50 percent to award grants under this section for planning or provision of subsidized year-round employment opportunities for in-school youth; and

''(B) 50 percent to award such grants to plan for planning or provision of such opportunities for out-of-school youth.

''(2) AREAS; PRIORITIES.—In awarding the grants, the Secretary shall—

''(A) carry out section 176B(e)(2); and

''(B) give priority to eligible entities—

''(i) who—

''(I) propose the coordination and plan described paragraphs (1) and (2) of section 176B(f), with respect to year-round youth employment; and

''(II) meet the requirements of section 176B(f)(3); or

''(ii) who—

''(I) propose a plan to coordinate activities with entities carrying out State, local, or tribal summer youth employment programs, to provide pathways to year-round employment for eligible youth who are ending summer employment; and

''(II) meet the requirements of section 176B(f)(3).

''(f) USE OF FUNDS.—An eligible entity that receives a grant under this section may use the grant funds—

''(1) for services described in subsection (d);

''(2) as described in section 176B(g)(2), with respect to year-round employment programs;

''(3) as described in section 176B(g)(3), with respect to activities under this section; and

''(4) at the discretion of the Secretary, as described in section 176B(g)(4), with respect to activities under this section.

''(g) PROGRAM SHARE.—

''(1) PLANNING GRANTS.—The provisions of section 176B(h)(1) shall apply to planning grants awarded under this section, with respect to the cost described in subsection (a)(2)(A).

''(2) IMPLEMENTATION GRANTS.—The provisions of section 176B(h)(2) shall apply to implementation grants awarded under this section, with respect to the cost described in subsection (a)(2)(B).

''SEC. 176D. EVALUATION AND ADMINISTRATION.

''(a) PERFORMANCE MEASURES.—

''(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary shall establish performance measures for purposes of carrying out annual reviews under subsection (b) and of developing and implementing a system of continuous quality improvement under subsection (c).

''(2) COMPONENTS.—The performance measures for the eligible entities shall consist of—

''(A) the indicators of performance described in paragraph (3); and

''(B) an adjusted level of performance for each indicator described in subparagraph (A).

''(3) INDICATORS OF PERFORMANCE.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The indicators of performance shall consist of—

''(i) the percentage of youth employment program participants who are in education or training activities, or in employment, during the second quarter after exit from the program;

''(ii) the percentage of youth employment program participants who are in education or training activities, or in employment, during the fourth quarter after exit from the program;

''(iii) the percentage of youth employment program participants who obtain a recognized postsecondary credential, or a secondary school diploma or its recognized equivalent (subject to subparagraph (B)), during participation in or within 1 year after exit from the program; and

''(iv) the percentage of youth employment program participants who, during a program year, are in a youth employment program that includes an education or training program that leads to an outcome specified by the Secretary, which may include—

''(I) obtaining a recognized postsecondary credential or employment; or

''(II) achieving measurable skill gains toward such a credential or employment.

''(B) INDICATOR RELATING TO CREDENTIAL.—For purposes of subparagraph (A)(iii), youth employment program participants who obtain a secondary school diploma or its recognized equivalent shall be included in the percentage counted as meeting the criterion under such subparagraph only if such participants, in addition to obtaining such diploma or its recognized equivalent, have obtained or retained employment or are in a youth employment program that includes an education or training program leading to a recognized postsecondary credential within 1 year after exit from the program.

''(4) LEVELS OF PERFORMANCE.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—For each eligible entity, there shall be established, in accordance with this paragraph, levels of performance for each of the corresponding indicators of performance described in paragraph (3).

''(B) IDENTIFICATION IN APPLICATION.—Each eligible entity shall identify, in the application submitted under subsection (d) of section 176B or 176C, expected levels of performance for each of those indicators of performance for each program year covered by the application.

''(C) AGREEMENT ON ADJUSTED LEVELS OF PERFORMANCE.—The eligible entity shall reach agreement with the Secretary on levels of performance for each of those indicators of performance for each such program year. The levels agreed to shall be considered to be the adjusted levels of performance for the eligible entity for such program years and shall be incorporated into the application prior to the approval of such application.

''(b) ANNUAL REVIEW.—The Secretary shall carry out an annual review of each eligible entity receiving a grant under this subtitle. In conducting the review, the Secretary shall review the performance of the entity on the performance measures under this section and determine if the entity has used any practices that shall be considered best practices for purposes of this subtitle.

''(c) CONTINUOUS QUALITY IMPROVEMENT.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall, in addition to conducting the annual review, develop and implement a system of continuous quality improvement designed to improve the quality of activities carried out under this subtitle.

''(2) ACTIVITIES.—In implementing the system, the Secretary shall carry out activities including—

''(A) using the performance measures established under this section, to assess the quality of employment programs funded under sections 176B and 176C and providing the eligible entities carrying out those programs with continuing feedback on their performance on those measures;

''(B) creating improvement plans to address quality issues concerning the employment programs;

''(C) providing targeted support (including technical assistance and training) to staff of the eligible entities on improving the quality of the employment programs in areas where the system demonstrates that improvements are needed; and

''(D) publishing and disseminating information on the quality of the employment programs.

''(d) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—

''(1) PREPARATION.—The Secretary shall prepare a report on the grant programs established by this subtitle, which report shall include a description of—

''(A) the eligible entities receiving funding under this subtitle;

''(B) the activities carried out by the eligible entities;

''(C) how the eligible entities were selected to receive funding under this subtitle;

''(D) an assessment of the results achieved by the grant programs including findings from the annual reviews conducted under subsection (b); and

''(E) a description of the development and implementation of, and outcomes from, the system of continuous quality improvement described in subsection (c).

''(2) SUBMISSION.—Not later than 3 years after the date of enactment of the AID

Youth Employment Act, and annually thereafter, the Secretary shall submit a report described in paragraph (1) to the appropriate committees of Congress.

''(e) APPLICATION TO INDIAN TRIBES AND TRIBAL ORGANIZATIONS.—The Secretary may issue regulations that clarify the application of all the provisions of this subtitle to Indian tribes and tribal organizations.

''SEC. 176E. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

''There are authorized to be appropriated—

''(1) to carry out section 176B, $375,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2024 through 2028; and

''(2) to carry out section 176C, $500,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2024 through 2028.''.

SEC. 3. CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.

(a) REFERENCES.—

(1) Section 121(b)(1)(C)(ii)(II) of the Workforce Investment and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3152(b)(1)(C)(ii)(II)) is amended by striking ''subtitles C through E'' and inserting ''subtitles C through F''.

(2) Section 503(b) of such Act (29 U.S.C. 3343(b)) is amended by inserting before the period the following: ''(as such subtitles were in effect on the day before the date of enactment of this Act)''.

(b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents in section 1(b) of such Act is amended by striking the item relating to the subtitle heading for subtitle E of title I and inserting the following:

''Subtitle E—Youth Employment Opportunities

''Sec. 176. Definitions.
''Sec. 176A. Allocation of funds.
''Sec. 176B. Summer employment competitive grant program.
''Sec. 176C. Year-round employment competitive grant program.
''Sec. 176D. Evaluation and administration.
''Sec. 176E. Authorization of appropriations.''.

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. MERKLEY, and Mr. WELCH):

S. 1275. A bill to impose limitations on attorney fees for Federal causes of action relating to water at Camp Lejeune, North Carolina, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

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

S. 1275

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 ''Protect Access to Justice for Veterans Act of 2023''.

SEC. 2. LIMITATION ON ATTORNEY FEES FOR FEDERAL CAUSE OF ACTION RELATING TO WATER AT CAMP LEJEUNE, NORTH CAROLINA.

Section 804 of the Sergeant First Class Heath Robinson Honoring our Promise to Address Comprehensive Toxics Act of 2022 (Public Law 117–168; 28 U.S.C. 2671 note prec.) is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

''(k) ATTORNEY FEES.—

''(1) LIMITATIONS.—No legal representative of an individual who brings an action under subsection (b) or who presents a claim under section 2675 of title 28, United States Code, pursuant to subsection (h) shall charge, demand, receive, or collect for services rendered in bringing such action or presenting such claim, fees in excess of—

''(A) 20 percent of an award, compromise, or settlement made or reached within 180 days after presenting a claim under section 2675 of title 28, United States Code, pursuant to subsection (h); and

''(B) 33.3 percent on a claim that is resolved by settlement, compromise, or judgement after the initiation of an action.

''(2) TERMS FOR PAYMENT OF FEES.—Any judgment rendered, settlement entered, compromise made, or other award made with respect to an action brought under subsection (b) or a claim presented under section 2675 of title 28, United States Code, pursuant to subsection (h) by a legal representative of an individual shall require the following:

''(A) All funds from the judgment, settlement, compromise, or other award shall be deposited into an account held in trust for the individual in accordance with all applicable provisions of State law.

''(B) The legal representative shall—

''(i) once any funds described in subparagraph (A) have been deposited into an account pursuant to such subparagraph, notify the individual of such deposit; and

''(ii) promptly deliver to such individual such amount of such funds as the individual is entitled to receive.

''(C) That no funds shall be paid from the account described in subparagraph (A) to a legal representative of the individual as compensation for services rendered to such individual until the relevant funds from such account have been disbursed to the individual in accordance with subparagraph (B).

''(3) PENALTIES.—

''(A) FEE LIMITATIONS.—Any legal representative who charges, demands, receives, or collects for services rendered in connection with an action under subsection (b) or a claim under section 2675 of title 28, United States Code, pursuant to subsection (h), any amount in excess of that allowed under paragraph (1) of this subsection, if recovery be had, shall be fined not more than $5,000.

''(B) TERMS FOR PAYMENT.—Failure of a legal representative subject to paragraph (2) to comply with a requirement of such paragraph shall be punishable consistent with the penalties provided in section 2678 of title 28, United States Code.

''(4) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to annul, alter, affect, or exempt any person from complying with the laws of any State or locality with respect to the practice of law, except to the extent that those laws are inconsistent with any provision of this subsection, and then only to the extent of the inconsistency.''.

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself and Ms. DUCKWORTH):

S. 1276. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to modify the work opportunity credit for certain youth employees; to the Committee on Finance.

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

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

S. 1276

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 ''Helping to Encourage Real Opportunities (HERO) for Youth Act of 2023''.

SEC. 2. MODIFICATION AND EXTENSION OF WORK OPPORTUNITY CREDIT FOR CERTAIN YOUTH EMPLOYEES.

(a) EXPANSION OF CREDIT FOR SUMMER YOUTH.—

(1) CREDIT ALLOWED FOR YEAR-ROUND EMPLOYMENT.—Section 51(d)(7)(A) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended—

(A) by striking clauses (i) and (iii) and redesignating clauses (ii) and (iv) as clauses (i) and (ii), respectively;

(B) in clause (i) (as so redesignated), by striking ''(or if later, on May 1 of the calendar year involved),'';

(C) by striking the period at the end of clause (ii) (as so redesignated) and inserting '', and''; and

(D) adding at the end the following new clause:

''(iii) who will be employed for not more than 20 hours per week during any period between September 16 and April 30 in which such individual is regularly attending any secondary school.''.

(2) INCREASE IN CREDIT AMOUNT.—Section 51(d)(7) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by striking subparagraph (B) and by redesignating subparagraph (C) as subparagraph (B).

(3) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(A) Subparagraph (F) of section 51(d)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by striking ''summer''.

(B) Paragraph (7) of section 51(d) of such Code is amended—

(i) by striking ''summer'' each place it appears in subparagraphs (A);

(ii) in subparagraph (B), as redesignated by paragraph (2), by striking ''subparagraph (A)(iv)'' and inserting ''subparagraph (A)(ii)''; and

(iii) by striking ''SUMMER'' in the heading thereof.

(b) CREDIT FOR DISCONNECTED YOUTH.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (1) of section 51(d) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by striking ''or'' at the end of subparagraph (I), by striking the period at the end of subparagraph (J) and inserting '', or'', and by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

''(K) an disconnected youth.''.

(2) DISCONNECTED YOUTH.—Paragraph (14) of section 51(d) of such Code is amended to read as follows:

''(14) DISCONNECTED YOUTH.—The term 'disconnected youth' means any individual who—

''(A)(i) is certified by the designated local agency as having attained age 16 but not age 25 on the hiring date, and

''(ii) has self-certified (on a form prescribed by the Secretary) that such individual—

''(I) has not regularly attended any secondary, technical, or post-secondary school during the 6-month period preceding the hiring date,

''(II) has not been regularly employed during such 6-month period, and

''(III) is not readily employable by reason of lacking a sufficient number of basic skills, or

''(B) is certified by the designated local agency as—

''(i) having attained age 16 but not age 21 on the hiring date, and

''(ii) an eligible foster child (as defined in section 152(f)(1)(C)) who was in foster care during the 12-month period ending on the hiring date.''.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to individuals who begin work for the employer after the date of the enactment of this Act.

By Mr. MCCONNELL:

S. 1277. A bill to modify the boundary of the Mammoth Cave National Park in

the State of Kentucky, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

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

S. 1277

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 ''Mammoth Cave National Park Boundary Adjustment Act of 2023''.

SEC. 2. MAMMOTH CAVE NATIONAL PARK BOUNDARY MODIFICATION.

Section 11 of the Act of June 5, 1942 (56 Stat. 319, chapter 341; 16 U.S.C. 404c–11), is amended—

(1) in the second paragraph, by striking ''the sum of not to exceed'' in the first sentence and all that follows through the period at the end of the paragraph and inserting ''such sums as are necessary.''; and

(2) by inserting after the second paragraph the following:

''The Secretary of the Interior may acquire approximately 980 acres of the land and any interests in the land generally depicted on the map entitled 'Mammoth Cave National Park Proposed Southern Boundary Expansion Edmonson and Barren Counties, Kentucky', numbered 135/177, 967, and dated April 28, 2022, for inclusion in the Mammoth Cave National Park.''.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 170—SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF WORLD MALARIA DAY

Mr. WICKER (for himself and Mr. COONS) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 170

Whereas April 25 of each year is recognized internationally as World Malaria Day;

Whereas malaria is a leading cause of death and disease in many developing countries, with nearly ½ of all cases globally occurring in only 4 countries, despite being preventable and treatable;

Whereas, at of the end of 2021, there were an estimated 247,000,000 malaria cases in 84 endemic countries and 619,000 deaths from malaria;

Whereas young children and pregnant women are particularly vulnerable to, and disproportionately affected by, malaria, with children younger than 5 years of age accounting for 76 percent of malaria deaths each year;

Whereas, between 2019 and 2021, an estimated additional 13,400,000 cases of malaria were attributed to disruptions during that period of the COVID–19 pandemic;

Whereas malaria was once a leading cause of death in the United States;

Whereas fighting malaria is in the national interest of the United States because reducing the risk of malaria protects members of the Armed Forces and other people of the United States serving overseas in malaria-endemic regions, and reducing malaria deaths helps to lower risks of instability in less developed countries;

Whereas the support of the United States for efforts to fight malaria—

(1) is in the diplomatic and moral interests of the United States;

(2) generates goodwill toward the United States; and

(3) highlights the values of the people of the United States through the work of governmental, nongovernmental, and faith-based organizations of the United States;

Whereas, between 2000 and 2021, global investments made in malaria intervention programs averted an estimated 2,000,000,000 malaria cases and 11,700,000 malaria deaths;

Whereas the Government of the United States has played a leading role in the recent progress made toward reducing the global burden of malaria, particularly through the President's Malaria Initiative and the contribution of the United States to the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria;

Whereas, in fiscal year 2021, the President's Malaria Initiative protected nearly 100,000,000 individuals by providing them with insecticide-treated bednets, more than 21,000,000 individuals by providing them with indoor insecticide spraying, more than 8,000,000 children by providing them with seasonal preventive treatments, and more than 5,000,000 women by providing them with preventive treatments in pregnancy;

Whereas the United States is the largest donor to the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, and every $1 contributed by the United States leverages an additional $2 from other donors, as required by law; and

Whereas the Government of the United States is pursuing a comprehensive approach to ending malaria deaths through the President's Malaria Initiative and the United States Agency for International Development, with assistance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the Department of State, the Department of Health and Human Services, the National Institutes of Health, the Department of Defense, and private sector entities: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) supports the goals and ideals of World Malaria Day;

(2) recognizes the importance of reducing malaria prevalence and deaths to improve overall child and maternal health, especially in sub-Saharan Africa;

(3) commends the recent progress made toward reducing global malaria morbidity, mortality, and prevalence, particularly through the efforts of the President's Malaria Initiative and the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria;

(4) commends the efforts and achievements of endemic countries in preventing and treating malaria at home, with locally-driven programs;

(5) welcomes ongoing public-private partnerships to research and develop more effective and affordable tools for malaria prevention, diagnosis, treatment, and vaccination;

(6) recognizes the goals, priorities, and authorities to combat malaria set forth in the Tom Lantos and Henry J. Hyde United States Global Leadership Against HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria Reauthorization Act of 2008 (Public Law 110–293; 122 Stat. 2918);

(7) supports efforts to reduce malaria case incidence and malaria mortality rates by not less than 90 percent by 2030;

(8) supports continued leadership by the United States in bilateral, multilateral, and private sector efforts to combat malaria and to work with developing countries to create long-term strategies to increase ownership over malaria programs; and

(9) encourages other members of the international community to sustain and increase their support for, and financial contributions to, efforts to combat malaria worldwide.

SENATE RESOLUTION 171—CONGRATULATING THE LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY FIGHTING TIGERS WOMEN'S BASKETBALL TEAM FOR WINNING THE 2023 NATIONAL COLLEGIATE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION DIVISION I WOMEN'S BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT CHAMPIONSHIP

Mr. CASSIDY (for himself and Mr. KENNEDY) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation:

S. RES. 171

Whereas, on Sunday, April 2, 2023, the Louisiana State University (referred to in this preamble as ''LSU'') Fighting Tigers women's basketball team won the 2023 National Collegiate Athletic Association (referred to in this preamble as ''NCAA'') National Championship, defeating the University of Iowa Hawkeyes by a score of 102 to 85;

Whereas the LSU Fighting Tigers won their first NCAA Division I Women's Basketball National Championship in LSU history;

Whereas during the NCAA Championship game—

(1) the LSU Fighting Tigers scored 102 points, becoming the first team to score more than 100 points in a NCAA Division I women's college basketball championship game;

(2) Jasmine Carson scored 21 points in the first 20 minutes to open up a 17 point lead;

(3) Alexis Morris, the only starter for the LSU Fighting Tigers returning from the 2021–2022 season, scored 21 points and a game-high 9 assists; and

(4) LaDazhia Williams scored 20 points, along with 5 rebounds and 3 steals;

Whereas head coach Kim Mulkey became the third coach with 4 or more national championships in NCAA Division I women's college basketball history, and the first to win a championship as a head coach of multiple programs;

Whereas the LSU Fighting Tigers finished the season with 34 wins and only 2 losses, including 15 wins and 1 loss in the Southeastern Conference (referred to in this preamble as ''SEC'');

Whereas 4 LSU Fighting Tigers players earned All-SEC Season Awards, awarded only to the premier players in the SEC, including—

(1) Angel Reese, who earned First Team All-SEC and SEC All-Defensive Team honors;

(2) Alexis Morris, who earned First Team All-SEC honors;

(3) Flau'Jae Johnson, who earned SEC All-Freshman Team honors; and

(4) Sa'Myah Smith, who earned SEC All-Freshman Team honors;

Whereas Angel Reese was named most outstanding player of the NCAA Division I Women's Basketball Tournament Final Four;

Whereas Angel Reese set an NCAA record for most double-doubles in a single season, with 34;

Whereas Flau'Jae Johnson was named SEC Freshman of the Year, becoming the fourth in school history to achieve that recognition;

Whereas the LSU Fighting Tigers demonstrated incredible teamwork and tenacity, with 9 freshman or transfer players playing in their first season for the LSU Fighting Tigers;

Whereas the LSU Fighting Tigers showed incredible sportsmanship and teamwork throughout the entire season; and

Whereas the LSU Fighting Tigers have made the entire State of Louisiana proud: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) congratulates the Louisiana State University Fighting Tigers for winning the 2023 National Collegiate Athletic Association Division I Women's Basketball Tournament Championship;

(2) recognizes the many achievements of the coaches, players, and staff of the Louisiana State University women's basketball team;

(3) recognizes the fans and the entire State of Louisiana for their dedication and support; and

(4) respectfully requests that the Secretary of the Senate transmit an enrolled copy of this resolution to—

(A) the head coach of the Louisiana State University women's basketball team, Kim Mulkey;

(B) the associate head coach, Bob Starkey;

(C) assistant coach, Daphne Mitchell;

(D) assistant coach, Gary Redus II;

(E) the president of Louisiana State University, William F. Tate IV; and

(F) the athletic director of Louisiana State University, Scott Woodward.

SENATE RESOLUTION 172—EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE ON UKRAINIAN VICTORY

Mr. BLUMENTHAL (for himself, Mr. GRAHAM, and Mr. WHITEHOUSE) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 172

Whereas Ukraine regained its independence in 1991 after three centuries of Moscow's imperial rule;

Whereas the United States encouraged Ukraine to abandon its arsenal of nuclear weapons, the third largest in the world at the time, in exchange for security assurances in the Budapest Memorandum of 1994;

Whereas the 2004 Orange Revolution and the Revolution of Dignity in 2014 demonstrated the commitment of Ukrainians to shared ideals of democracy and freedom and their desire for Euroatlantic integration;

Whereas the 2008 Bucharest North Atlantic Treaty Organization Summit Declaration states that ''NATO welcomes Ukraine's and Georgia's Euro-Atlantic aspirations for membership in NATO. We agree today that these countries will become members of NATO.'';

Whereas the initial Russian invasion of Ukraine in 2014 demonstrated the Russian regime's imperial fixation on controlling Ukraine, as well as the determination of the Ukrainian people to preserve their sovereignty and independence;

Whereas the Russian Federation launched a full-scale invasion of Ukraine in February 2022, grossly violating international norms, costing hundreds of thousands of people their lives, and displacing millions;

Whereas, in 2014, 2018, 2019, 2020, and 2022, the United Nations General Assembly affirmed the territorial integrity of Ukraine, and in November 2022, called on member states to create a mechanism for reparations to be paid to Ukraine;

Whereas, on February 18, 2023, the United States issued a finding that officials of the Russian Federation have committed crimes against humanity;

Whereas the threat to United States interests, European security, and global peace would greatly increase should Ukraine be unable to prevail against the invasion, by emboldening the Russian Federation and other autocratic states to engage in aggression against other states;

Whereas previous attempts to accommodate the Russian Federation's imperialism have resulted only in increasingly ruinous wars of aggression, anything short of victory for Ukraine would be an intolerable outcome for international peace, human rights, and democracy; and

Whereas United States interests, European security, and the cause of international peace depend on ensuring continued, robust, and longstanding United States support for Ukraine and all free nations from wars of aggression by Russia and its proxies, allies, or other autocratic states: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) affirms that it is the policy of the United States to see Ukraine victorious against the invasion and restored to its internationally recognized 1991 borders;

(2) holds that the peace brought by Ukrainian victory must be secured by integrating Ukraine into the North Atlantic Treaty Organization and other Euroatlantic institutions, as consistent with longstanding United States policy; and

(3) declares that the United States must work with its allies and partners to ensure that—

(A) the Russian Federation pays reparations to Ukraine;

(B) the global community helps to rebuild Ukraine;

(C) the leaders of the Russian Federation are held accountable for this war of aggression; and

(D) there is justice for victims of crimes committed by the Russian Federation during its invasion.

SENATE RESOLUTION 173—RECOGNIZING THE DUTY OF THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TO CREATE A GREEN NEW DEAL

Mr. MARKEY (for himself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BOOKER, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Ms. WARREN, Mr. WELCH, and Mr. WYDEN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works:

S. RES. 13

Whereas the October 2018 report entitled ''Special Report on Global Warming of 1.5 °C'' by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change and the November 2018 Fourth National Climate Assessment report found that—

(1) human activity is the dominant cause of observed climate change over the past century;

(2) a changing climate is causing sea levels to rise and an increase in wildfires, severe storms, droughts, and other extreme weather events that threaten human life, healthy communities, and critical infrastructure;

(3) global warming at or greater than 2 degrees Celsius beyond preindustrialized levels will cause—

(A) mass migration from the regions most affected by climate change;

(B) more than $500,000,000,000 in lost annual economic output in the United States by the year 2100;

(C) wildfires that, by 2050, will annually burn at least twice as much forest area in the western United States than was typically burned by wildfires in the years preceding 2019;

(D) a loss of more than 99 percent of all coral reefs on Earth;

(E) more than 350,000,000 more people to be exposed globally to deadly heat stress by 2050; and

(F) a risk of damage to $1,000,000,000,000 of public infrastructure and coastal real estate in the United States; and

(4) global temperatures must be kept less than 1.5 degrees Celsius above preindustrialized levels to avoid the most severe impacts of a changing climate, which will require—

(A) global reductions in greenhouse gas emissions from human sources of 40 to 60 percent from 2010 levels by 2030; and

(B) net-zero global emissions by 2050;

Whereas, because the United States has historically been responsible for a disproportionate amount of greenhouse gas emissions, having emitted 20 percent of global greenhouse gas emissions through 2014, and has a high technological capacity, the United States must take a leading role in reducing emissions through economic transformation;

Whereas the United States is currently experiencing several related crises, with—

(1) life expectancy declining while basic needs, such as clean air, clean water, healthy food, and adequate health care, housing, transportation, and education, are inaccessible to a significant portion of the United States population;

(2) a 4-decade trend of wage stagnation, deindustrialization, and antilabor policies that has led to—

(A) hourly wages overall stagnating since the 1970s despite increased worker productivity;

(B) the third-worst level of socioeconomic mobility in the developed world before the Great Recession;

(C) the erosion of the earning and bargaining power of workers in the United States; and

(D) inadequate resources for public sector workers to confront the challenges of climate change at the Federal, State, and local level; and

(3) the greatest income inequality since the 1920s, with—

(A) the top 1 percent of earners accruing 91 percent of gains in the first few years of economic recovery after the Great Recession;

(B) a large racial wealth divide amounting to a difference of 20 times more wealth between the average White family and the average Black family; and

(C) a gender earnings gap that results in women earning approximately 80 percent as much as men, at the median;

Whereas climate change, pollution, and environmental destruction have exacerbated systemic racial, regional, social, environmental, and economic injustices (referred to in this preamble as ''systemic injustices'') by disproportionately affecting indigenous peoples, communities of color, migrant communities, deindustrialized communities, depopulated rural communities, the poor, low-income workers, women, the elderly, the unhoused, people with disabilities, and youth (referred to in this preamble as ''frontline and vulnerable communities'');

Whereas climate change constitutes a direct threat to the national security of the United States—

(1) by impacting the economic, environmental, and social stability of countries and communities around the world; and

(2) by acting as a threat multiplier;

Whereas the Federal Government-led mobilizations during World War II and the New Deal created the greatest middle class that the United States has ever seen, but many members of frontline and vulnerable communities were excluded from many of the economic and societal benefits of those mobilizations; and

Whereas the Senate recognizes that a new national, social, industrial, and economic

mobilization on a scale not seen since World War II and the New Deal era is a historic opportunity—

(1) to create millions of good, high-wage jobs in the United States;

(2) to provide unprecedented levels of prosperity and economic security for all people of the United States; and

(3) to counteract systemic injustices: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That it is the sense of the Senate that—

(1) it is the duty of the Federal Government to create a Green New Deal—

(A) to achieve the greenhouse gas and toxic emissions reductions needed to stay under 1.5 degrees Celsius of warming, through a fair and just transition for all communities and workers;

(B) to create millions of good, high-wage union jobs and encourage collective bargaining agreements to ensure prosperity and economic security for all people of the United States;

(C) to invest in the infrastructure and industry of the United States to sustainably meet the challenges of the 21st century;

(D) to secure for all people of the United States for generations to come—

(i) clean air and water;

(ii) climate and community resiliency;

(iii) healthy food;

(iv) access to nature; and

(v) a sustainable environment; and

(E) to promote justice and equity by stopping current, preventing future, and repairing historic oppression of indigenous peoples, communities of color, migrant communities, deindustrialized communities, depopulated rural communities, the poor, low-income workers, women, the elderly, the unhoused, people with disabilities, and youth (referred to in this resolution as ''frontline and vulnerable communities'');

(2) the goals described in subparagraphs (A) through (E) of paragraph (1) (referred to in this resolution as the ''Green New Deal goals'') should be accomplished through a 10-year national mobilization (referred to in this resolution as the ''Green New Deal mobilization'') that will require—

(A) building resiliency against climate change-related disasters, such as extreme weather, including by leveraging funding and providing investments for community-defined projects and strategies;

(B) repairing and upgrading the infrastructure in the United States, including—

(i) by eliminating pollution and greenhouse gas emissions as much as technologically feasible;

(ii) by guaranteeing universal access to clean water;

(iii) by reducing the risks posed by climate impacts; and

(iv) by ensuring that any infrastructure bill considered by Congress addresses climate change;

(C) meeting 100 percent of the power demand in the United States through clean, renewable, and zero-emission energy sources, including—

(i) by dramatically expanding and upgrading renewable power sources; and

(ii) by deploying new capacity;

(D) building or upgrading to energy-efficient, distributed, and ''smart'' power grids and ensuring affordable access to electricity;

(E) upgrading all existing buildings in the United States and building new buildings to achieve maximum energy efficiency, water efficiency, safety, affordability, comfort, and durability, including through electrification;

(F) spurring massive growth in clean manufacturing in the United States and removing pollution and greenhouse gas emissions from manufacturing and industry as much as is technologically feasible, including by expanding renewable energy manufacturing and investing in existing manufacturing and industry;

(G) working collaboratively with farmers and ranchers in the United States to remove pollution and greenhouse gas emissions from the agricultural sector as much as is technologically feasible, including—

(i) by supporting family farming;

(ii) by investing in sustainable farming and land use practices that increase soil health; and

(iii) by building a more sustainable food system that ensures universal access to healthy food;

(H) overhauling transportation systems in the United States to remove pollution and greenhouse gas emissions from the transportation sector as much as is technologically feasible, including through investment in—

(i) zero-emission vehicle and non-motorized alternative modes of transportation infrastructure and manufacturing;

(ii) clean, affordable, and accessible public transit; and

(iii) high-speed rail;

(I) mitigating and managing the long-term adverse health, economic, and other effects of pollution and climate change, including by providing funding for community-defined projects and strategies;

(J) removing greenhouse gases from the atmosphere and reducing pollution by restoring natural ecosystems through proven low-tech solutions that increase soil carbon storage, such as land preservation and afforestation;

(K) restoring and protecting threatened, endangered, and fragile ecosystems through locally appropriate and science-based projects that enhance biodiversity and support climate resiliency;

(L) cleaning up existing hazardous waste sites and abandoned sites and ensuring economic development and sustainability on those sites;

(M) identifying other emission and pollution sources and creating solutions to remove them; and

(N) promoting the international exchange of technology, expertise, products, funding, and services, with the aim of making the United States the international leader on climate action and to help other countries achieve a Green New Deal;

(3) a Green New Deal must be developed through transparent and inclusive consultation, collaboration, and partnership with frontline and vulnerable communities, labor organizations, worker cooperatives, civil society groups, academia, and businesses; and

(4) to achieve the Green New Deal goals and mobilization, a Green New Deal will require—

(A) providing and leveraging, in a way that ensures that the public receives appropriate ownership stakes and returns on investment, adequate capital (including through community grants, public banks, and other public financing), technical expertise, supporting policies, and other forms of assistance to communities, organizations, Federal, State, and local government agencies, and businesses working on the Green New Deal mobilization;

(B) ensuring that the Federal Government takes into account the complete environmental and social costs and impacts of emissions through—

(i) existing laws;

(ii) new policies and programs; and

(iii) ensuring that frontline and vulnerable communities shall not be adversely affected;

(C) providing resources, training, and high-quality education, including higher education, to all people of the United States, with a focus on frontline and vulnerable communities, so that all people of the United States may be full and equal participants in the Green New Deal mobilization;

(D) making public investments in the research and development of new clean and renewable energy technologies and industries;

(E) directing investments to spur economic development, deepen and diversify industry and business in local and regional economies, and build wealth and community ownership, while prioritizing high-quality job creation and economic, social, and environmental benefits in frontline and vulnerable communities, and deindustrialized communities, that may otherwise struggle with the transition away from greenhouse gas intensive industries;

(F) ensuring the use of democratic and participatory processes that are inclusive of and led by frontline and vulnerable communities and workers to plan, implement, and administer the Green New Deal mobilization at the local level;

(G) ensuring that the Green New Deal mobilization creates high-quality union jobs that pay prevailing wages, hires local workers, offers training and advancement opportunities, and guarantees direct replacement of lost wages, health care, retirement, and other benefits for workers affected by the transition;

(H) guaranteeing a job with a family-sustaining wage, adequate family and medical leave, paid vacations, and retirement security to all people of the United States;

(I) strengthening and protecting the right of all workers to organize, unionize, and collectively bargain free of coercion, intimidation, and harassment;

(J) strengthening and enforcing labor, workplace health and safety, antidiscrimination, and wage and hour standards across all employers, industries, and sectors;

(K) enacting and enforcing trade rules, procurement standards, and border adjustments with strong labor and environmental protections—

(i) to stop the transfer of jobs and pollution overseas; and

(ii) to grow domestic manufacturing in the United States;

(L) ensuring that public lands, waters, and oceans are protected and that eminent domain is not abused;

(M) obtaining the free, prior, and informed consent of indigenous peoples for all decisions that affect indigenous peoples and their traditional territories, honoring all treaties and agreements with indigenous peoples, and protecting and enforcing the sovereignty and land rights of indigenous peoples;

(N) ensuring a commercial environment where every businessperson is free from unfair competition and domination by domestic or international monopolies; and

(O) providing all people of the United States with—

(i) high-quality health care;

(ii) affordable, safe, and adequate housing;

(iii) economic security; and

(iv) clean water, clean air, healthy and affordable food, and access to nature.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGREEMENT—S.J. RES. 11

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that if cloture is invoked on the motion to proceed to S. 326, that notwithstanding rule XXII, the Committee on Environment and Public Works be discharged from further consideration of S.J. Res. 11 and that it be in order for Senator FISCHER to make a motion to proceed to S.J.

Res. 11; further, that at 4 p.m., the Senate vote on the motion to proceed; that if the motion to proceed is agreed to, the Senate immediately vote on passage of the joint resolution without any intervening action or debate; and that the time used related to the joint resolution count against the postcloture time on the motion to proceed to S. 326.

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

APPOINTMENTS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair, on behalf of the Republican Leader, pursuant to the provisions of Public Law 117–263, appoints the following individual to serve as a member of the National Commission on the Future of the Navy: Ms. Mackenzie Eaglen of Virginia.

The Chair, on behalf of the Ranking Member of the Senate Committee on Armed Services, pursuant to the provisions of Public Law 117–263, appoints the following individual to serve as a member of the National Commission on the Future of the Navy: Mr. Mitchell Waldman of Virginia.

ORDERS FOR WEDNESDAY, APRIL 26, 2023

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it stand adjourned until 10 a.m. on Wednesday, April 26; 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 Jacobs nomination postcloture; that all cloture time be considered expired at 12 noon; that the Senate recess following the confirmation vote until 2:15 p.m. to allow for the weekly caucus meetings; that at 2:15 p.m., the Senate vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the motion to proceed to Calendar No. 32, S. 326; further, that if the Jacobs nomination is confirmed, the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's actions.

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

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. President, I am advised by Leader SCHUMER that for the information of the Senate, there will be one rollcall vote at noon, one at 2:15 p.m., and at least one vote at 4 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 10 A.M. TOMORROW

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. President, 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 6:39 p.m., adjourned until Wednesday, April 26, 2023, at 10 a.m.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate:

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

JEFFERY MARTIN BARAN, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION FOR THE TERM OF FIVE YEARS EXPIRING JUNE 30, 2028 . (REAPPOINTMENT)

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

TOBIN JOHN BRADLEY, OF CALIFORNIA, 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 GUATEMALA.

MARGARET L. TAYLOR, OF MARYLAND, TO BE LEGAL ADVISER OF THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE, VICE JENNIFER GILLIAN NEWSTEAD, RESIGNED.

HARRY S TRUMAN SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION

BETTY Y. JANG, OF ILLINOIS, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE HARRY S TRUMAN SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION FOR A TERM EXPIRING DECEMBER 10, 2029. (REAPPOINTMENT)

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

TANYA J. BRADSHER, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE DEPUTY SECRETARY OF VETERANS AFFAIRS, VICE DONALD MICHAEL REMY, RESIGNED.

IN THE AIR FORCE

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 major

CHRISTINE B. OLIVARES

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 major

GILBERTO DELEON, JR.

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

BRADLEY M. MRAVIK

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

JUSTIN L. PURVIS

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

JOHN J. ADAMS

IN THE MARINE CORPS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant colonel

BRADLEY B. KELLER

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant colonel

NICHOLOS B. STAITON

IN THE NAVY

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 captain

BRYCE D. ABBOTT
PATRICK T. ACKER
JOSEPH H. ADAMS II
KYLE A. ADUSKEVICH
DOMINICK ALBANO
WILLIAM H. ALBERT
JOSHUA M. ALES
ROBEN E. ALFONSO
DOUGLAS W. ALLEY
ERIC R. ANDREWS
LARRY J. ARBUCKLE
ALEXANDER P. ARMATAS
ANDRES J. AVILES
ANDREW K. BARNETT
MATTHEW H. BEACH
ADAM T. BEAN
MICHAEL S. BEATY
SCOTT C. BEATY
MICHAEL A. BENDER
ALBERT L. BENOIT III
DAVID M. BIGAY
DEREK W. BINTZ
MEGHAN L. BODNAR
BRANDON M. BOOHER
VICTOR J. BOZA
BRADLEY C. BOZIN
JERMAINE B. BROOMS
ZACHARY R. BROWN
JEFFREY S. BRUNER
JASON C. BUDDE
WILLIAM S. BUFORD
THOMAS W. BULLOCK
THOMAS R. BUTTS, JR.
TIMOTHY L. CAMPBELL
JONATHAN B. CANTOR
AARON J. CARLSON
WILLIAM D. CARMACK
WILLIAM L. CARR
CHRISTOPHER M. CARREON
CHRISTOPHER J. CARTER
BRALYN E. CATHEY
KEVIN M. CHAMBLEY
ROBERT H. CHANDLER
STEPHEN D. CHIVERS
RICHARD M. CHRISTOFF
JOHN H. CIGANOVICH
STEVEN J. COBOS
CRAIG H. CONNOR
BENJAMIN J. COOPER
JOSHUA P. CORBIN
DAVID M. CRESCITELLI
NICHOLAS F. CUNNINGHAM
MATTHEW E. CURNEN
BRYAN S. DAHLQUIST
ROGER A. DAVIS
JAMIE L. DELCORE
RONALD A. DRAKE
TIMOTHY G. DROSINOS
MICHAEL S. DWAN
BRETT E. ELKO
RODNEY C. ERLER, JR.
HARRY C. EVANS III
JAMES L. EVANS
JEREMY R. EWING
JONATHAN J. FARACO
MATTHEW A. FAY
JOHN E. FITZPATRICK
SEAN C. FLANAGAN
ERIN E. FLINT
SYLVESTER R. FOLEY IV
DANIEL A. FOLLETT
MICHAEL K. FONTAINE
MARC E. FOREMAN
BRIAN A. FORSTER
BENJAMIN W. FOSTER
ROBERT L. FRANKLIN III
CHRISTOPHER A. GAHL
MARK P. GALLAGHER
RAYMOND J. GAMICCHIA
MATTHEW K. GARCIA
BRYAN E. GEISERT
PRESTON W. GILMORE
JASON N. GLAB
MATTHEW D. GLEASON
BENJAMIN P. GRANT
RICHARD B. GRANT
SEAN P. GRAY
WILLIAM M. GUHEEN III
JOHN M. HAESLER
BRIAN J. HASSE
RYAN C. HEINEMAN
COURTNEY S. HERDT
NICHOLAS S. HILL
WILBUR R. HINES, JR.
DAVID C. HOLLON
JOEL I. HOLWITT
JASON R. HORNING
MATTHEW G. HORTON
ERIC C. HUI
BRANDON C. HUNTER
TIMOTHY P. HURLEY
JACOB D. HURT
DEREK C. JASKOWIAK
BRANDON L. JENKINS
ERIC R. JOHNSON
JOSHUA L. JONES
JUSTIN M. KAPER
EREK A. KASSE
JAMES W. KAUBER
JOHN M. KILLILA
MICHAEL G. KING
ANDREW J. KOPACZ
MATTHEW I. KRULL
DANIEL D. KUITU
GEORGE G. KULCZYCKI
JOSEPH M. LAHER
DAVID J. LATTA
JASON A. LAUTAR
JEFFREY B. LAVERY
JIMMY L. LAWTON
MATTHEW D. LETCHER
TODD S. LEVANT
RICHARD B. LITCHFIELD
KELLY J. MAHAFFEY
ALAN T. MARDEGIAN
KEVIN M. MARSH
BENJAMIN J. MARTIN
MATTHEW L. MARTIN
CARLOS F. MARTINEZ
ANTHONY S. MASSEY

RYAN T. MATTSON
RICHARD T. MCCANDLESS
NEVIN A. MCCHESNEY
TAMMY S. MCCREARY
ROBERT J. MCDOWELL, JR.
JOHN K. MCGEE
DANIEL J. MCNAB
NICHOLAS A. MEYERS
MARK J. MILLER
MICHAEL V. MINERVINI
MICHAEL L. MINUKAS
TRAVIS A. MONTPLAISIR
NATHAN K. MOORE
JEFFERY J. MURAWSKI
KELECHI R. NDUKWE
ELIZABETH A. NELSON
SEAN M. NEWBY
PAUL W. NICKELL
JOHN P. NILLES
MATTHEW W. NOLAND
CHRISTOPHER M. NORRIS
COREY D. ODOM
DANIEL K. OHARA
PATRICK C. ONEILL
ELI C. OWRE
JASON N. PAPADOPOULOS
JOSHUA J. PETERS
JEREMIAH N. PETERSEN
CHRISTOPHER W. PETRO
CHARLES W. PHILLIPS
MICHAEL E. PIANO
THOMAS P. PICKERING
BRYAN S. PINCKNEY
JOSEPH J. PISONI
CORY D. POPE
DEREK A. RADER
JEREMIAH N. RAGADIO
BRIAN J. REITTER
ANDREW P. RIVAS
COLIN M. ROBERTS
MATT W. RODGERS
SCOTT J. ROSE
EMILY Y. ROYSE
EDISON C. RUSH
FRANK C. SANCHEZ
HOUSSAIN T. SAREINI
DANIEL J. SCHLESINGER
BRYAN W. SCHNEIDER
JEFFREY R. SCHWAB
ERIC D. SEVERSON
MICHAEL J. SIMPSON
ADAM C. SOUKUP
KIRK A. SOWERS
DONALD E. SPEIGHTS
JOHN W. STIGI
GARTH W. STORZ
JARROD W. STUNDAHL
MICAH T. SYBOR
JASON S. TARRANT
DANIEL J. THOMAS
MARTY D. TIMMONS
JAMES G. TUTHILL III
CLIFF J. UDDENBERG
THOMAS J. UHL
THOMAS H. VANHOOZER III
STEVEN E. VITRELLA
ROBERT A. WALLS
SEAN M. WELCH
STEVEN S. WHITWORTH
NICHOLAS A. WILLET
SHAWN T. WILLIAM
WILLIAM L. WILLIAMS, JR.
MICHAEL A. WITHERILL
CHRISTOPHER W. WOLFF
ROBERT E. WOODARDS
MATTHEW A. WRIGHT

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 captain

EDWARD A. CARLTON
JUAN L. CARRASCO
BRIAN D. DOHERTY
TERRA A. GRAY
JASON R. GROSE
CHARLES R. HARMON
JEANINE A. LANG
BRANDI S. MCGEHEE
CHRISTOPHER C. MULLER
ROGER D. PHELPS, JR.
ERIC L. POND
DAMON R. SUMERALL
GENEVIEVE G. UBINA

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 captain

ANDREA H. CAMERON
DAVID P. DURKIN
STANFORD E. FISHER III
GARY L. LAZZARO
MICHAEL A. NORTON
WARREN W. TOMLINSON

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 captain

MYLENE R. ARVIZO
MOLLIE A. BILY
JOHN M. BISHOP
JASON A. HICKLE
JUSTIN C. HLAVIN
NICHOLAS D. LEVINE
DAVID A. MCGLONE
COLIN S. MONK
PAUL W. MURCH
ANGELA C. OWENS
BRIAN K. RYGLOWSKI
BARTHOLOMEW J. SIEVENPIPER
DANIEL SORIA
ASHLEY S. WRIGHT

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 captain

SARAH E. ABBOTT
STACY J. G. ARENSTEIN
LINDSEY C. BUZZELL
DAVID L. CALHOUN
DEAN B. FARMER II
MITCHELL P. GRANT
SCOTT G. JOHNSON
TODD M. KEITH
ROBERT J. MCMILLAN
JOHN A. WALSH

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 captain

CURTIS BROWN
KYLE A. CALDWELL
SHAWN T. RUMBLEY
GARY M. SHELLEY

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 captain

MARK K. CORBLISS
OMAR A. HAIR
ANTOINE D. THORNTON

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 captain

HANNAH L. BEALON
JAYSON L. BEIER
JASON B. BLACKMON
DANNY R. BOUIE
NATHAN W. CONGER
JONATHAN D. DIETER
ANTHONY E. DOBSON
JOHN E. FALLON
CRAIG M. GILKEY
JOSEPH A. HOUSER
AARON M. MASSEY
JIMMIE L. NELSON
SEAN M. NELSON
RYAN A. RIPPEON
OSCAR W. SIMMONS IV
CARLTON B. SUMMERVILLE
BRIAN K. TYLER
STANLEY C. WARE

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 captain

CAMERON M. BALMA
MATTHEW R. BLANCHETTE
JOSEPH P. BOBROWSKI
JACOB B. CATALOGNA
BART M. DANGELO
BRIAN E. HARPUDER
JOHN D. HEAVRIN
SHANE P. JACOBS
ROBERT W. JOHNSTON
MELISSA S. MECCA
WALTER PAULI
STEPHANIE L. PHILLIPS
JONATHAN C. RAIA
MELINDA K. SCHRYVER

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 captain

ALAN M. BRECHBILL
DAVID J. TEBBE

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 captain

ROSS M. ANDERSON
PHILIP L. GESAMAN
CHAD M. HAMM
ROGER D. HORNE

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 captain

HOMER F. HENSY
JAMES J. HORNEF
KURTIS J. KRUG
GREGORY F. NOTARO

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 captain

TOMMIE G. CRAWFORD
WILLIAM J. GRAY
ANDRES V. PICO
JAMES L. RORER
SHANNON P. THOMPSON

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 captain

JOHN E. FAGE
SARAH M. FLAHERTY
ZACHARY F. HARRELL
REBECCA L. REBARICH

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 captain

GAVIN H. CLOUGH
JEREMY D. CRESTETTO
TIMOTHY M. DERBYSHIRE
BARBARA E. JONAS
JOHN E. KRUSE III
JADA E. LIGHTNING
PETER A. MALLORY, JR.
ANDREW C. OCONNOR
BENJAMIN F. VISGER
MATTHEW G. ZUBLIC

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 captain

JENNIFER J. LANDRY
DAVID R. MARINO
DOUGLAS W. PEARMAN
JONATHAN A. SAVAGE

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 captain

BRADLEY H. ABRAMOWITZ
BRIAN C. BROADWELL
JEFFERY L. BURKE
CHARLES Y. CHA
DEREK J. DYE
HENRY T. GILBERT IV
ERIC K. GRAEWERT
ERIC L. KIRK
COLIN G. LARKINS
MICHAEL K. MEADOR
KURT L. PODRAZIK
SHAWN D. TEASLEY
ERIC A. WEISS
CHELSEY L. ZWICKER

THE FOLLOWING NAMED INDIVIDUAL FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE REGULAR NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 531:

To be lieutenant commander

CHARLES G. EMOND, JR.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING GRAND VIEW CHRISTIAN HIGH SCHOOL BOYS' BASKETBALL FOR WINNING THE CLASS 1A BASKETBALL STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. ZACHARY NUNN

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 25, 2023

Mr. NUNN of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Grand View Christian Thunder boys high school basketball team for winning the Class 1A Basketball State Championship beating the Troy Mills North Linn Lynx.

An exciting game from the beginning, as Troy Mills North Linn led until right before the halftime when the Thunder pulled ahead by a slim margin.

After halftime and a solid third quarter, the Grand View Christian Thunder took the lead by double digits heading into the fourth quarter,

The game was not over yet, however, as the Thunder kept in stride and outscored the Lynx 12–8 in the final quarter and clinched the championship.

GVC ended with a 63–46 victory to claim their fourth state championship.

I want to congratulate Grand View Christian Thunder high school boys basketball team for their perseverance, athleticism, and grit to get the job done.

I also want to congratulate the coaches, staff, and parents who are all a part of this win.

Everyone in Des Moines is proud of their win.

INTRODUCTION OF THE YOUNG AMERICANS FINANCIAL LITERACY ACT

HON. ANDRÉ CARSON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 25, 2023

Mr. CARSON. Mr. Speaker, today I am pleased to re-introduce the Young Americans Financial Literacy Act. Financial literacy is critical to ensuring future financial responsibility. Studies have shown that 88 percent of Americans believe financial education should be taught in schools, and 92 percent of K–12 teachers believe financial education should be taught in school. Still, only 12 percent of teachers teach the subject. Yet, according to a 2020 survey, less than half of states require high school students to take a personal finance course, and less than 17 percent of high school students were required to take a semester-long personal finance course.

Congress has an opportunity and a responsibility to address the pressing needs of individuals faced with losing their financial stability and the challenges of economic uncertainty. This should include financial literacy education reform and long-term solutions to prevent future personal financial disasters. Research-based financial literacy education programs are needed to reach individuals at all ages and socioeconomic levels, particularly those facing unique and challenging financial situations, such as high school graduates entering the workforce, soon-to-be and recent college graduates, young families, and to address the unique needs of military personnel and their families. High school and college students exposed to cumulative financial education show an increase in financial knowledge, which drives increasingly responsible behavior as they become young adults.

According to the Government Accountability Office, giving Americans the information they need to make effective financial decisions can be critical to their well-being and the country's economic health. The global financial crisis, when many borrowers failed to understand the risks associated with certain financial products fully and currently, the economic hardships presented by the sudden disruptions caused by the spread of COVID–19, underscore the need to improve individuals' financial literacy and empower all Americans to make informed financial decisions. This is especially true for young people as they earn their first paychecks, secure student aid, and establish financial independence. Therefore, focusing on economic education, financial literacy efforts, and best practices for young people between the ages of 8 and 24 is of utmost importance.

America should lead the world with the best-educated students who-will drive our-economic innovation and success, so please join me in cosponsoring the Young Americans Financial Literacy Act. This act:

Establishes a grant program in the Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection to develop and implement financial literacy programs for young people ages eight to twenty-four;

Incentivizes the development of partnerships between institutions of higher education, local educational agencies, non-profit organizations, and financial institutions to develop programs aimed at young Americans in different phases of their life;

Ensures the development of evidence-based instructional material that is geared towards targeted groups and addresses unique life situations, including bankruptcy, foreclosure, student loans, credit card misuse; and

Conducts ongoing assessment and accountability of the program over the short- and long-term to ensure that grant money achieves the most significant impact.

I urge all of my colleagues to join me in supporting the Young Americans Financial Literacy Act.

PETTY OFFICER WALTER G. EIFE

HON. DONALD NORCROSS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 25, 2023

Mr. NORCROSS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and commend Petty Officer Walter G. Eife.

Born and raised in Haddon Township, New Jersey, Petty Officer Walter G. Eife served in the United States Navy as a Radar Technician and Radio Operator. From 1955 to 1962, Petty Officer Walter G. Eife served on active duty in the United States Navy. He attended bootcamp in Bainbridge, Maryland before attending Radar/Electronics school in Norfolk, Virginia. First assigned to submarine duty on the U.S.S. *Redfin*, Petty Officer Walter G. Eife was transferred to U.S.S. *DuPont* where he helped to patrol the North Atlantic and Mediterranean Sea for anti-submarine patrols.

During the Berlin Crisis, Petty Officer Walter G. Eife was again called to serve our Nation on active duty, stationed on the U.S.S. *McNair*. There he helped to patrol the North Atlantic and Baltic Sea on U.S.S. *Wasp* CVS 19, as a member of Hunter Killer Group Bravo. Their responsibility was to track and find Soviet submarines. Following his time on the west coast at Radar/Electronics school, Petty Officer Walter G. Eife was assigned to serve on the U.S.S. *Basilone* where he continued to assist in the efforts of tracking and locating Soviet submarines until 1965, when he was honorably discharged on St. Patrick's Day in Newport, Rhode Island. Following his active duty service, Petty Officer Walter G. Eife valiantly served our Nation for another two decades in the United States Naval Air Reserves.

As a civilian, Petty Officer Walter G. Eife utilized the knowledge gained in the military in his career where he dedicated thirty-five years to the telecommunications industry. Employed by Bell Telephone for twenty years prior to twelve years with AT&T, as well as another three years with Lucent Technologies. While working in the telecommunications industry, Petty Officer Eife served his fellow colleagues as President of Federation of Telephone Workers of Philadelphia, Local 12, which is recognized today as the Communications Workers of America.

Petty Officer Walter Eife has been a resident of South Jersey for the last 48 years. He is the husband of fifty-five years to Marge Eife, father of four Haddon Township High School graduates, and grandfather of fifteen. Petty Officer Walter G. Eife is a lifelong fervent volunteer across several local little leagues and high school sports. He has been a committed coach, umpire, writer for the local Retrospect newspaper, and served as Treasurer. He is also a dedicated member of the local VFW, American Legion, Fleet Reserve Association and Knights of Columbus, and is the recipient of the Good Conduct Medal, National Defense Medal and more for his service overseas.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join me in honoring and commending Petty Officer Walter G.

Eife of Haddon Township, New Jersey, a resident dedicated to his community, country, and those who have bravely served and defended the United States of America.

HONORING VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL BOYS' BASKETBALL FOR WINNING THE CLASS 4A BASKETBALL STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. ZACHARY NUNN

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 25, 2023

Mr. NUNN of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Valley High School Boys Basketball of West Des Moines for winning the Class 4A Basketball State Championship beating the Waukee Northwest Wolves.

Since 2018, the Valley Tigers had not been in the State Championship. However, when they showed up this year, they showed up to play.

Making 80 percent of three pointers and nearly 70 percent of the shots taken, the Tigers were here to win.

By outscoring and mastering the rebounding battle, they put up the points needed to maintain the lead.

In the final 8 minutes of the game, the Wolves went for a comeback, but Valley was prepared.

After a 4-year hiatus, the Tigers are Champions once again. The third state championship in the history of the school, and the second in the last seven years. Truly a monumental moment for the players, coach, staff, students, and parents.

We are so proud of all of them and know how meaningful this win truly is.

RECOGNIZING ROBERT BOSTON

HON. MICHAEL K. SIMPSON

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 25, 2023

Mr. SIMPSON. Mr. Speaker, with my colleagues Senator MIKE CRAPO and JIM RISCH, I rise today to honor the exceptional and distinguished career of Mr. Robert D. Boston. Mr. Boston has dedicated more than 38 years to federal service, that includes his 23 years of service at the U.S. Department of Energy.

Mr. Boston has led an impressive life and career, and we are most grateful for his leadership role as the Manager of the Department of Energy's Idaho Operations Office—a position he has honorably served in for many years. In this role, he has been responsible for oversight of the Idaho National Laboratory (INL), the nation's leading nuclear energy research, development, and demonstration laboratory; and for providing oversight of the environmental cleanup and waste management mission at the Idaho site.

As Deputy Manager and later Manager, he was instrumental in negotiating agreements between the Department of Energy and the State of Idaho. Many of these agreements have been critical to establishing the INL as the nation's lead nuclear research and development laboratory. Under his leadership, a path was created in the agreement for the INL to receive spent nuclear fuel for research purposes and an approach was developed for the handling of spent fuel from important on-site reactor demonstrations. These elements will ensure ongoing missions at the Lab.

The INL is home to the world's most powerful test reactor, the Advanced Test Reactor (ATR). This test reactor serves as the flagship irradiation facility in the U.S. and can simultaneously support a variety of experiments for multiple customers like the Department of Energy, the U.S. Navy, or university and industry partners. During his tenure, Mr. Boston oversaw the important maintenance overhaul of ATR Core Internals Changeout VI. The 11-month outage, the longest and most complex outage in ATR history, was completed in March of 2022 and will enable the nation's principal test reactor to continue safe operations critical to the Department's research portfolio and security mission.

Mr. Boston played a key role in DOE history when he led the effort to restart the Transient Test Reactor in 2017. This transient reactor facility, also known as TREAT, is a unique national asset and is now providing the Nation with a testing capability that has been missing since 1994. While in operation at INL, TREAT will help shape the future of clean energy and foster new ways to bring innovative reactor technologies to the market.

Under his leadership, the INL completed many major infrastructure improvements, and significantly improved research and development capabilities with state-of-the-art equipment and facilities. In addition to these improvements, Mr. Boston has also been involved in establishing new and innovative reactor projects, including the Versatile Test Reactor, the PELE Department of Defense reactor, and the Microreactor Applications Research Validation and Evaluation project (MARVEL), among others.

Mr. Boston will also leave an enduring impression on the future generations of nuclear engineers in Idaho. He is adjunct faculty at Idaho State University (ISU) and a member of the ISU Reactor Safety Committee, ISU Engineering Advisory Board, and the ISU Health Physics Advisory Board.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Boston's leadership has had a lasting impact on the advancement of the Idaho National Laboratory, the Nation's nuclear energy program and national security missions. We sincerely thank Mr. Boston for his dedicated service to our state and country and wish him well in this next chapter of his life.

HONORING THE CAREER OF SFC (RET.) ALAN CONRAD

HON. JIM BANKS

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 25, 2023

Mr. BANKS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the career of SFC Alan Conrad, JROTC Army Instructor at Concordia Lutheran High School, who is retiring at the end of the school year.

Sergeant Conrad has been the Army Instructor at Concordia Lutheran for a remarkable 29 years. In this role, he's helped fulfill the mission of the Army's JROTC program: ''To Motivate Young People to be Better Citizens.'' For nearly 30 years, his commitment to students has helped shape new generations of leaders.

Prior to his career al Concordia, Sergeant Conrad was active duty in the Army. As a Communication SGT, Conrad was assigned to Special Forces Detachment Alpha where he deployed several times to Central and Latin America between 1983 and 1986 as part of the military's efforts to monitor and arrest the flow of illegal drugs to the United States.

SFC Conrad's service also included multiple deployments to the U.S.-Mexico border to work with the U.S. Border Patrol's BORTAC unit, whose mission is to neutralize terror threats to the American homeland.

With 15 years of active service in the Army, Conrad earned numerous awards and decorations, including the Master Parachutists' Badge, Special Forces Tab, and the Special Forces 'S' Identifier. Civilian awards he earned include the Department of the Army Commander's Award for Civilian Service, Independent Colleges of Indiana ''Realizing the Dream'' Award and the WKJG TV Teacher Award.

I wish him the very best as he begins a new chapter of his life. I'm proud to present this official congressional document to him as a token of gratitude on behalf of all of Congress for his service to our community and country. Men like Conrad make our country great, and for him we are most grateful.

SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTER OF IOWA—JORGE VILLEDA—IN OTTUMWA (WAPELLO COUNTY)

HON. ZACHARY NUNN

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 25, 2023

Mr. NUNN of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Jorge Villeda of Ottumwa for receiving the Neal Smith Entrepreneur of the Year Award from the Small Business Development Center of Iowa.

Jorge is the type of individual who believed in the American Dream and worked hard to achieve it. He is the true definition of inspiration to us as Iowans and to all of us as Americans.

His father was his encouragement all along as he had owned his own successful business in El Salvador.

Jorge took the skills of good customer service and the value of hard work from his early days working in his dad's grocery store. He started his own construction business Villeda Construction in Ottumwa.

He always loved hard work, so he started a business that combined his two favorite things—customer service and construction.

Mr. Villeda's achievements, personally and professionally, are a testament to what can be done if you never stop believing and working hard. Jorge's story also demonstrates how, in a state like Iowa, anything is possible.

I want to again congratulate Jorge for his achievement. His passion, dedication, and persistence are an encouragement to every person who has ever had a dream worth chasing.

RECOGNIZING THE REVEREND DR. EUGENE JOHNSON ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT AS PASTOR OF MOUNT OLIVE BAPTIST CHURCH

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 25, 2023

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate the Reverend Dr. Eugene Johnson on his retirement after 30 years of faithful leadership at Mount Olive Baptist Church in Centreville, Virginia. Mount Olive Baptist Church has served the spiritual needs of those in the Centreville and Northern Virginia communities for nearly 120 years, and Dr. Johnson's leadership has positioned this institution for another century of success.

Rev. Dr. Eugene Johnson was born in New Orleans, Louisiana, and raised in nearby Oakville. His father was a minister and his mother worked avidly for the good of the community. Dr. Johnson received a Bachelor of Architecture Degree from Southern University, Baton Rouge, in 1970. He earned his Master of Divinity Degree at Howard University in 1989, and in 2006, the Richmond Virginia Seminary conferred on him the prestigious Honorary Doctor of Divinity Degree for his exemplary leadership and service.

Before assuming full-time pastoral duties, Dr. Johnson was known as a national expert in design, art, and architecture. He served as the principle Resident Architect with the Federal Highway Administration and was credited as being the first African American in many of the agency's national accomplishments. Dr. Johnson has been recognized for his efforts that resulted in the designation of ''All-American Road'' to the historic Selma-to-Montgomery March for Voting Rights route. This march, led by the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., began on March 21, 1965, with 3,200 marchers. Four days later, on March 25, 1965, 25,000 marchers had joined.

In 1992, Dr. Eugene Johnson assumed the leadership of Mount Olive Baptist Church. Under his guidance, the Church has experienced unprecedented growth in not only the number of members, but also in its activities and influence. Membership has increased nearly ten-fold from 250 members in 1992 to more than 2,000 today, including many young people.

Dr. Johnson inspired his congregation with his timely sermons and his compassion for all people in every aspect of their lives. In the midst of a global pandemic, Dr. Johnson led Mount Olive Baptist Church in continuing the good works of ministering to the hopeless, caring for the sick and shut-in, providing food for the hungry, and speaking up for the voiceless. He truly embodied the congregation's core values of community and service throughout this unprecedented time.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating Rev. Dr. Eugene Johnson on this momentous occasion, and in commending him for his service to Mount Olive Baptist Church and our community.

CONGRATULATING NATIONAL COMPUTER SCIENCE TEACHER OF THE YEAR JEROME SWIATEK, JR.

HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 25, 2023

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize my constituent, Jerome ''Jerry'' Swiatek, Jr., who teaches at Citrus High School.

Mr. Swiatek, Jr. was recently awarded the National Computer Science Teacher of the Year Award for his work implementing the Project Lead the Way curriculum. He has been a valued member of the team at Citrus County School District for more than 18 years and has taught at Citrus High School for the past 13 years. Mr. Swiatek, Jr. was the first ever computer science teacher at the school's Academy of Computer Science which helps prepare young students for continued learning and career opportunities in the field of STEM. Since 2017, he has grown the program from approximately 40 students to well over 200 students across all four grade levels.

I Thank Jerome Swiatek, Jr. for his service to our community. He is making a profound impact on the lives of those he serves and helping to strengthen our regional workforce by preparing his students with the tools needed for success in high skill/high demand careers. I wish him continued success for many years to come.

MUSLIM-AMERICAN HERITAGE APPRECIATION MONTH

HON. SUZANNE BONAMICI

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 25, 2023

Ms. BONAMICI. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the celebration of Muslim-American Heritage Appreciation Month, which the City of Beaverton, Oregon and its communities and community partners across Oregon recognized in March of 2023. I honor the many contributions of the more than 20,000 Muslim Americans in Beaverton and throughout the State of Oregon who have made many valuable contributions to the city and community. The Muslim community in Oregon compromises different races and ethnicities and includes those both in the United States and those who immigrated from all over the world. Muslim-American Heritage Appreciation Month is an opportunity to spread awareness of the many facets of the Muslim Community and to condemn the islamophobia they have faced.

The month of March also includes the holy month of Ramadan on the Islamic lunar calendar, where observing Muslims fast from sunrise to sunset for 30 days starting March 22nd and concluding the evening of April 21st. At the end of this holy time, Muslims celebrate Eid Al-Fitr, one of the most significant holidays of the year.

I celebrate the many community events that were held throughout this month, including cultural night dinners, Ramadan food box distribution, toy drives for refugee foster youth, and Iftar community meals. I also recognize the many contributions of community organizations that have built this effort. Some include Cool Islam, which offers youth programming, toy drives, and assistance to help children learn about being Muslim; and The Islamic Society of Greater Portland, which works to develop continuing relationships in the greater community and confront the islamophobia that Muslim people living in the United States face too often.

I appreciate the dedication of these organizations and community partners and join with them in honoring the contributions of Muslim Americans in the Beaverton community as we recognize March 2023 as Muslim-American Heritage Month.

RECOGNIZING MAYOR LEONARD JONES' 25 YEARS OF ELECTED SERVICE TO GRANDVIEW, MISSOURI

HON. EMANUEL CLEAVER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 25, 2023

Mr. CLEAVER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the distinguished career of Mayor Leonard D. Jones, Jr., who has served as an elected representative of the people of Grandview, Missouri for 25 years. On this historic occasion, let us take a moment to reflect on Mayor Jones' illustrious career, which has come to be defined by dedication and distinction.

Having lived in Grandview, Missouri since 1970, Mayor Jones graduated from Grandview High School before earning his bachelor's degree in computer science at Grambling State University and his Master of Business Administration at Webster University. On top of these academic accomplishments, Mayor Jones has achieved the lifetime Certified Purchasing Manager designation. Mayor Jones and his wife, Michelle, have three daughters, three grandsons, and one great granddaughter.

First elected to the Grandview Board of Alderman in 1998, Mayor Jones served as Alderman Ward 1 for the next sixteen consecutive years, until becoming the city's mayor in 2014—a position he has maintained for nearly a decade. From the moment he took the oath of office, Mayor Jones began restoring trust in local government and public institutions, thereby earning the respect and admiration from residents on both sides of the aisle. Always putting the needs of the community first, Mayor Jones has been a tireless advocate for his constituents for a quarter century, forever focused on improving the lives of all those he serves.

Currently, Mayor Jones serves as a Board Member of the Mid-America Regional Council's Total Transportation Policy Committee, in addition to serving on the Board of Trustees of the Little Blue Valley Sewer District. Moreover, Mayor Jones has served on the Grandview Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors, the ReDiscover Board of Directors, the Missouri Municipal League Finance Committee, the HENA Executive Committee, the Grandview Assistance Program Board of Directors, and the National League of Cities Service Line Warranty Committee. It goes without saying that Mayor Jones' commitment to public service is sincere and profound, and Grandview is

a better place to call home thanks to his championing of its people.

During his time in executive office, Mayor Jones has overseen significant population growth, the development of countless new housing units, a sharp increase in commercial activity, abundant construction, an uptick in revenue, and a decrease in crime rates throughout the City of Grandview. With a population of over 25,000 people, Grandview is well served by its insightful Mayor and the determination with which he approaches the challenges facing everyday people. From repairing streets and sidewalks, to revitalizing public parks, Mayor Jones has consistently delivered tangible results for the people of Grandview while acting as a faithful steward of the tax dollars to which the City is entrusted.

Beyond his responsibilities as Mayor and a member of several boards of directors, Mayor Jones retired from Sprint/T-Mobile after working in various positions within the company for 34 years. Mayor Jones is the recipient of the 2015 Distinguished Alumni Award from Metropolitan Community College-Longview and the 2019 Jane Bryan Distinguished Alumni Award. He has served on past and current ad hoc committees with the Little Blue Valley Sewer District Board of Trustees and Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 8100. Additionally, Mayor Jones served our country in uniform and achieved the rank of Lieutenant Commander as a Supply Corps Officer in the U.S. Naval Reserves. Grandview's mayor has never failed to lead by example, and his years of service to his community and our Nation will continue to inspire for generations to come.

On behalf of the 118th Congress, I applaud Mayor Jones for serving the good people of Grandview, Missouri for the last 25 years in elected office. Mayor Jones' outstanding record of public service should serve as an example for people throughout this great country, and I want to wish the Mayor all the best in the years to come.

HONORING BONDURANT-FARRAR HIGH SCHOOL BOYS' BASKETBALL FOR WINNING THE CLASS 3A BASKETBALL STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. ZACHARY NUNN

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 25, 2023

Mr. NUNN of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Bondurant-Farrar Bluejays boys high school basketball team for winning the Class 3A Basketball State Championship beating the Cedar Rapids Xavier Saints.

Bondurant-Farrar Bluejays and Cedar Rapids Xavier Saints put up nothing short of exciting basketball throughout the whole game of the Class 3A State Championship.

The Bluejays had a perfect, undefeated season coming into the final game, with exceptional execution of timely plays and solid free throws to beat the Saints 58 to 55.

This was not without a fight as the Saints led the Bluejays almost the whole game.

In fantastic fashion of what Iowans love to see in a final game, the ball went back and forth till the very last second of it.

This was true championship level basketball by both teams.

Congratulations to Bondurant-Farrar Bluejays high school boys basketball team for a heck of a season and a thrill of a championship game.

Congratulations are in order as well for the coaches, staff, and dedicated parents.

They have made me proud to call Bondurant home.

RECOGNIZING FIRST UNITED BANK

HON. TOM COLE

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 25, 2023

Mr. COLE. Mr. Speaker, today, I celebrate the grand opening of a very impressive building in my hometown of Moore, Oklahoma. First United Bank, which is based in Durant, Oklahoma, has a long history of community service and working with community members to achieve their financial goals while lifting up those around them.

First United Bank has reinforced its commitment to the Moore community with a building that will not only house all its financial partners and services under one roof but will also serve as a community center for Moore and the greater Oklahoma City Metro. In keeping with First United's other locations, there will be free community spaces; lobby items that celebrate and educate on the Bank's four pillars: financial wellbeing, personal growth, health & wellness, and faith; food truck hook-ups; training rooms; and a large space that community members can use to host events free of cost. This is a multi-million-dollar investment in the Moore community.

As a lead up to the actual grand opening, First United Bank hosted several events and activities for the residents of Moore and the surrounding community to participate in. These events included a blood drive, a free shred day, a pastor appreciation luncheon with a renowned author and theologian, and a book fair where each student at a local elementary school received two free books courtesy of the bank. I am grateful for the work of First United Bank and its commitment to help others ''Spend Life Wisely,'' and I celebrate the opening of this incredible building.

HONORING THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND LEGACY OF MR. COMMAND SERGEANT MAJOR (RET) JAMES A. MCNAIR

HON. PATRICK RYAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 25, 2023

Mr. RYAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of Mr. Command Sergeant Major (ret) James A. McNair, devoted husband to Esther G. McNair (deceased); beloved father, grandfather, and great grandfather; decorated veteran; cherished friend and admired mentor, passed away in El Paso, Texas, on March 31, 2023.

James McNair was born the 11th child of James and Mary Magee McNair on their 100 acre family farm in Mt. Olive, MS. He and his siblings would work on the farm before heading off to school each day. At Lincoln High School, he drove a school bus to help ensure other students got to and from school safely. He graduated from high school early and entered the United States Army. Soon after, while visiting his brother in Tuskegee, AL, James met his love, Esther Greene. They shared a passion for dancing, family, education, and service. They were soon married and journeyed through life together until her passing in 2005.

CSM McNair served in the U.S. Army for 30 years, including serving at Ft. Bliss, TX, Aberdeen Proving Ground, MD, Alaska, Europe, and Korea. He received many commendations, medals, and awards, including the Meritorious Service Medal and the Legion of Merit. He retired in 1985 and was recognized on the floor of the United States House of Representatives for his distinguished service, saying ''His outstanding service to his country will long be remembered by his fellow soldiers and greatly appreciated by his fellow Americans.''

After retirement, he and his wife worked in Civil Service for the U.S. Army at Fort Bliss, TX until he retired again in 2004. He subsequently served the Texas Department of the American Legion in many roles, including Texas Department Commander and Trustee. He was an advocate for increased membership, soldier and veteran education, female service members, and veterans' rights. His motto was ''Results Count.'' In appreciation of his community service, the Mayor and City Council of El Paso proclaimed September 20, 2008 ''James McNair Day.''

He was preceded in death by his wife of 46 years, Esther Greene, his son Tyrone Greene McNair, his parents, and his 10 siblings: Costee, Sr. (Johnnie Lee), Mertis C., Johnnie Mae Barnes (Ervin, Sr.), Geneva Bacot, R.P. McNair (Elizabeth), Alfred Earl ''Terrell'', Sr. (Irma), Zella D. ''Dull'' Weathersby (Arties), Eugene ''Nick'' (Laura), Governor ''Bone'', and Willine Ward (Eugene ''Harry'').

He is survived by his children, Reverend Dr. Christopher McNair (Lisa), Minneapolis, MN, LTC (ret) James McNair (Corinne), Vilseck, Germany, Mr. Kerry McNair (Wendy) Atlanta, GA, Mrs. Valerie Hill (Edward), Pflugerville, TX, and Mrs. Janise McNair Dagins, Ph.D., (Clarence), Gainesville, FL, two sisters-in-law: Irma McNair, Ocean Springs, MS, and Laura McNair, Collins, MS, his 15 grandchildren, 1 great grandchild, and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends. James A. McNair was a humble and selfless patriot. It is my privilege to rise in recognition of his life of service and to honor his memory.

HONORING JANE DALLEN HAGEDORN

HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 25, 2023

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, it is with profound sadness that I rise to honor the life of my good friend, Jane Dallen Hagedorn, who passed away on March 14, 2023, in Sacramento, California. Jane was not only a close friend of mine, and someone I knew for many years, but she was a friend to Sacramento—someone who spent her life dedicated to enriching our community. Jane was committed to public service and championed healthcare and the environment.

Jane was born in 1943 in Marion, Virginia and raised in Port Clinton, Ohio by her parents, John and Helen Dallen, an engineer and a schoolteacher. Jane's love of family, community, books, and the environment followed her through life. Jane attended Lake Erie College in Ohio, University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill and earned a Master's degree in Advanced International Studies at Johns Hopkins University. While in Washington D.C., she met James Hagedorn, with whom she lovingly shared 56 years of marriage. After living in San Francisco, they moved to Sacramento where they raised their family.

Jane, a wonderful wife, mother, grandmother, and friend, is survived by husband James C. (Sacramento), children James A. (Anissa) and Jennifer K. Mikacich (Jared) of Sacramento, and delightful grandchildren Matthew, Julia and John Charles Hagedorn and Jared and Kevan Mikacich. Also survived by brother John Dallen (Frances) and sister Peggy Mekemson (Curtis) along with numerous nieces and nephews and extended family. She spent quality time with her grandchildren—traveling, reading, playing, teaching—enriching their lives as they enriched hers.

Jane spent 32 years as the Founder and CEO of Sacramento-Emigrant Trails Lung Association (now Breathe California). During her time, she was a leader of clean air for all and increased education for all things related to healthy lungs. The successful effort to pass Prop 99 allowed for programs to reduce smoking, to provide health care services to indigents, to support tobacco-related research, and to fund resource programs for the environment.

Jane was a founder of the Sacramento Tree Foundation, the California Oaks Fund and the Sacramento Tomorrow Coalition. Jane was the first female Sacramento County Planning Commissioner and recognized by the Sacramento Bee as one of the Most Influential Women in Sacramento County. Always a leader, Jane was a board member of the Tahoe Regional Planning Authority, Arden Park Recreation District, California Planning and Conservation League, Sacramento Symphony, Friends of Light Rail, and Valley Vision; she was also an American Leadership Foundation Fellow. Jane was an author and a volunteer with the Arden-Dimick Friends of the Library.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the life of Jane Hagedorn—someone who dedicated her life to giving back to our community. Without a doubt, Jane was one of the most generous, intelligent, and thoughtful women I have ever had the privilege to know. Jane provided so much love and kindness to those of us who had the honor to share in her life. Jane's legacy of her impact on people's lives and encouraging others to do better will last for many years to come.

CELEBRATING THE ROTARY CLUB OF BOCA RATON 37TH ANNUAL BOCA RATON TEACHER OF THE YEAR HONOREES

HON. JARED MOSKOWITZ

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 25, 2023

Mr. MOSKOWITZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate all the teachers being honored at this year's Rotary Club of Boca Raton 37th Annual Boca Raton Teacher of the Year Awards Celebration. As a father of two growing boys eager to learn, I am acutely aware of educators' lifelong impact on their students and families. Education is the foundation of our country's future. As a community, we depend on our teachers daily to prepare the next generation of Americans.

We are gifted with extraordinary teachers in Florida's 23rd Congressional District. Despite the challenges of the past few years, our teachers have been committed to their students. From navigating a global pandemic, nothing has stood in the way of their dedication to their student's futures; we are beyond grateful.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in celebrating all the teachers being recognized this year at the Rotary Club of Boca Raton 37th Annual Boca Raton Teacher of the Year Awards Celebration: Christopher Clevenger, Kelly DeForrest, Jacqueline Steinberg, Shelly Wasrshawsky, Jonathan Greene, Breana Kone, Kelly Burton, Elizabeth Lean, Amy Goldberg, Lara Lee Evans, Elizabeth Gottlieb, Aureole Van Heerden, Megan Jones, Lauren Rigler, Amanda Aiello, Lisa Kranitz, Aria Doeck, Nicole Borden, Melanie Kramer, Marisol Velasquez, Christina Feraco, Satoko Nourishirazi, and Klaudia Romano.

CELEBRATING THE BAPTISM OF BRIANA JULIET GOLDBERG

HON. JIM BANKS

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 25, 2023

Mr. BANKS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the birth and baptism of Briana Juliet Goldberg.

Born to Adam and Rebecca on February 10, weighing 7 pounds and 4 ounces, Briana now prepares to be born again on Sunday, May 7 at Saint Lawrence Roman Catholic Church into the death and life of her Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Saint Paul writes in the Book of Romans chapter 6 verses 3 and 4, "Or do you not know that as many of us as were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life."

I join Adam, Rebecca, and the communion of saints in celebrating this saving flood and washing away of sin, and gift of new life by the Holy Spirit. We hear as Nicodemus did, to whom Jesus said in the third chapter of the Gospel of John: "Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God."

This stands as testament to the love that Adam and Rebecca, her sisters Sophie and Elizabeth, and that God Himself has for Briana by giving to her life in this world and the next. As Jesus commanded His disciples in the Book of John, chapter 13 verse 34, "A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; as I have loved you, that you also love one another." (John 13:34)

COMMEMORATING THE LIFE OF DAVID ALLEN STARR

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 25, 2023

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commemorate the life and work of David Allen Starr. David devoted himself to his family and his community, and he will be deeply missed.

David grew up in Columbus, Ohio, and studied at Miami University before receiving his law degree from Washington University. Prior to his prestigious law career, David worked closely with Senator Howard Metzenbaum, rising to become a trusted legislative director. His work to reach across the aisle and pursue practical bipartisan solutions was widely respected, even earning praise from the late Bob Dole.

After leaving Capitol Hill, David continued to work in the area, joining the Williams and Jensen law firm in 1989. He would go on to spend 32 years collaborating with this team to come up with solutions to complex issues facing consumers and manufacturers alike. His work for U.S. tailored clothing manufacturers, as well as wool and cotton manufacturers, both saved jobs and preserved a historic and vital sector of the American workforce.

Outside of his work, David lived an adventurous and full life. He loved to sail, and often took advantage of breaks in the Congressional schedule to explore the Chesapeake Bay on the aptly named *Recess*. He was a frequent and accomplished cyclist, completing multiple century rides to support Multiple Sclerosis research.

Perhaps his most well-known and beloved contribution to the Northern Virginia community, David teamed up with his wife Amy to turn their coffee-roasting hobby into the Beanetics microroasting house in Annandale. They have provided countless Virginians with high quality coffee, fueling public, private, and non-profit enterprises alike.

Beanetics has donated their time, talent, and money to aid in countless causes in our region. They donate coffee to local schools and community groups, offer wall space to artists in the area, and belong to the Annandale Chamber of Commerce.

They are a model small business, and a team I am proud to know well. I was proud to partner with Beanetics to win both the 2014 and 2015 Annandale Bed Race, an annual competition to raise funds for the Virginia Special Olympics. If there is an opportunity to engage with the community, Beanetics will be there.

David was a devoted family man, and he will be sorely missed. He is survived by his wife Amy and their son Adam, alongside his mother Joyce, his brothers Sandi and Barry, and countless other friends and family members.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in commemorating the joyful and resilient life of David Allen Starr and in sending his family our sincere condolences.

HONORING DALLAS CENTER-GRIMES HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS' BASKETBALL FOR WINNING THE CLASS 4A BASKETBALL STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. ZACHARY NUNN

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 25, 2023

Mr. NUNN of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dallas Center-Grimes Girls Basketball for winning the Class 4A Basketball State Championship beating the North Polk Comets.

I congratulate the DCG ladies on achieving the first state title in program history.

The Mustang ladies showed up to play, coming into the championship game with second-rank defense in 4A state basketball.

Their strategy of defense and excellent teamwork kept them leading till the surge by the Comets in the fourth quarter.

With 18 seconds left on the clock and a tied-up game of 46–46, the game went into overtime.

With Mustangs forceful defense, they held off the Comets in overtime and led to their victory of 57–50.

What a victory for the ladies and a phenomenal way to wrap the season.

Iowa is so proud of every player, coach, staff, and parent.

HONORING THE LEGACY AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF LT. COL. EDWARD C. MOULTON, JR.

HON. PATRICK RYAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 25, 2023

Mr. RYAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of Lt. Col. Edward C. Moulton, Jr., United States Air Force (retired), of Cornwall-on-Hudson, NY.

Born at home in Newburgh, NY, on May 13, 1930, at the onset of the Great Depression, Ed was raised in Newburgh, where he was a scrappy young man with an early appreciation of music and a love of singing. At the age of ten, he joined the boys' choir at St. George's Episcopal Church, beginning what would amount to an 80-year run of choral singing.

Ed graduated in 1952 from New Paltz College with a Bachelor of Arts, focusing on art and education. While there, he met the love of his life, Floranne Norma Terwilliger. They were married shortly after graduation and were together for over 60 years until Floranne's passing in 2017. Ed join the Air Force upon graduation from college, and the happy couple spent the next 20 years raising a family of 3 children on or around various air bases, initially in England and subsequently across the U.S. in Texas, Delaware, Kansas, Mississippi, Nebraska, and Alaska. Ed also served a year in Thailand during the Vietnam War where he was awarded a bronze star for meritorious leadership of an avionics squadron which maintained the most diverse, exotic, and closely monitored systems in the Air Force.

Upon retirement in 1972, Ed and Floranne settled in Cornwall-on-Hudson where he would spend the next half-century, working as a real estate agent, broker, and appraiser and also serving as Mayor of the Village Cornwall-on-Hudson for an unprecedented 26 consecutive years. As Mayor, Ed accomplished many things he was proud of, including significant improvements to the village's water system, the creation of Donahue Park on the river with the shelter/gazebo, the purchase of the current Village Hall, Department of Public Work facility enhancements, the bandstand in the center of the Village, as well as sidewalks to enhance the walkability of the Village and significant beautification efforts including the planting of many trees.

Ed was very active in the local community including holding leadership positions at St. John's Episcopal Church and the Lion's Club. He also enjoyed rounds of golf at Storm King and playing bridge with friends, and was a lifelong Yankees fan. Ed also loved to paint, particularly landscapes of the Hudson River, and he and Floranne loved to travel the world, keeping in touch with Air Force friends.

Ed was predeceased by his younger brother Gary N. Moulton and sister Dorothy Lee Moulton. He is survived by his three children and their spouses: Anne Elizabeth Parkhurst (husband David) of Gifford NH, Edward Curtis ('Curt') Moulton III (wife Janet) of Ossining NY, and Mary Lee Koch (husband Alan) of Myrtle Beach, SC. He is also survived by 7 grandchildren and 4 great-grandchildren. It is my privilege to rise in recognition of his life of service and to honor his memory.

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S1321–S1352

Measures Introduced: Thirty-three bills and five resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 1256–1288, S.J. Res. 25, and S. Res. 170–173.

Pages S1339–41

Measures Reported:

S. 829, to amend the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995 to clarify a provision relating to certain contents of registrations under that Act, with an amendment. (S. Rept. No. 118–13) **Page S1339**

Measures Considered:

Equal Rights Amendment—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of S.J. Res 4, removing the deadline for the ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment.

Page S1322

A motion was entered to close further debate on the motion to proceed to consideration of the joint resolution, and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur upon disposition of S. 326, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to carry out a study and clinical trials on the effects of cannabis on certain health outcomes of veterans with chronic pain and post-traumatic stress disorder.

Page S1322

Prior to the consideration of this measure, Senate took the following action:

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Legislative Session. **Page S1322**

Appointments:

National Commission on the Future of the Navy: The Chair, on behalf of the Republican Leader, pursuant to the provisions of Public Law 117–263, appointed the following individual to serve as a member of the National Commission on the Future of the Navy: Ms. Mackenzie Eaglen of Virginia. **Page S1351**

National Commission on the Future of the Navy: The Chair, on behalf of the Ranking Member of the Senate Committee on Armed Services, pursuant to the provisions of Public Law 117–263, appointed the following individual to serve as a member of the National Commission on the Future of the Navy: Mr. Mitchell Waldman of Virginia.

Page S1351

Heavy-Duty Engine and Vehicle Standards—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that if cloture is invoked on the motion to proceed to consideration of S. 326, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to carry out a study and clinical trials on the effects of cannabis on certain health outcomes of veterans with chronic pain and post-traumatic stress disorder, that notwithstanding Rule XXII, the Committee on Environment and Public Works be discharged from further consideration of S.J. Res. 11, providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Environmental Protection Agency relating to "Control of Air Pollution From New Motor Vehicles: Heavy-Duty Engine and Vehicle Standards", and that it be in order for Senator Fischer to make a motion to proceed to S.J. Res. 11; and that at 4 p.m., on Wednesday, April 26, 2023, Senate vote on the motion to proceed; that if the motion to proceed is agreed to, Senate immediately vote on passage of the joint resolution; without intervening action or debate, and that the time used related to the joint resolution count against the post-cloture time on the motion to proceed to S. 326. **Pages S1350–51**

Jacobs Nomination—Agreement: Senate resumed consideration of the nomination of Joshua David Jacobs, of Washington, to be Under Secretary for Benefits of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

Pages S1321–22, S1335

During consideration of this nomination today, Senate also took the following action:

By 72 yeas to 22 nays (Vote No. EX. 95), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination. **Page S1335**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the nomination, post-cloture, at approximately 10 a.m., on Wednesday, April 26, 2023; that all cloture time be expired at 12 noon; and that at 2:15 p.m., Senate vote on

the motion to invoke cloture on the motion to proceed to consideration of S. 326, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to carry out a study and clinical trials on the effects of cannabis on certain health outcomes of veterans with chronic pain and post-traumatic stress disorder. **Page S1351**

Johnstone Nomination—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the nomination of Anthony Devos Johnstone, of Montana, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Ninth Circuit. **Pages S1322–35**

A motion was entered to close further debate on the nomination, and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur upon disposition of S.J. Res 4, removing the deadline for the ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment. **Page S1322**

Prior to the consideration of this nomination, Senate took the following action:

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination. **Page S1322**

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

Jeffery Martin Baran, of Virginia, to be a Member of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission for the term of five years expiring June 30, 2028.

Tobin John Bradley, of California, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Guatemala.

Margaret L. Taylor, of Maryland, to be Legal Adviser of the Department of State.

Betty Y. Jang, of Illinois, to be a Member of the Board of Trustees of the Harry S Truman Scholarship Foundation for a term expiring December 10, 2029.

Tanya J. Bradsher, of Virginia, to be Deputy Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

Routine lists in the Air Force, Army, Marine Corps, and Navy. **Pages S1351–52**

Messages from the House: **Page S1339**

Executive Communications: **Page S1339**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S1341–42**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: **Pages S1342–50**

Additional Statements: **Page S1339**

Record Votes: One record vote was taken today. (Total—95) **Page S1335**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 3 p.m. and adjourned at 6:39 p.m., until 10 a.m. on Wednesday, April 26, 2023. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S1351.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

APPROPRIATIONS: SAA AND DOORKEEPER, AND USCP

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Legislative Branch concluded a hearing 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, after receiving testimony from Karen H. Gibson, Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper of the Senate; and J. Thomas Manger, Chief, United States Capitol Police.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 59 public bills, H.R. 2811–2869; and 10 resolutions, H.J. Res. 59; H. Con. Res. 34–35; and H. Res. 319, 321–326, were introduced. **Pages H1944–48**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages H1950–51**

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows:

H.R. 675, to amend the Secure and Trusted Communications Networks Act of 2019 to prohibit the Federal Communications Commission from granting a license or United States market access for a non-geostationary orbit satellite system if the license or grant of market access would be held or controlled by an entity that produces or provides any covered communications equipment or service or an affiliate of such an entity, and for other purposes, with amendments (H. Rept. 118–41); and

H.R. 1339, to require the Federal Communications Commission to review certain rules of the Commission and develop recommendations for rule changes to promote precision agriculture, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 118–42). **Page H1944**

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative D'Esposito to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. **Page H1917**

Recess: The House recessed at 12:28 p.m. and reconvened at 2 p.m. **Page H1920**

Recess: The House recessed at 2:14 p.m. and reconvened at 4 p.m. **Page H1921**

Recess: The House recessed at 5:03 p.m. and reconvened at 6:30 p.m. **Page H1931**

Suspensions: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures:

Institute for Telecommunication Sciences Codification Act: H.R. 1343, to codify the Institute for Telecommunication Sciences and to direct the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information to establish an initiative to support the development of emergency communication and tracking technologies; **Pages H1924–25**

Demanding that the Government of the People's Republic of China and the Communist Party of China immediately release Mark Swidan: H. Res. 90, amended, demanding that the Government of the People's Republic of China and the Communist Party of China immediately release Mark Swidan, by a 2/3 yea-and-nay vote of 418 yeas with none voting ''nay'', Roll No. 193; **Pages H1927–29, H1931–32**

Agreed to amend the title so as to read: ''Demanding that the Government of the People's Republic of China and the Chinese Communist Party immediately release Mark Swidan.''; and **Page H1932**

Encouraging the expansion and strengthening of the Abraham Accords to urge other nations to normalize relations with Israel and ensure that existing agreements reap tangible security and economic benefits for the citizens of those countries and all peoples in the region:

H. Res. 311, encouraging the expansion and strengthening of the Abraham Accords to urge other nations to normalize relations with Israel and ensure that existing agreements reap tangible security and economic benefits for the citizens of those countries and all peoples in the region, by a ⅔ yea-and-nay vote of 401 yeas to 19 nays, Roll No. 194.

Pages H1929–31, H1932–33

Permitting official photographs of the House of Representatives to be taken while the House is in actual session on a date designated by the Speaker: The House agreed to discharge from committee and agree to H. Res. 321, permitting official photographs of the House of Representatives to be taken while the House is in actual session on a date designated by the Speaker. **Page H1933**

Suspensions—Proceedings Postponed: The House debated the following measures under suspension of the rules. Further proceedings were postponed.

Advanced, Local Emergency Response Telecommunications Parity Act: H.R. 1353, amended, to direct the Federal Communications Commission to issue rules for the provision of emergency connectivity service; and **Pages H1922–24**

Precision Agriculture Satellite Connectivity Act: H.R. 1339, to require the Federal Communications Commission to review certain rules of the Commission and develop recommendations for rule changes to promote precision agriculture. **Pages H1925–27**

Quorum Calls—Votes: Two yea-and-nay votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H1932 and H1932–33.

Adjournment: The House met at 12 p.m. and adjourned at 9:07 p.m.

Committee Meetings

LIMIT, SAVE, GROW ACT OF 2023; 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

Committee on Rules: Full Committee held a hearing on H.R. 2811, the Limit, Save, Grow Act of 2023; and 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''. The Committee granted, by record vote of 9–4, a rule providing for consideration of H.R. 2811, the ''Limit, Save, and Grow Act of 2023'', and 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''. The rule provides for consideration of H.R. 2811, the ''Limit, Save, and Grow Act of 2023'', under a closed rule. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill. The rule provides that the amendment printed in the Rules Committee report shall be considered as adopted. The rule provides that the bill, as amended, shall be considered as read. The rule waives all points of order against provisions in the bill, as amended. The rule provides two hours of general debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on the Budget or their respective designees and the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Ways and Means or their respective

designees. The rule provides one motion to recommit. The rule further provides for consideration of 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'', 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 Ways and Means or their respective designees. Finally, the rule provides one motion to recommit. Testimony was heard from Chairman Smith of Missouri, Chairman Arrington, Chairman Granger, and Representatives Murphy, Moore of Wisconsin, Beyer, Boyle of Pennsylvania, Fleischmann, and DeLauro.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR WEDNESDAY, APRIL 26, 2023

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

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 and advance appropriations requests for fiscal year 2025 for the Department of Veterans Affairs, 10:30 a.m., SD–124.

Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2024 for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the Bureau of Reclamation, 2 p.m., SD–138.

Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2024 for the Department of Commerce, 2:30 p.m., SD–192.

Committee on Armed Services: to hold open and closed hearings to examine on the Department of Energy and National Nuclear Security Administration atomic energy defense activities in review of the Defense Authorization Request for Fiscal Year 2024 and the Future Years Defense Program, 9:30 a.m., SD–G50.

Subcommittee on Airland, to hold hearings to examine Air Force 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 Personnel, to hold hearings to examine public integrity and anti-corruption laws at the Department of Defense, 3 p.m., SR–222.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: to hold hearings to examine building consensus to address housing challenges, 10 a.m., SD–538.

Committee on the Budget: to hold hearings to examine the health costs of climate change, 10:15 a.m., SD–608/VTC.

Committee on Environment and Public Works: business meeting to consider S. 1189, to establish a pilot grant program to improve recycling accessibility, S. 1194, to require the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to carry out certain activities to improve recycling and composting programs in the United States, and the nominations of David M. Uhlmann, of Michigan, and Joseph Goffman, of Pennsylvania, both to be an Assistant Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency; to be immediately followed by a hearing to examine opportunities to improve project reviews for a cleaner and stronger economy, 9:45 a.m., SD–406.

Committee on Foreign Relations: to hold hearings to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2024 for the United States Agency for International Development, 10 a.m., SD–419.

Subcommittee on Near East, South Asia, Central Asia, and Counterterrorism, to hold hearings to examine U.S. policy on Tunisia, 2 p.m., SD–419.

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: business meeting to consider the nomination of Julie A. Su, of California, to be Secretary of Labor, and other pending calendar business, 10 a.m., SD–430.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Subcommittee on Emerging Threats and Spending Oversight, to hold hearings to examine 10 years since the Boston Marathon bombings, focusing on lessons learned, 10:30 a.m., SD–562.

Subcommittee on Government Operations and Border Management, to hold hearings to examine the effects of increased migration on communities along the southern border, 2:30 p.m., SD–562.

Committee on the Judiciary: to hold hearings to examine a post-*Dobbs* America, 10 a.m., SH–216.

Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship: to hold an oversight hearing to examine the SBA's implementation of final rules to expand access to capital, 3:30 p.m., SR–428A.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: to hold hearings to examine S. 280, to ensure that only licensed health care professionals furnish disability examinations under a certain Department of Veterans Affairs pilot program for use of contract physicians for disability examinations, S. 291, to amend title 38, United States Code, to establish in the Department of Veterans Affairs the Veterans Economic Opportunity and Transition Administration, S. 350, to amend title 38, United States Code, to expand eligibility for the Marine Gunnery Sergeant John David Fry Scholarship to include spouses and children of individuals who die from a service-connected disability within 120 days of serving in the Armed Forces, S. 414, to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve and to expand eligibility for dependency and indemnity compensation paid to certain survivors of certain veterans, S. 498, to reauthorize and improve a grant program to assist institutions of higher education in establishing maintaining, improving,

and operating Student Veteran Centers, S. 572, to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to provide answers to questions submitted for the record to the Secretary by members of the Committee on Veterans' Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Veterans' Affairs of the House of Representatives within 45 business days, S. 656, to amend title 38, United States Code, to revise the rules for approval by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs of commercial driver education programs for purposes of veterans education assistance, S. 740, to amend title 38, United States Code, to reinstate criminal penalties for persons charging veterans unauthorized fees relating to claims for benefits under the laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, S. 774, to direct the Secretary of Homeland Security to establish a pilot program to hire transitioning servicemembers to be Border Patrol agents, S. 897, to amend title 38, United States Code, to make a permanent increase in the number of judges presiding over the United States Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims, S. 1090, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to update the payment system of the Department of Veterans Affairs to allow for electronic fund transfer of educational assistance, administered by the Secretary, to a foreign institution of higher education, an original bill entitled, ''Student Veterans Transparency and Protection Act'', an original bill entitled, ''Love Lives On Act'', and an original bill entitled, ''Veterans Second Amendment Protection Act'', 3 p.m., SR–418.

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 General Farm Commodities, Risk Management, and Credit, hearing entitled ''Producer Perspectives on the 2023 Farm Bill'', 10 a.m., 1300 Longworth.

Committee on Appropriations, Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies, hearing entitled ''Provider Relief Fund and Healthcare Workforce Shortages'', 10 a.m., 2358–C Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, oversight hearing and budget hearing on the Federal Aviation Administration, 10 a.m., 2358–A Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies, budget hearing on the Department of Justice Grantmaking Components, 1:30 p.m., 2359 Rayburn.

Committee on Armed Services, Full Committee, hearing entitled ''U.S. Military Posture and National Security Challenges in Europe'', 10:30 a.m., 2118 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Strategic Forces, hearing entitled ''FY24 National Security Space Programs Hearing'', 2 p.m., 2212 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Tactical Air and Land Forces, hearing entitled ''Fiscal Year 2024 Army Modernization Programs'', 2:30 p.m., 2118 Rayburn.

Committee on Education and Workforce, Subcommittee on Health, Employment, Labor, and Pensions, hearing entitled ''Reducing Health Care Costs for Working Americans and Their Families'', 10:15 a.m., 2175 Rayburn.

Committee on Energy and Commerce, Subcommittee on Health, hearing entitled ''Lowering Unaffordable Costs: Legislative Solutions to Increase Transparency and Competition in Health Care'', 10 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Environment, Manufacturing, and Critical Materials, hearing entitled ''Exposing the Environmental, Human Rights, and National Security Risks of the Biden Administration's Rush to Green Policies'', 10:30 a.m., 2322 Rayburn.

Committee on Financial Services, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 835, the ''Fair Investment Opportunities for Professional Experts Act''; H.R. 1579, the ''Accredited Investor Definition Review Act''; H.R. 1548, the ''Improving Access to Small Business Information Act''; H.R. 2792, the ''Small Entity Update Act''; H.R. 2797, the ''Equal Opportunity for All Investors Act''; H.R. 2793, the ''Encouraging Public Offerings Act of 2023''; H.R. 2610, a bill to amend the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to specify certain registration statement contents for emerging growth companies, to permit issuers to file draft registration statements with the Securities and Exchange Commission for confidential review, and for other purposes; H.R. 2608, a bill to amend the Federal securities laws to specify the periods for which financial statements are required to be provided by an emerging growth company, and for other purposes; H.R. 2795, the ''Enhancing Multi-Class Share Disclosures Act''; H.R. 2593, the ''Senior Security Act''; legislation on the Middle Market IPO Underwriting Cost Act; H.R. 2796, the ''Promoting Opportunities for Non-Traditional Capital Formation Act''; H.R. 2799, the ''Expanding Access to Capital Act''; H.R. 2798, the ''CFPB Transparency and Accountability Reform Act''; and H.R. 1807, the ''Improving Disclosure for Investors Act of 2023'', 10 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

Committee on Foreign Affairs, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 1690, to authorize Secretary of State to negotiate regional immigration agreements, and for other purposes; and H.R. 589, to impose sanctions on the Supreme Leader of Iran and the President of Iran and their respective offices for human rights abuses and support for terrorism, 10:30 a.m., HVC–210.

Committee on Homeland Security, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 2794, the ''Border Reinforcement Act of 2023'', 10 a.m., 310 Cannon.

Committee on House Administration, Subcommittee on Modernization, hearing entitled ''The Path Toward a More Modern and Effective Congressional Research Service'', 3 p.m., 1310 Longworth.

Committee on The Judiciary, Full Committee, hearing entitled ''Oversight of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives'', 10 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Immigration Integrity, Security, and Enforcement, hearing entitled ''The Biden Border Crisis: Exploitation of Unaccompanied Alien Children'', 3 p.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Committee on Natural Resources, Subcommittee on Federal Lands, hearing entitled ''Examining the President's FY

2024 Budget Request for the U.S. Forest Service'', 10:15 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources, hearing entitled ''Examining the President's FY 2024 Budget Request for the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, the Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement, and the U.S. Geological Survey'', 2 p.m., 1324 Longworth.

Committee on Oversight and Accountability, Full Committee, hearing entitled ''The Government Accountability Office's 2023 High Risk List'', 10 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Select Subcommittee on the Coronavirus Pandemic, hearing entitled ''The Consequences of School Closures, Part 2: The President of the American Federation of Teachers, Ms. Randi Weingarten'', 2 p.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Health Care and Financial Services, hearing entitled ''China in Our Backyard: How Chinese Money Laundering Organizations Enrich the Cartels'', 2 p.m., 2247 Rayburn.

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, Full Committee, hearing entitled ''An Overview of the National Science Foundation Budget Proposal for Fiscal Year 2024'', 10 a.m., 2318 Rayburn.

Committee on Small Business, Subcommittee on Innovation, Entrepreneurship, and Workforce Development, hearing entitled ''Help Wanted: Exploring How Alternative Paths to Student Debt Can Help to Strengthen Small Business'', 10 a.m., 2360 Rayburn.

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, Committee, markup on H.R. 2741, the ''Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2023'', 10 a.m., 2167 Rayburn.

Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee on Social Security, hearing entitled ''Hearing on Social Security Fundamentals: A Fact-Based Foundation'', 10 a.m., 1100 Longworth.

Subcommittee on Oversight, hearing entitled ''Hearing on Tax-Exempt Hospitals and the Community Benefit Standard'', 2 p.m., 1100 Longworth.

CONGRESSIONAL PROGRAM AHEAD

Week of April 26 through April 28, 2023

Senate Chamber

On *Wednesday,* Senate will continue consideration of the nomination of Joshua David Jacobs, of Washington, to be Under Secretary for Benefits of the Department of Veterans Affairs, post-cloture, and vote on confirmation of the nomination at 12 noon.

At 2:15 p.m., Senate will vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the motion to proceed to consideration of S. 326, VA Medicinal Cannabis Research Act (the legislative vehicle for the Veterans legislation package).

At 4 p.m., Senate will vote on the motion to proceed to consideration of S.J. Res. 11, providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Environmental Protection Agency relating to ''Control of Air Pollution From New Motor Vehicles: Heavy-Duty Engine and Vehicle Standards''. If the motion to proceed is agreed to, Senate will immediately vote on passage of the joint resolution.

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 Appropriations: April 26, Subcommittee on Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2024 and advance appropriations requests for fiscal year 2025 for the Department of Veterans Affairs, 10:30 a.m., SD–124.

April 26, Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2024 for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the Bureau of Reclamation, 2 p.m., SD–138.

April 26, Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2024 for the Department of Commerce, 2:30 p.m., SD–192.

Committee on Armed Services: April 26, to hold open and closed hearings to examine on the Department of Energy and National Nuclear Security Administration atomic energy defense activities in review of the Defense Authorization Request for Fiscal Year 2024 and the Future Years Defense Program, 9:30 a.m., SD–G50.

April 26, Subcommittee on Airland, to hold hearings to examine Air Force 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 26, Subcommittee on Personnel, to hold hearings to examine public integrity and anti-corruption laws at the Department of Defense, 3 p.m., SR–222.

April 27, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the posture of United States European Command and United States Transportation Command in review of the Defense Authorization Request for Fiscal Year 2024 and the Future Years Defense Program; to be followed by a closed session at 12:30 p.m. in SVC–217, 8 a.m., SD–G50.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: April 26, to hold hearings to examine building consensus to address housing challenges, 10 a.m., SD–538.

April 27, Full Committee, to hold an oversight hearing to examine the Credit Reporting Agencies, 10 a.m., SD–538.

Committee on the Budget: April 26, to hold hearings to examine the health costs of climate change, 10:15 a.m., SD–608/VTC.

Committee on Environment and Public Works: April 26, business meeting to consider S. 1189, to establish a pilot grant program to improve recycling accessibility, S. 1194, to require the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to carry out certain activities to improve recycling and composting programs in the United States,

and the nominations of David M. Uhlmann, of Michigan, and Joseph Goffman, of Pennsylvania, both to be an Assistant Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency; to be immediately followed by a hearing to examine opportunities to improve project reviews for a cleaner and stronger economy, 9:45 a.m., SD–406.

Committee on Foreign Relations: April 26, to hold hearings to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2024 for the United States Agency for International Development, 10 a.m., SD–419.

April 26, Subcommittee on Near East, South Asia, Central Asia, and Counterterrorism, to hold hearings to examine U.S. policy on Tunisia, 2 p.m., SD–419.

April 27, Full Committee, business meeting to consider the nominations of Elizabeth H. Richard, of Virginia, to be Coordinator for Counterterrorism, with the rank and status of Ambassador at Large, Eric W. Kneedler, of Pennsylvania, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Rwanda, Kathleen A. FitzGibbon, of New York, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Niger, Karen Sasahara, of Massachusetts, to be Ambassador to the State of Kuwait, Elizabeth Rood, of Pennsylvania, to be Ambassador to Turkmenistan, Martina Anna Tkadlec Strong, of Texas, to be Ambassador to the United Arab Emirates, Hugo Yue-Ho Yon, of California, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Maldives, Ann Marie Yastishock, of Pennsylvania, to be Ambassador to the Independent State of Papua New Guinea, and to serve concurrently and without additional compensation as Ambassador to the Solomon Islands and Ambassador to the Republic of Vanuatu, Robin Dunnigan, of California, to be Ambassador to Georgia, and David J. Kostelancik, of Illinois, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Albania, all of the Department of State, and other pending calendar business, 10 a.m., S–116, Capitol.

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: April 26, business meeting to consider the nomination of Julie A. Su, of California, to be Secretary of Labor, and other pending calendar business, 10 a.m., SD–430.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: April 26, Subcommittee on Emerging Threats and Spending Oversight, to hold hearings to examine 10 years since the Boston Marathon bombings, focusing on lessons learned, 10:30 a.m., SD–562.

April 26, Subcommittee on Government Operations and Border Management, to hold hearings to examine the effects of increased migration on communities along the southern border, 2:30 p.m., SD–562.

Committee on the Judiciary: April 26, to hold hearings to examine a post-*Dobbs* America, 10 a.m., SH–216.

April 27, Full Committee, business meeting to consider S. 1207, to establish a National Commission on Online Child Sexual Exploitation Prevention, S. 1199, to combat the sexual exploitation of children by supporting victims and promoting accountability and transparency by the tech industry, S. 1080, to amend the Controlled Substances Act to require electronic communication service providers and remote computing services to report to the Attorney General certain controlled substances violations, and the nominations of Michael Arthur Delaney, of New Hampshire, to be United States Circuit Judge for the First Circuit, Charnelle Bjelkengren, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Washington, Amanda K. Brailsford, to be United States District Judge for the District of Idaho, S. Kato Crews, to be United States District Judge for the District of Colorado, Marian F. Gaston, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of California, Molly R. Silfen, of the District of Columbia, to be a Judge of the United States Court of Federal Claims, and Eric G. Olshan, to be United States Attorney for the Western District of Pennsylvania, Department of Justice, 10 a.m., SD–106.

Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship: April 26, to hold an oversight hearing to examine the SBA's implementation of final rules to expand access to capital, 3:30 p.m., SR–428A.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: April 26, to hold hearings to examine S. 280, to ensure that only licensed health care professionals furnish disability examinations under a certain Department of Veterans Affairs pilot program for use of contract physicians for disability examinations, S. 291, to amend title 38, United States Code, to establish in the Department of Veterans Affairs the Veterans Economic Opportunity and Transition Administration, S. 350, to amend title 38, United States Code, to expand eligibility for the Marine Gunnery Sergeant John David Fry Scholarship to include spouses and children of individuals who die from a service-connected disability within 120 days of serving in the Armed Forces, S. 414, to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve and to expand eligibility for dependency and indemnity compensation paid to certain survivors of certain veterans, S. 498, to reauthorize and improve a grant program to assist institutions of higher education in establishing maintaining, improving, and operating Student Veteran Centers, S. 572, to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to provide answers to questions submitted for the record to the Secretary by members of the Committee on Veterans' Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Veterans' Affairs of the House of Representatives within 45 business days, S. 656, to amend title 38, United States Code, to revise the rules for approval by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs of commercial driver education programs for purposes of veterans education assistance, S. 740, to amend title 38, United States Code, to reinstate criminal penalties for persons charging veterans unauthorized fees relating to claims for benefits under the laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, S. 774, to direct the Secretary of Homeland Security to establish a pilot program to hire transitioning servicemembers to be Border Patrol agents, S. 897, to amend title 38, United States Code, to make a permanent increase in the number of judges presiding over the United States Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims, S. 1090, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to update the payment system of the Department of Veterans Affairs to allow for electronic fund transfer of educational assistance, administered by the Secretary, to a foreign institution of higher education, an original bill entitled, ''Student Veterans Transparency and Protection Act'', an original bill entitled, ''Love Lives On Act'', and an original bill entitled, ''Veterans Second Amendment Protection Act'', 3 p.m., SR–418.

Select Committee on Intelligence: April 26, to receive a closed briefing on certain intelligence matters, 2:30 p.m., SH–219.

House Committees

Committee on Agriculture, April 27, Subcommittee on Commodity Markets, Digital Assets, and Rural Development, hearing entitled ''The Future of Digital Assets: Identifying the Regulatory Gaps in Spot Market Regulation'', 2 p.m., 1300 Longworth.

Committee on Appropriations, April 27, Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies, budget hearing on the Drug Enforcement Administration, 9 a.m., H-309 Capitol.

April 27, Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies, budget hearing on the Federal Bureau of Investigation, 1:30 p.m., 2359 Rayburn.

April 27, Subcommittee on Financial Services and General Government, budget hearing on the Federal Trade Commission, 2 p.m., 2362-A Rayburn.

April 28, Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies, hearing entitled ''Tribal Perspectives on Housing and Transportation'', 10 a.m., 2358-A Rayburn.

Committee on Armed Services, April 27, Full Committee, hearing entitled ''Department of the Air Force Fiscal Year 2024 Budget Request'', 12:30 p.m., 2118 Rayburn.

April 27, Subcommittee on Intelligence and Special Operations, hearing entitled ''A Review of the Defense Intelligence Enterprise's posture and capabilities in strategic competition and in synchronizing intelligence efforts to counter the People's Republic of China'', 4 p.m., 2212 Rayburn.

April 28, Full Committee, hearing entitled ''Department of the Navy Fiscal Year 2024 Budget Request'', 9 a.m., 2118 Rayburn.

Committee on Energy and Commerce, April 27, Subcommittee on Innovation, Data, and Commerce, hearing entitled ''Addressing America's Data Privacy Shortfalls: How a National Standard Fills Gaps to Protect Americans' Personal Information'', 2 p.m., 2123 Rayburn.

April 27, Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, hearing entitled ''The Biosafety of Risky Research: Examining if Science is Outpacing Policy and Safety'', 2:30 p.m., 2322 Rayburn.

April 28, Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, hearing entitled ''Antimicrobial Resistance: Taking on the next Emerging Public Health Threat'', 9 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Committee on Financial Services, April 27, Subcommittee on Digital Assets, Financial Technology, and Inclusion, hearing entitled ''The Future of Digital Assets: Identifying the Regulatory Gaps in Digital Asset Market Structure'', 2 p.m., 2128 Rayburn.

April 27, Subcommittee on National Security, Illicit Finance, and International Financial Institutions, hearing entitled ''Oversight of the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network (FinCEN) and the Office of Terrorism and Financial Intelligence (TFI)'', 2 p.m., 2200 Rayburn.

April 28, Subcommittee on Housing and Insurance, hearing entitled ''The Reauthorization of the National Flood Insurance Program: FEMA's Perspective'', 9 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

Committee on Homeland Security, April 27, Subcommittee on Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Protection, hearing entitled ''CISA 2025: The State of American Cybersecurity from CISA's Perspective'', 2 p.m., 310 Cannon.

Committee on House Administration, April 27, Full Committee, hearing entitled ''American Confidence in Elections: State Tools to Promote Voter Confidence'', 2:30 p.m., 1310 Longworth.

Committee on the Judiciary, April 27, Subcommittee on Crime and Federal Government Surveillance, hearing entitled ''Fixing FISA: How a Law Designed to Protect Americans Has Been Weaponized Against Them'', 9 a.m., 2237 Rayburn.

April 27, Subcommittee on Courts, Intellectual Property, and the Internet, hearing entitled ''Oversight of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office'', 9 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Committee on Natural Resources, April 27, Full Committee, markup on the 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''; H.R. 215, the ''WATER for California Act''; H.R. 764, the ''Trust the Science Act''; H.R. 1245, the ''Grizzly Bear State Management Act of 2023''; H.R. 1319, the ''Biking on Long-Distance Trails Act''; H.R. 1419, the ''Comprehensive Grizzly Bear Management Act of 2023''; and H.R. 1567, the ''ACRES Act'', 9:45 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, April 27, Full Committee, hearing entitled ''An Overview of the Fiscal Year 2024 Proposed Budget Request for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration'', 1 p.m., 2318 Rayburn.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs, April 28, Full Committee markup on pending legislation, 10 a.m., 390 Cannon.

Committee on Ways and Means, April 27, Full Committee, hearing entitled ''Hearing on Accountability and Transparency at the Internal Revenue Service with IRS Commissioner Werfel'', 1 p.m., 1100 Longworth.

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, April 27, Subcommittee on Defense Intelligence and Overhead Architecture, hearing entitled ''Defense Intelligence Agency

Budget Hearing'', 9 a.m., HVC-304. This hearing is closed.

April 28, Subcommittee on Central Intelligence Agency, hearing entitled ''People's Republic of China Counterintelligence Capabilities'', 9 a.m., HVC-304. This hearing is closed.

Joint Meeting

Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe: April 27, to hold hearings to examine church, state, and Russia's war on Ukraine, 1 p.m., 2020, Rayburn Building.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

10 a.m., Wednesday, April 26

Senate Chamber

Program for Wednesday: Senate will continue consideration of the nomination of Joshua David Jacobs, of Washington, to be Under Secretary for Benefits of the Department of Veterans Affairs, post-cloture, and vote on confirmation of the nomination at 12 noon.

At 2:15 p.m., Senate will vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the motion to proceed to consideration of S. 326, VA Medicinal Cannabis Research Act (the legislative vehicle for the Veterans legislation package).

At 4 p.m., Senate will vote the motion to proceed to consideration of S.J. Res. 11, providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Environmental Protection Agency relating to ''Control of Air Pollution From New Motor Vehicles: Heavy-Duty Engine and Vehicle Standards''. If the motion to proceed is agreed to, Senate will immediately vote on passage of the joint resolution.

(Senate will recess following the vote on confirmation of the nomination of Joshua David Jacobs until 2:15 p.m. for their respective party conferences.)

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

10 a.m., Wednesday, April 26

House Chamber

Program for Wednesday: Consideration of H.R. 2811—Limit, Save, Grow Act of 2023.

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